

**Town of Auburn
Police Commission
April 1, 2014**

Present: David Dion, Police Commissioner, Dennis McCarthy, Police Commissioner, Ken Robinson, Police Commissioner, Chief Edward Picard, Captain Gary Bartis and Annie Flight, Administrative Assistant.

Also Present: Russell Sullivan, Tom Gonyea, Jim Cloutier, Ken Geddes, Lt. Ray Pelton, Officer Chris Beaule, Calvin Kapos, Norma Picard, M. A. Rolfe, Linda Dross, Kristin Dross, Mike Dross, Scott Norris, Karen Norris, No Name, Pauline Vieira, Dennis Vieira, Kim Sargent, Brad Sargent, Bill Herman, Mike DiPietro, Paula Marzloff, Michael Dann, Christen Maher, Ryan Maher, Warren Olsen, Matthew Larochette, Sue Jenkins and Armand Miclette.

D. Dion – the meeting was called to order at 7:00 and the locations of the exits and restrooms were identified and comments that following the election a chairperson needs to be selected. **D. McCarty** – motions to keep the chairperson as is. **K. Robinson** – second. All in favor. **Motion passes.**

REVIEW THE March 4, 2014 MINUTES

K. Robinson - motion to accept the March 4, 2014 minutes. **D. McCarthy** - second. All in favor. **Motion passes**

REVIEW BILLS AND CORRESPONDENCE

D. Dion – comments there are no bills or correspondence tonight with an exception of a correspondence that will be talked about later.

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH UPDATE

D. Dion – looks to Mr. Cloutier and spots Mr. Geddes seated in the crowd. **J. Cloutier** – comments that they have about five or six new members from Bill Boyd-Robinson and few new members from group B and C that come from speaking to people at the elections, further relating some email address correction have been made, reports other than that they will look forward to getting together to work on event for summer.

CHIEF'S REPORT

Chief – comments that Captain Bartis will be out for approximately four more weeks, relating he is up and getting around. Further comments Lieutenant Pelton is second in change and doing a great job. Comments the ongoing investigation is in the bottom of the ninth inning and should be completed in a week or so, relating it is in the final stages. **D. McCarthy** - reiterates “when we meet again, it will be done”. **Chief** – comments it should be done. **D. McCarthy** – comments that one of their issues is that it has dragged on and on.

CAPTAIN'S REPORT

R. Pelton – relates that he and Sgt. Chabot have been looking into an IMC upgrade, which would integrate the department's police computer system with Rockingham County dispatch's, instantly transferring data and the pricing is significantly less than when this was first looked into and Sgt. Chabot visited Hampton Falls PD who has the system and reports Hampton is very happy with it. Further plans are to visit other agencies that utilize this system and then come back to the commission with these findings. He comments on the department's burglary incident stats and reports there is a decline since the arrest was made on Bonnie Usher, who was indicted today on two counts of burglary, commenting she was probably responsible for more but they could only charge with her presently with two. Updates

everyone about David Major, suspect in a burglary that occurred at Nixon Demolition which happened last year and his indictment recently citing there was a delay waiting from State lab results on the tool markings and drugs. He further relates that Officer Lennon and Officer Bike over the weekend made a motor vehicle stop for speeding and using heads-up police wound up making two felony theft arrests. The subjects had stolen items from Walmart and Home Depot and Sgt Chabot just complete warrants for that arrest. He further comments that Officer Cashman has completed his FTO training and is now fully on the schedule, still doing a great job for Department and lastly the department started last month to run with added a second officer on the day shift relaying those shift have been busier with residents home during the weekend and residents from Manchester coming in town, seems to have worked out well this past month and as long as there is continue availability will continue to do that.

OLD BUSINESS

D. Dion – comments under old business was employee re-classification but it was withdrawn at the request of the employee and in its place he is in receipt of a written complaint and let Mr. McCarthy discuss it. **D. McCarthy** – comments the complaint does address a number of officers from the department and would like to motion the commissioners forward the complaint to Rockingham County for their investigation of the complaint. **K. Robinson** – second. All in favor. **Motion passes.**

D. Dion – explains the meeting is going to move into Non-public session pursuant to RSA 91-A:3, II and explains the commissioners will remove themselves rather than making everyone else move since this shouldn't take long. **D. McCarthy** – motions to go into non-public pursuant to RSA 91-A :3, II **K. Robinson**- second. A roll call vote was taken: **D. Dion** – Yes; **D. McCarthy** - Yes; **K. Robinson** – Yes. **D. McCarthy** – would like the Chief and Lieutenant.

