

BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS
6:45 P.M.
TUESDAY, JUNE 11, 2024
SCHIEFFELIN HALL
(CORNER OF FREMONT AND FOURTH STREET)

- I. CALL TO ORDER** Chairman Dustin Escapule called the Board of Police Commissioner Regular Meeting to order on Tuesday, June 11, 2024 at 6:45PM.
- II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** Chairman Dustin Escapule led the Board of Police Commissioners and the general public in a recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.
- III. ROLL CALL**
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|---------------------------|---------|
| Commissioner Colin Regan | Present |
| Commissioner Bill Barlow | Present |
| Commissioner Matt Faulk | Present |
| Commissioner Jim Newbauer | Present |
| Vice Chairman Jim Adams | Present |
| Chairman Dustin Escapule | Present |
- Also in attendance: Charissa Presti, Interim City Clerk

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION: Approval of minutes from Tuesday, May 14, 2024.

MOTION by Commissioner Newbauer, **SECOND** by Commissioner Falk, to approve the minutes for Regular Meeting for Tuesday, May 14, 2024.

DISCUSSION: None

VOTE: 5/0

MOTION: Carried

B. MARSHAL'S REPORT: The Marshal's Report – May 1, 2024 through May 31, 2024.

Crime report:

May: 179 Total incidents / 138 Traffic stops / 1 Motor Vehicle Accidents with injuries / 3 DUIs. Notable trends: Smuggling.

Reserve Hours:

Reserve Deputies worked 77 hours in May for a salary savings to the city of \$1,501.50. Our Reserve Sergeant was a Lieutenant with the Department of Corrections and has since retired from there. He is presently employed at Bisbee PD, so he moved on from his Reserve duties here after 9 years of service. He was very much appreciated, and we wish him the best of fortunes in his new endeavor.

Tinfoil Hats:

According to a tenant there, management at Casa Loma Apartments reportedly made an entire construction crew vanish.

Animals misbehaving:

- A pair of mares took themselves for a walk on Highway 80 near Landin Park. They were reunited with their owner.

- A large, white dog with pointy ears and spots climbed the fence and got out. It climbed back over when the cops arrived.
- Victim reported finding threatening letters in their yard about “Dumb Pigs” and “Volunteer Swine.” No actual livestock was harmed in this event.
- Many deer were hit by cars last month. Please watch out for them.

Events of significance in March:

- DUI: Underage driver had alcohol in his system. If you are below the age of 21, any alcohol in your system at all is a violation. He will be charged accordingly once the official blood results come back.
- DUI: Another underage driver left a graduation party with two other persons who were intoxicated while underage. The three kids were charged and the investigation into the adults who reside at the party location continues. Somebody called later and stated that an unknown person at the party urinated on their car.
- DUI Drugs: One of our Deputies noted a copious amount of deceptive behavior from the occupants of a vehicle on a traffic stop. K9 Keyu was deployed and alerted to the car. 94 Fentanyl pills, 23 grams of meth, drug paraphernalia and a loaded .357 Magnum revolver were located inside. The driver was DUI drugs, the passenger was a convicted felon, and the guy in the backseat had most of the dope. They went to jail on the 3 for 1 plan.
- Drugs again: Driver with a known suspended license went by a Deputy, who recognized him. K9 Keyu alerted to the car. Meth pipes and needles were found. The appropriate citations were issued.
- More drugs: A traffic stop for speeding drew the attention of our Deputy. K9 Keyu alerted to the car and 4.6 grams of meth was discovered. Both women state they met while incarcerated. They were given a homecoming at the Bisbee Jail.
- Stolen vehicle pursuit: Our LPR Cameras picked up on this car and the Deputy attempted to stop it, but it fled. Due to heavy traffic, the pursuit was terminated.
- Pursuit: CCSO had a pursuit coming our way, so we obliged by spiking all 4 tires. The driver ditched the car and ran off, not to be seen again. Should be a long walk home.
- Pursuit: A 21-year-old man from Mesa named Prince Charles fled from Border Patrol, who lost him. He then came through Tombstone, and we chased him, but he got away because the car the Deputy was driving couldn't keep up. Benson then tried to spike him but they were unsuccessful. CCSO finally got him on I-10. He also had a loaded handgun. He got booked.
- Pursuit: A 100mph chase ended when the car got spiked in St. David. The 17-year-old Mexican male suspect drove repeatedly into the face of oncoming traffic, despite requests from the two illegal immigrants in the car with him to stop. He was charged with multiple felony counts and booked in as an adult.
- Smuggling: A 20-year-old from Rhode Island got caught transporting undocumented non-citizens that he admitted he was to be paid for. He and his co-conspirator were charged accordingly.
- Smuggling: A 28-year-old flew here from Florida, rented a car, picked up some undocumented “hitchhikers” by the border who were hiding under a blanket in the back seat, and then got caught. He went to jail.

