

POLICE MINUTES MAY 11, 2006.

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Attendance: Commisioner Blass
Commisioner Gabaccia
Commisioner Ritchie
Chief Kane
Arnold and Helen Anderson

Minutes of April 2006 Commission meeting were read and a motion made by Commisioner Ritchie to approve the minutes, seconded by Commisioner Blass. Motion unanimously passed.

Correspondence read:

Chief Kane recieved a job application from Jarrett Carl Oates which was given to the Commisioners for review. Com. Blass indicated that he is working on an application form and hiring procedure for the department which will include a thorough background check He is getting a copy of the form utilized by the Col. Cty. Sheriff's Dept.

Comm. Gabaccia indicated that we should have a hiring policy in place given that the ability to hire and fire now rests with the three member Police Commission.

Comm. Gabaccia submitted a memo to Comms. Ritchie and Blass and cc'd Chief Kane with some issues she would like reviewed by the next commission meeting.

New Business:

Chief Kane indicated that he and Deputy Chief Lopez had submitted a speed grant proposal for \$6000 to \$7000 which would enable us to purchase new radar and be reimbursed for speed patrol. Since the deadline for submission was May 15th, Chief Kane indicated that there had not been time to run the proposal by the Commission first before submission, although he understood that proper procedure would be to have the matter first discussed by the Commission.

Chief Kane raised the issue of the grant for a full-time officer which had been written and shelved, and presented the Commission with a copy. After three years the Town of

Copake would be required to assume the costs of the officer which would include benefits. Comm. Gabaccia indicated the proposal would be reviewed.

Comm. Gabaccia again raised the issue of the Commission Office being located at the police station and was told that it would have to be delayed, because we need a questioning facility for juveniles at the station which would have to be Deputy Chief Lopez's office. Chief Kane presented a letter from 1999 delineating the requirement. Comm. Gabaccia questioned if this memo had been misplaced since then and why it was appearing now, but was told that a recent meeting with Judge Czajka had prompted the renewed interest in the room. Chief Kane will have to contact Dorothy Press, head administrator for the County Court to determine the requirements for the juvenile holding area so that the area may be inspected. Chief Kane indicated that he would do so by the end of the week. Comm. Ritchie commented that we can't have beer everywhere down there like was observed in the refrigerator on one trip to the police station by Comm. Ritchie and Gabaccia. Comm. Ritchie also commented that he couldn't imagine that the Commission Office would compromise its use as a juvenile holding area. Comm. Gabaccia commented that this situation points to the need for more space in our police station.

Topic of the speed sign was discussed. Chief Kane indicated that the sign was being made ready to go by Highway Superintendent Proper. It was decided by the Commission that the sign would first be placed at Copake Lake and then moved to Farm Road.

Comm. Blass mentioned an appointment with the school district regarding a contract for services with The Copake Police Department. He indicated that Dave Paciencia has been very helpful.

Chief Kane indicated he had received a letter of notification regarding in service training to be held June 14, 15 and 16 at Columbia Greene. Range will be available. He also notified the Commission that Officer Near had attended a class regarding enforcement and truckers.

The Memorial Day Parade was discussed. Comm. Gabaccia indicated that while she recognized that the Commission had passed a resolution at its last meeting requiring two month notification to Chief Kane for any special events so that the necessary man-power may be obtained, VFW Commander Arnold Anderson was unaware of the new procedure and was unaware of the new Commission. Consequently she invited Commander Anderson to the Commission Meeting to address the entire commission and Chief Kane. The Commission agreed to hear Mr. Anderson.

Mr. Anderson indicated that he had permission from the park commission to end the parade at the park.

Comm. Ritchie asked if the general public was aware of the parade date and time

Mr. Anderson said that Veterans are not politicians. The parade was not a big parade, but was to be a community parade. Mr. Anderson also indicated that Supervisor Valentino had said the parade shouldn't conflict with any rotation and that last year had told Mr. Anderson to look to a different day.

Mr. Anderson further said that he had spoken to Lisa and Mike DeRocha and had gotten the park's okay. There is a birthday party at the Parks and Rec. Building at 12, but Mr. Anderson has been told he can use the kitchen. He then notified Chief Kane and Supervisor Valentino. Mr. Anderson then indicated that he had heard from Comm. Blass and been told in a phone message that he couldn't do the parade.