D. McCarthy - motion to come out of Non-Public Session at 7:17 p.m. **K. Robinson** – second. A roll call vote was taken: **K. Robinson** – Yes; **D. McCarthy** – Yes; **D. Dion** – Yes. **Motion passes.**

D. McCarthy - motion to seal the minutes of the Non-Public Session. **K. Robinson** – second. A roll call vote was taken: **K. Robinson** – Yes; **D. McCarthy** – Yes; **D. Dion** – Yes. **Motion passes**

D. McCarthy – explains the non-public session dealt with a personnel matter and they will not be discussing what actions were taken.

NEW BUSINESS

D. Dion – comments next on the agenda is review personnel evaluation and possible step increase, commenting he and Mr. Robinson have already read the evaluation. **K. Robinson** - motions to accept the evaluation of Officer Bike and award him the appropriate STEP increase. **D. McCarthy** –seconds if it is for a satisfactory evaluation. **K. Robinson** –confirms the evaluation was satisfactory. All in favor. **Motion passes**

D. Dion – comments the last item on the agenda is the discussion pertaining to a department management study referring it to Mr. McCarthy as he was the one requesting it be put on the agenda. **D. McCarthy** –comments this is something he has brought up a number of times, comments seeing many stressors in the Department and it may be time to address this again, sees a need for something and understands this is not shared by the board. **K. Robinson** – comments with the money of late being taken from the Department budget he'd like to motion this be tabled this for now. **D. McCarthy** – seconds it for discussion stating "it" isn't going away and money shouldn't be the issue. **D. Dion** – comments the issue of this was brought up at a previous selectmen's meeting and Mr. Sullivan recommend it be brought up about budget time and thinks it be discussed in October when the commission meet to work on budget. **D. McCarthy** – thinks it can't wait that long and comments on the million dollar budget the department has and comments there is funds. **D. Dion** – recognizes someone in the audience. **M. DiPietro** – comments on encouraging the commission to do a management study sooner rather than later

and everything of late boards on dereliction of duty. **C. Kapos** – asks Mr. McCarthy what he is basing his request on further commenting on Mr. McCarthy saying it has been a year since but is not indicating what is broken. **D. McCarthy** – comments what has transpired in the past two years appears to be some management issues. **C. Kapos** – asks again what Mr. McCarthy bases it on. **D. McCarthy** – comments the bases of letters from the Attorney General's Office. **C. Kapos** – asks what exactly the letters say. **D. McCarthy** – comments on a letter from AG's office that was written.... had a discussion with the Chief, he had misrepresented the discussion in public into the newspaper and they send the Chief a public letter so it would be understood why they took particular actions. **C. Kapos** – asks if that is why Mr. McCarthy feels the need for a management study. **D. McCarthy** – comments on a newspaper article from the head of the alcohol enforcement division about the department not investigating an alcohol death suitably. **C. Kapos** – ask again if a management study is needed on that. **D. McCarthy** – comments it shows something is wrong with the department and comments he has been here for many years and never seen anything like it and further comment they now have an independent study (referring to the Staples report) indicating something wasn't done correctly. **C. Kapos** – comments the need to look at it differently. **D. Dion** – tries to bring the conversation back on track. **D. McCarthy** – comments he wants to make sure Officer Kapos' comment are reflected in the record. **C. Kapos** – explains he would like Mr. McCarthy to look at it differently. **D. McCarthy** – relays "that's why" he is seeking a management study; further commenting things are being looked at the same way for too long. **M. Dann** – comments it was not clarified when Mr. McCarthy made the statement "a management study or a...." and further comments Mr. McCarthy doesn't state what he wants done and asks if the police commission is part of management and wonders if they need to be looked at considering the statements made tonight are not based on facts. Further suggests rather than coming in with innuendos come in with documentation for the tax payer since many residents are on fixed income and spending money on needless studies, comments the department has improved over the 30 years he has been a resident and relates his belief the town residents are behind the department but before looking to spend money come with facts. **M. DiPietro** – comments the commission should not be fooled by this filibuster, stating a police officer came to a number of selectmen's meetings badgering them and comments that officer should be on probation and comments the commission has to do something. **D. Dion** – comments that when that officer Mr. DiPietro is referring to is at those meeting he is there as a resident of this town and is able to voice his opinion much like Mr. DiPietro is allow to voice his opinion and comments what he and others do for work has no baring. **P. Marzloff** – comments perception is a reality and what people do for a living carries weight and the hat doesn't get checked at the door. **Unidentified speaker** – asks other than money what Officer Kapos is afraid of or the major reason doesn't want the management study. **C. Kapos** – comments not afraid of anything and Auburn is a small town, things are getting ridiculous. Further comments he doesn't live here but wants a good reason for a management study, whether it be on the whole police department, the chief, the lieutenant but state who and what is to be gained by a management study, stating is it to fire people, give people raises because officers not paid enough, but asks what those that want a management study want out of it. He further comments he makes less than twenty dollars an hour and see dead bodies, thieves and different things an officer has to go through and just wants a good reason why a management study is needed. **D. McCarthy** – comments wanting the management study because doesn't think the town is going to heal from what has gone on without some outside help. **C. Kapos** – suggest Mr. McCarthy write his reasons down, doing a management study on a whole and not just to single out one person. **M. McCarthy** – comment having not mentioned one person. **C. Kapos** – comments the two items Mr. McCarthy mentioned were about the Chief and not the department and if whether the management study is on the Chief or on the department and asks Mr. McCarthy to answer. **D. McCarthy** – believes to move forward a study on the department needs to be done to discover issues that can be corrected if there are any and to move forward to end the "us" and "them". **C. Kapos** – comments he doesn't believe it is a management study issue but is lack of communication. Further commenting the Town Hall and Police Department need to talk because half the problem stems from over at the town office and it filters down to the people working every day and further wonders if an officer stops someone from the town for a ticket or to arrest is there going to be some kind of back lash. **K. Norris** – asks the commission what the cost of a management study is. **D. Dion** – comments that it was \$10,000 when it was last addressed but could not recall exactly. **K. Norris** – then ask how much it would cost to do a town wide study. **D. Dion** – comments he doesn't have the answer and Mr. Herman might be able to speak to that. **B. Herman** – comments about \$50,000. **K. Sargent** – comments on it being done town wide, commenting the issue has been going on for a year and a half and it not just the police department indicating town officials dropped the ball and things are out of hand and people are talking. **D. Dion**

