

CITY OF LOCKPORT
BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING – OFFICIAL RECORD

Site: gotomeeting.com

Monday, February 1st, 2021 - 5:30pm

Present: Commissioners Cheryl Brown, Flora Hawkins, Thomas Murphy, Miles Patterson. Also present: Police Chief Steve Abbott, Mayor Michelle Roman, Deputy Corporation Counsel Pat McGrath, Lockport Journal reporter John D’Onofrio, City Clerk Paul Oates

- Meeting called to order by Comm. Hawkins at 5:36pm
- Motion by Comm. Murphy to approve the minutes of the January 4th, 2021 meeting, seconded by Comm. Brown. Ayes 4

Chief Abbott’s Report:

- **COVID-19:** All procedures and protocols are still in place. Nobody from the department is out, and the majority of LPD has been vaccinated. 12 officers declined the vaccination.
- **CompStat Report:** In January, there were 1,283 calls for service, 152 case reports, 40 arrests, and 26 warrants issued (resulting in 9 arrests). There were three stolen gun incidents. Commissioner Hawkins asked if the city could bring back the gun buy-back program. Chief Abbott said there is talk of that on a federal level, but so far, no word from the state.
- **Axon in-car cameras:** The city has a \$12,000, five-year contract for the cameras, and the initial payment will be from asset forfeiture. Five vehicles will be outfitted—four patrol vehicles and the shift supervisor’s car. The audio connection will be the same for both the body cams and the in-car cameras. The in-car cameras are both forward-facing and in the back seat; they are plate readers, and have night vision capability. Delivery is slated around March 15th.
- **FARO system:** This will replace LPD’s total station for accident reconstruction. Total station is 15 years old. FARO will be purchased using asset forfeiture funds. It does 360-degree photos of an entire

scene, and can be deployed by one officer. It is expected to be ordered within the next month or so.

- Lexipol policy manual: Goal is to be done by mid-March, with accreditation by mid-June. The city is close to finalizing everything with the Police Policy Review. Mayor Roman added that the Council is expected to approve two resolutions—one on the committee report and one for mandatory training for LPD personnel—at the February 3rd meeting.
- Chief Abbott and Mark Sanders are working on a Pathway Program to nurture homegrown police officers within the city. It is expected to start with the fall semester in September. LPD officers will be in the schools interacting with the students. The response from local schools has been good. Sanders is also working on bringing back an Explorer Post.
- Working on the annual report for 2020, which should be in the board's hands by March. Commissioner Murphy asked if the report will include year-end overtime numbers. Chief Abbott said he will send it out, but it was at or below budget.
- The agility test for candidates was held last weekend, and for the six positions needed to be filled, there are 10 individuals to interview. Commissioner Murphy asked about training, and Chief Abbott responded that it's all in the works—dates and times will be known soon, and we should have a schedule by the end of the month. The training will be conducted both in-person and virtually.

6:14pm: Motion by Comm. Murphy to begin executive session to discuss personnel matters. Seconded by Comm. Brown. Ayes 4

6:34pm: Motion by Comm. Brown to end executive session. Seconded by Comm. Murphy. Ayes 4

6:40pm: Motion by Comm. Brown to adjourn. Seconded by Comm. Murphy. Ayes 4

Chief Abbott briefed the board on the need to schedule officer candidate interviews. After some discussion, the board decided to meet Monday, February 22nd and Tuesday, February 23rd at city hall at 4pm. Five interviews will be conducted each day.

Mayor Roman told the board that a proclamation for the late John 'Tate' Pitrello, a former police commissioner for 19 years, was read at the last

Council meeting on January 20th, as well as a resolution of condolences to his family.

The next regular meeting of the Board of Police Commissioners is Monday, March 1st at 5:30pm.

Respectfully,

Paul K. Oates

City Clerk

CC: Police Board, Chief Abbott, Mayor Roman, Common Council and Corporation Counsel