

BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS
6:45 P.M.
TUESDAY, JANUARY 14, 2025
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, January 14, 2025 at 6:45 PM.
- 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**
- | | |
|-----------------------------|---------|
| Commissioner Colin Regan | Present |
| Commissioner John Goodspeed | Absent |
| Commissioner Jimmy Green | Present |
| Commissioner Lillian Hritz | Present |
| Vice Chairman Jim Adams | Present |
| Chairman Dustin Escapule | Present |
- Also in attendance: Charissa Presti, Interim City Clerk
Shelly Kazda, Deputy Interim City Clerk

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- A. DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION:** Approval of minutes from Tuesday, December 10, 2024.

MOTION by Commissioner Green, **SECOND** by Commissioner Regan, to approve the minutes for Regular Meeting for Tuesday, December 10, 2024.

DISCUSSION: None

VOTE: 4 YES/0 NO/1 Absent

MOTION: Carried

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

Crime report:

December: 123 Total incidents / 71 Traffic stops / 5 Motor Vehicle Accidents, 1 with injuries, 0 fatal / 2 DUI. The number of calls for service was down compared to November when we had 135. Notable trends: People drinking too much alcohol and animals with cabin fever.

Reserve Hours:

Reserve deputies worked 104 hours in December for salary savings to the city of \$2,100.80.

Tinfoil Hats:

- A local man called 9-1-1 four (4) times asking where he could get a sandwich. He was contacted back by a deputy and advised that this constitutes a misuse of 9-1-1 and is a criminal offense for which we would happily arrest him. He apparently located a sandwich without further assistance.
- An unknown subject got into the bus storage lot area, left a strange note on the door to one of the buses, and peed on the tires.

Animals misbehaving:

- A pair of Bobcats got into a chicken pen and killed all the birds. They then came at the armed homeowner and his horse, where their reign of terror ended.

- A rabid fox has been located in Cochise County. Other critters that can carry rabies include raccoons, bats, skunks, cats, dogs, livestock, and monkeys...please use appropriate caution!
- Two local men tried to break up a dog fight over a chew toy and became chew toys themselves. One victim was transported to the hospital for his injuries and the other handled his wounds at home.
- A large Brahma bull and his girlfriend got out and were in the roadway. A local cowboy was called for assistance, and they were successfully wrangled. The lonely bull got out again the next night.
- There were 2 deer vs vehicle accidents and a blind deer has been seen wandering near 1st and Safford. Meanwhile, another deer jumped a 3'10" at a 4' fence and got its hoof caught. After hanging upside down for a while, we were able to clip the fence and free it.
- Loose dogs this month: a Chihuahua, a Collie named 'Rex', a brown dog named 'Rosie', a St. Bernard, a Pitbull named 'Bruce', a German Shepard, a Pomeranian in a pink sweater that the Mayor later found and reunited with its owner, a brindle-colored dog named 'Max' who jumped out the window and bailed after being adopted from the Animal Shelter, and one loose black Pitbull mix that got hit and killed by a car on Highway 80. So, please secure your dogs!
- Finally, a fully loaded 9mm magazine was found in the Animal Shelter's exercise yard. I'm not sure if that constitutes introducing contraband into a correctional facility or not, but apparently the dogs are arming themselves now with help from someone outside. If you've ever read George Orwell's Animal Farm, count this as a warning

People misbehaving and other events of significance in December:

- The car that was not a pancake: Someone poured maple syrup on someone else's car. A potential suspect was the person who had recently been evicted.
- Theft: Some kids watching a house for the victim while they were out of town, took some rolled coins and a NASCAR collectible. The investigation continues.
- DUI: A guy from Golden Valley, Arizona was well over the legal limit and already had his license suspended and revoked in two other states for DUIs.
- DUI: A local man was being sought for bad driving by two other area agencies. He was found driving in Tombstone and went to jail for DUI and resisting arrest after a scuffle with the deputy.
- Almost a DUI: A highly intoxicated man backed into someone's car at a local drinking establishment and then left the scene. He was contacted later and cited. His wife also articulated some colorful threats about the suspect's ex-wife, which was duly documented.
- A drunk guy fell out of bed and broke his ankle.
- Assault: One guy at a bar said something to another guy at the bar and the first guy got slapped. The investigation is pending location and interview of the assailant.
- Assault: A different guy at a different bar pushed a different fellow over an inappropriate comment made regarding the assailant's wife. They decided to leave before the cops came to bust up the festivities and take people to jail.
- Disorderly Conduct: Two subjects got into a honking match at the Circle K parking lot. One subject reportedly pointing a gun at the other. No firearm was found but the case is being sent to the City Attorney for review.
- Domestic Violence: A 9-1-1 call led to deputies having to make entry into a motel room. Both parties inside were injured from a spat they had which precipitated the call to dispatch. One person was booked into jail and the other was cited and released.

- Scam: Someone posing as an APS worker, that is the electric company, over the phone told the victim her power was going to be shut off. He then talked the victim into purchasing \$200 worth of gift cards and giving him the card numbers over the phone.
- Bigger scam: A local woman was told she won the Publisher's Clearinghouse Sweepstakes. There is a couple of us who remember what that was. She mortgaged her house and took money from her savings to pay the purported taxes on her alleged winnings. The FBI is assisting with the case since it crosses state lines. So that you will know, you will never get your money back because most of these things originate in Jamaica or Nigeria.
- Stolen vehicle: This particular vehicle hit on our license plate reader cameras and was stopped. The car was recovered, and the driver went to jail.
- Someone threatened to bring a gun to work after he became angry at a new corporate policy. He was terminated. No charges were filed since the threat was not directed at anyone in particular.
- We additionally responded to a call of fireworks at a Christmas party, a furnace that was making weird noises, a recently released prisoner from the county jail who was in town and gave a ride to Benson, a rabbit that needed to be re-homed after its owner passed away, and we also broke into several vehicles that had the keys locked inside.

Other items of interest:

There were no smuggling cases or pursuits in the month of December, we had one today but in December we had none. This is a stark departure from the previous couple of years, for all of you who have been paying attention to the briefings. Without interjecting politics into the conversation, the human trafficking issue has dissipated substantially since the presidential election.

And you may have noticed an increase in traffic enforcement with 67 stops being made in the first 13 days of this month...20 of them being for stop sign violations. Locals are some of the most frequent offenders. If you get a ticket and think calling the Mayor is going to get you out of it, think again because he's the one who asked us to be more proactive, so we are doing it. Stop at the stop signs, there is a lot of tourists out there. They cross the streets and not pay attention. We don't want them to get hit.

Mayor closes Marshal's Report.

V. MOTION TO ADJOURN

MOTION by Commissioner Regan, **SECOND** by Commissioner Hritz, to adjourn. The Board of Police Commissioners was adjourned at 6:55 P.M.

Dustin Escapule, Mayor

Charissa Presti, Interim, City Clerk