– explains wanting to wait till October at budget time to see about money and asks if Mr. McCarthy ready to vote on his motion. **D. McCarthy** – comments it is not his motion that it was kept open to discuss and address the audience about the fact he only works for one board and doing something broader but needs to come from the outside and maybe address that with selectmen. **K. Sargent** – agrees it should go to outside and asks Mr. McCarthy directly a question, “they do a study, two months down the line the study comes back and they don’t see a problem...what do you think is going to happen...think going to say...Ok we got our answer we are healed....no.” Further commenting the town is a mess, police, fire, town, further commenting Ms. Marzloff said “can’t leave hat at the doo”r but comments Mr. Santuccio has every right to ask questions and if town starts censoring that others will be told they can’t speak and they are tax payers. **D. Dion** – reviews the motion Mr. Robinson made. **K. Robinson** – comments on waiting till October. **D. McCarthy** – comments he has one more comments. **P. Marzloff** – reminds the commission that budget discussions should begin sooner that October may be too late. **K. Robinson** – Motions to table this issue till September. **D. McCarthy** – seconds with one caveat commenting that is too late to address a management study and asks selectmen make a decision to move this forward. **D. Dion** – All in favor? **D. Dion** – yes, K. Robinson – yes, **D. McCarthy** – no. **Motion passes.**

D. McCarthy – asks if there are any more public comments. **M. Dross** – asks if the commission has looked over the Staples report and has comments. **D. Dion** – comments that it remains an on-going investigation and they can’t comment and explains that was already addressed in the chief’s report earlier tonight. **S. Jenkins** – asked for clarification where the complaint filed against the department was sent. **D. Dion and D. McCarthy** – reply, County Attorney’s Office. **D. Vieira** – comments on his experience with a similar situation in Methuen, Ma. K. Robinson – asks Mr. Vieira to keep his comments related to Auburn. **D. Vieira** – continues to explain the circumstance in Methuen with their Police Chief. **K. Robinson** – asks again to please remain on topic of Auburn. **D. Vieira** – comments his example is on what the Methuen feud cost the town and that the town still remains at odds an doesn’t want to see that happen in Auburn. He further comments trying to say something good about the department and that there must be good officers and sees a need for a management study of some sort.

K. Robinson - Motion to adjourn. **D. McCarthy** -second. All in favor. **Motion passes**

Meeting closed at 7:40 pm.