Comm. Blass commented that he had asked Mr. Anderson to call him back.

Comm. Ritchie asked if rotation is dead forever and if Hillsdale is disrespected?

Mr. Anderson said that the local townspeople supporting the VFW fundraisers said they wanted the parade on Saturday. He also said that last year Supervisor Valentino supported the idea of a Saturday parade.

Comm. Ritchie said, "Really? People always know the things you don't want them to."

Comm. Gabaccia commented that this year was Copake's turn in the rotation to have the parade.

Mr. Anderson said, "This rotation thing is overblown." He continued by saying that, "We were never in it to begin with. After the parade in 1994 and the rotation system started, we never really bought into it."

Comm. Ritchie inquired if Ancram minded the parade being here.

Mr. Anderson indicated that he had spoken to David Boice and Jack Rafferty and was told that Ancram did not want the parade there and that its location should be determined by the veterans since it is a veteran function. He also indicated that this year he was going to start a new trend of having the parade here in Copake every year. He said that people support the idea of the parade in the town of Copake.

Comm. Gabaccia pointed out that the Supervisor seems to think at this point that the parade is Saturday.

Comm. Ritchie asked "How many officers do we need to patrol the parade?"

Chief Kane indicated that manpower is determined by where you start and where you end the parade, and that you need an officer at every intersection. Chief Kane inquired if Mr. Anderson would be blocking the road off at any time.

Mr. Anderson said he sent a letter to the Sheriff's department about marching on Main Street which is a county road.

Comm. Blass indicated that Mr. Anderson should have contacted Dave Robinson of the County Highway Dept. since county roads were involved in the parade route.

Comm. Ritchie said, "We can make this work. Someone must want the hours."

Comm Blass said 5 to 6 men will be necessary.

Comm. Gabaccia said, "Let's do it."

Comm. Blass said, "The parade should be on Memorial Day."

Mr. Anderson said, "Memorial day is Tuesday."

Comm. Blass said, "No, it's a Monday holiday."

Chief Kane indicated that he could get some help from the Col. Cty. Sheriff's Dept. if need be.

Comm. Ritchie asked Chief Kane to let Mr. Anderson "know by Tuesday." about coverage and then jokingly asked Mr. Anderson for free poppies.

Chief Kane said Highway Superintendent Larry Proper would also need to be contacted.

Parks and Rec. has already been notified.

Comm. Blass commented that Lisa DeRocha is doing Mike's job of booking at the park.

Comm. Ritchie inquired if Mr. Anderson knew the size of the parade.

Mr. Anderson said he did not have a total figure yet.

Comm. Ritchie asked, "Ancram is part of Copake's parade, but Hillsdale is not?"

Comm. Ritchie asked, "Is Joe La Porta going to be in the parade?"

Comm. Blass commented that the post in Copake takes in Copake and Ancram but the post in Hillsdale just takes in Hillsdale residents.

Mr. Anderson said the Copake post was sworn in in 1992 and discussed the districting of the VFW.

Mr. Anderson and his wife then left the meeting to await Chief Kane's confirmation of manpower by Tuesday.

Comm. Gabaccia indicated that everyone now has a heads up as to procedure and timing as regards next year's parade.

Comm Blass said, "We always did the parade on Memorial Day. There has been some friction between the posts."

Comm. Gabaccia raised the issue of investigating the need and expense of a new police station.

Comm. Ritchie pointed out that at current mortgage rates the current \$850 per month rent would better spent toward a building that we would actually own.

Comm. Blass commented, "We should get a police station from Housing Resources."

Comm. Ritchie said, "It doesn't hurt to ask. We could make them give us some land."

Chief Kane commented that they got an equipment truck for Hillsdale out of the Catamount Development (Niapolis Corp.).

Comm. Blass commented that Lu Ann Varney had graduated from the police academy and was a certified police officer now.

Comm. Gabaccia inquired about her training at Copake and who would be handling it.

Chief Kane said that Danny (Tompkins) and Dickie (Michaels) will be training her. They were going to switch off between officers to give each other a break, although Officer Tompkins will be doing the bulk of the training.

Comm. Ritchie again inquired about the commission badges for himself and Comm. Gabaccia which had still not arrived. Comm. Blass told him to check with Town Clerk Hotaling

Comm. Ritchie moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Comm. Blass and unanimously approved.