

POLICE COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES
OPEN SESSION
October 10, 2014

PRESENT: Mayor Richard Meehan, City Manager David Recor, Council President Lloyd Martin, Commission Chairperson Doug Cymek, Council Member Dennis Dare, Director of Emergency Services Joe Theobald, Chief Ross Buzzuro, Captain Kevin Kirstein

ABSENT: Captain Mike Colbert

1. Call to Order at 9:05 a.m.
2. Chief Buzzuro gave an update on crime statistics for the month of July, August and September. July shows that Officer Initiated Calls for Service had a decrease of 14%; Citizen Initiated Calls for Service had a 5% decrease with the total Calls for Service having an overall 7% decrease compared to July 2013. In reviewing the top 25 Calls for Service: Disorderly, Alcohol Violations and Parking Complaints were down. August shows that Officer Initiated Calls for Service had a decrease of 1.1%; Citizen Initiated Calls for Service had a 0.1% increase with the total Calls for Service having an overall 0.6% decrease compared to August 2013. In reviewing the top 25 Calls for Service, Disorderly, Collisions all stayed relatively the same with thefts being slightly down. September shows that Officer Initiated Calls for Service had an increase of 5.9%; Citizen Initiated Calls for Service had an increase of 6.9% with the total Calls for Service having an overall 6.4% increase from September 2013. In reviewing the top 25 Calls for Service, Disorderly, Collisions were up with Breaking & Entering and Noise Complaints being down.

Overall crime through September 30, 2014 – Aggravated Assault, Burglary, Auto Theft were all up with Assault down 10% over 2013. Total Part I crimes through September 30, 2014 were down 2.0%

3. Chief Buzzuro advised the Commission that there were 26 CEW/Taser incidents during the summer months with 2 actual deployments of the CEW/Taser. In July, there were 14 incidents with 2 deployments. In August and September, there were a total of 12 incidents with no deployments. Chief Buzzuro described both July incidents, noting alcohol was a contributing factor in both that there were no injuries to the suspects or officers. By displaying the CEW/Taser most situations are brought under control without the actual deployment of the Taser. Chief Buzzuro explained that each and every incident when a Taser is deployed, the incident is reviewed to verify that the use of force is consistent with department policy.

Meeting Adjourned at 9:15 a.m.

The next meeting of the Police Commission will be held on Monday, November 10, 2014 at 9:00 AM at the Public Safety Building, 6501 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, MD 21842