**BERLIN POLICE COMMISSION**

**MONTHLY MEETING**

**PUBLIC SESSION**

**DATE: THURSDAY, APRIL 5, 2018**

**TIME: 7:30 A.M.**

**PLACE: BERLIN POLICE DEPARTMENT CONFERENCE ROOM**

**I. Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order by Comm. Nault at 7:30 a.m.

**II. Roll Call:** Commissioners Jerry Nault, Marc Tremblay, and Pierre Morin were present.

**Others Present:**  Chief Morency, Deputy Chief Buteau, and Jenn Cloutier

**Recorded by:** Lisa Arguin

**III. Acceptance of Minutes of March 1, 2018:** Minutes were unanimously accepted as printed, on a motion by Comm. Morin, seconded by Comm. Tremblay.

**IV**. **Monthly Financial Reports:** The report was unanimously accepted on a motion by Comm. Morin, seconded by Comm. Tremblay.

**V. Old Business**

1. **Phone System & Bid:** Arcomm Communications of Hillsboro has been awarded the bid. Their representatives are very knowledgeable, and references include other police departments. They will begin work on the project, once Consolidated Communications completes their work of bringing fiber optic lines into the PD.

1. **Opioid Crisis:** The chief apprised the Commission on several actions that have been taken since the March opioid meeting. He is encouraged by the range of assistance and with what has transpired and believes things are moving in a positive direction.
2. **Police Officer & Supervisor Testing Status**: The supervisors test will take place in two weeks. The oral board is scheduled for next week, and the number of candidates has dropped to four.
3. **Video Release Meeting with DCYF**: Deputy Chief Buteau met with DCYF regarding the release of body cam videos. Due to privacy issues, videos will not be released unless subpoenaed; however, DCYF is still able to view the videos at the PD. The conditions are acceptable to DCYF, and the common goal remains the protection of children.
4. **Capital Improvement Update**: Chief Morency updated the Commission on the status of current capital improvement projects.
5. **Budget**: The budget meeting went well. The chief is disappointed that facts were not presented accurately in the newspaper; there is no increase to the PD budget. Comm. Nault expressed concern about the mayor’s statement regarding a budget reduction of $400,000 between the Police and Fire Departments. Discussion ensued; other departments are requesting budget increases but the PD is not, and there are are no places to cut in PD operations.

The mayor had also mentioned a follow-up meeting with the chief and one commissioner. While he has no objection to attending the follow-up meeting, Comm. Nault suggested the chief meet with the mayor one-on-one, as has typically been done in the past. Afterwards, if a need remains for a commissioner to become involved, his recommendation is that all commissioners be included. The Commission unanimously agreed by consensus.

1. **Other:**  **Drug Court** is up and running. Activity is tracked and monitored, but it will take a considerable amount of time before visible success can be seen.
   * The Restorative Justice Program is going well.
   * Communications are continuing between the PD and AVH Behavioral Health Task Force.
   * The Chamber of Commerce Annual Dinner was well attended and a nice event.
   * PD Negotiations are ongoing.

**VI. New Business**

1. **Passing of Retired Chief Joe Martin:** PD members attended the funeral and presented a flag to the family. They were very appreciative.
2. **NIMS, ICS, and CJIS Training:** Training updates and recertifications are ongoing.
3. **Firing Range:** Nancy Bell of the Conservation Fund, the current lease-holder of the firing range, contacted Chief Morency. Because of the recent weapons uproar, the Fund is no longer interested in holding the range lease and would like to turn the property over to the PD for the cost of having the land surveyed. Talks are ongoing, and the chief will provide an update at the next meeting.
4. **Vehicles:** The PD fleet is short two vehicles due to one being totaled in a deer accident and the other needing a new water pump. There are no leftover bid cars available in New England, and ordering one would result in a 12-week delay. In order to save money, and provided that the CIP request for two vehicles is approved, the chief’s recommendation is to hold-off on ordering at this time, and keep one of the vehicles that would ordinarily be transferred to another City department. Vehicle scheduling will be tight, and employees who end up using their personal vehicles for work will be reimbursed for mileage.
5. **Marsy’s Law**: The chief was invited to and attended a meeting with the governor and Senator Shaheen to show their support of Marsy’s Law.
6. **Call to Duty Memorial Scholarships**: A meeting will be scheduled with members of the Memorial Committee to review the applications as well as discuss the possibility of supporting two people who have solicited the PD’s support in riding their bicycles to Washington D.C. in memory of the fallen officers.

Chief Morency advised that the statue’s restoration has once again been postponed by Brodin Studios, because they do not have enough work in this area to warrant the trip. He is very disappointed with the company, as he was previously assured by the owner that the project would be completed before Law Enforcement Memorial Day in May.

1. **Authorization for NH Fish & Game Grant:** Comm. Tremblay made a motion authorizing Chief Morency to apply for and accept grant funds for the purpose of conducting OHRV patrols. The motion was seconded by Comm. Morin and carried unanimously.
2. **Statistics**: Statistics were reviewed. The PD has seen an increase in demands for services, including traffic details and training requests.
3. **Correspondence**: Trails are closed for mud season.
   * The BFD will host wire hazardous safety training; the Littleton PD will host crisis management training; the Human Trafficking Summit will be held on May 7; and the Primex Conference will be held May 9-10.
   * The PD will participate in the upcoming Job Resource Fair.
   * The ERT will conduct active shooter training/simunitions training in June.
   * As a result of a parking ticket, the PD received a letter suggesting that notices be posted on all City streets regarding the overnight parking ban.
   * Free bicycle helmets are available locally through the Kiwanis.
   * City Hall requested that the revised Loss Prevention Manual be provided to each employee. It has been posted on the shared drive for all employees.
   * California is looking at changing the term “reasonable force” to “necessary force,” and the chief will monitor the outcome.
4. **Other**: Active shooter training will be conducted with Berlin Court employees.
   * Annual contracts with the WMCC and Conway Humane Society have been signed. A policy with the Coös County Nursing Home regarding reporting and responding to dementia patient-related calls was also signed.
   * Lt. Gendron volunteered and recently provided police escort for a Make-A-Wish family.
   * A table-top exercise on hate crimes will be conducted with Good Shepherd Parish employees.
   * The School Department pays for on-call service to have their furnace alarm monitored, and they are looking into having the PD monitor the alarm instead.
5. **Public Comments**: None.
6. **Adjournment of Public Meeting:** At 9:00 a.m., Comm. Tremblay motioned, with a second from Comm. Morin, to adjourn. The motion carried unanimously. The next regular meeting will be held Thursday May 3, 2018 at 7:30 a.m.