- Smuggling: A 23-year-old man from Alabama got caught with 5 UDAs. He went to jail.
- Smuggling: A 22-year-old man from Mexico got caught with 2 UDAs. Border Patrol took custody of all three subjects.
- Smuggling: A 56-year-old Phoenix man with a heart condition got popped trafficking 3 immigrants. He suffered an acute case of incarcerateditis and went to the hospital in an ambulance. His charges will be waiting for him when he gets out. His car will not.
- Smuggling: A 38-year-old woman from Nevada had 2 immigrants in the back seat and 2 more in the trunk. She went to jail.
- Smuggling: Elvis is alive, well, and in custody. A 34-year-old man named Elvis from California said he drove all the way here to pick up his friend's uncles and drive them to Phoenix. Heartwarming story...he got booked.
- Smuggling: A 27-year-old man from New Mexico said he met a man on the Grindr app (if you don't know what that is, please don't look it up on your cell phone or you will have a lot of explaining to do to your spouse). He was observed driving 20mph in a 65mph zone. He had 3 immigrants in the back, and he went to jail. He called a few days later saying the cartel was threatening him. Sounds like he should have chosen a more reputable employer.
- Tombstone now has more Smuggling cases accepted for prosecution than SVPD (which is the largest city in Cochise County), Douglas PD (which sits at the international border), and Benson, Bisbee, Willcox, HCPD, DEA, and Homeland Security combined. This is not a disparaging remark regarding the other agencies, but more a testament to the volume of illicit traffic that comes through Tombstone and our diligence in interdicting it.
- A local man met a man from Tucson on the Grindr app (not the smuggling guy). The Tucson man came down to Tombstone by invitation and spent a few nights here in town. He then became violent with his host and was talking about shooting up a school, tried to find a firearm, and mentioned a Homicide in Tucson. He was criminally charged, and his information was forwarded to the proper authorities. This is exactly why we all attended Stranger Danger classes in elementary school.
- Burglary: A local witnessed a man grab a backpack from an unlocked car and run off. The suspect tripped and landed on his face. In the Law Enforcement business, we call that Karma. The backpack was recovered. Please lock your doors.
- We assisted DPS with a rollover accident on Highway 80.
- We assisted CCSO with a stolen vehicle that hit on our cameras, but that they caught up to it first. The driver was arrested, and the passenger was a runaway from Phoenix.
- There were 24 additional assists to other agencies in May.
- Lost and Found: Six wallets, four phones, and a pair of reading glasses. Keep an eye on your stuff...most of us have our entire life in our phone and cancelling all your credit cards is no treat.

Other Item of Interest:

Ted Plotts who struck the Border Patrol Checkpoint in June of last year took a plea to serve 4.5 years in Prison. He was ordered to pay \$114,000 in restitution.

There will be a full briefing on the monies collected and funds expended for the Dog Days of Tombstone event at this evening's Council Meeting. I will say that it was a grand success and we are grateful to the many sponsors we had, plus the help of countless people, who all set aside their differences and came together to raise funds for our K9 program, as well as to provide scholarships for disabled students.

Mayor closes Marshal's Report.

V. MOTION TO ADJOURN

MOTION by Commissioner Barlow, **SECOND** by Commissioner Newbauer, to adjourn. The Board of Police Commissioners was adjourned at 6:58 p.m.

Dustin Escapule, Mayor

Charissa Presti, Interim, City Clerk

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