

**BERLIN POLICE COMMISSION
MONTHLY MEETING
PUBLIC SESSION**

DATE: Thursday, May 11, 2023
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 07:30 A.M.

II. Roll Call: Commissioner Nault, Comm. Tremblay, and Comm. Morin were present.

Others Present: Chief Buteau, Deputy Chief Roy, Lt. Wade Goulet, Lt Zach Howry, and Jenn Cloutier.

Recorded by: Kimberly Bijeau

III. Acceptance of Minutes of April 6, 2023: Minutes were unanimously accepted as printed on a motion by Comm. Tremblay, seconded by Comm. Morin.

IV. Monthly Financial Report: Currently 85% into the fiscal year. Patrol IV considerably overspent with III under. Reinforces reason for Patrol I - IV to be put together next fiscal year. Question with ref to Ackley Defense invoice (shoot house for range) and the fuming chamber for prints. Question ref the use of a rental vehicle as opposed to using a shuttle or uber. Question with ref to # expenses at Caron's vs White Mtn. Lumber. The report was unanimously accepted on a motion by Comm. Morin, seconded by Comm. Tremblay.

V. Old Business

A. Budget FY'24: April 10th meeting went well. May 30th is the public meeting for entire city @ 6:30.

B. School Resource Officer: Lt Dube has been in the schools since April 17th. Going very well. School was happy to have her. During the summer she will be back on regular patrol.

C. Active Shooter Drill: Over the next 3 weeks – 3 tabletops scheduled with Berlin, Gorham, and Milan schools.

D. PTR Focus Group: Meeting yesterday went very well. Prospective recovery house/center planned: funding sources available. CCFHS has medically assisted program. Tammy Berthiaume was present and provided contacts for the Doorway program. It is felt that the doorway program should play a more active role in the PTR planning. Concerns for push back from the community were expressed.

E. U.S. Forest Service Grant: \$6,000 grant. Remote area patrols. Mike Carifio will be speaking at the patrol meeting to discuss expectations.

F. Call to Duty Event: 10K run with Family Fun Run around the Gorham Common. Discussion with ref to the Rotary.

- G. **988 Meeting:** Suicide hotline. Series of North Country meetings.
- H. **Other:** Tim Godin has moved on and Rich Plourde has taken over as ILO. It is going very well.

VI. New Business

- A. **Community Betterment Grant:** Lt Zach Howry is coordinating the \$20,000 grant. Focus is driver safety. Target groups include: Young drivers, School age kids and Drivers Ed, New American/Refugees, Limited English Proficiency, Older Drivers / Hearing Impaired / Low Vision, and Underserved / Low Income areas. Lt. Howry has three scheduled events with drivers ed class. Senior meals a few weeks ago. St Regis event is coming up and would cover both low income and the elderly. 7-8 presentations total. Hoping for a couple presentations in the schools either before the school year is done or next semester before the grant ends in October.
- B. **Drug Court:** Lt Wade Goulet provided background. Has been on the board for a few years. Have two recent graduates from the program. Coos county has a total of 10 that have graduated from the program. 9 mos. to 1-year program. Names of prospective participants are brought to the table and are either recommended or not for the program. Jail time is a big incentive for participants to successfully make it through the program. Drug court is every other Monday. Discussion with ref to the importance of our department's involvement and participation in the program.
- C. **National Police Week:** May 14th – 20th. Concord Memorial is next Friday.
- D. **Award:** NHEDA lifetime member awarded to Jennifer Cloutier. 18-year member.
- E. **North Country Ops:** DEA operation in conjunction with BPD and several other area agencies.
- F. **Funeral Services:** Attended services for Philip Faucher and Lt John Scarinza.
- G. **Nansen Event:** T&C April 16th.
- H. **PSTC Meet-up:** Chief Buteau and Deputy Chief Roy try to meet up with and check-in with the candidates around the half-way point through the academy. There have been a number of changes with the academy. Both are doing well and have past their mid-terms.
- I. **FCI Community Relations:**
- J. **ATV Festival Meeting:** Discussion ref meeting and upcoming event.
- K. **Special Olympics Event:** Summer games this past weekend and Torch run on May 20th.
- L. **Special Patrols:** Deputy Chief Roy advised on upcoming patrols dedicated to speed issues, parking enforcement, park patrols, TT patrol details, etc.
- M. **Website Update:** Jenn: updated PD page information on City website. A few additional updates needed.

- N. Personnel Policy Change:** Chief Buteau and Deputy Chief Roy working on update. SOP have been updated but the Personnel Policy is from the 90's and is in need of an update. Definition of benefits for non-union employees need to be in black and white. Plan is to get a copy out to the commission a couple of weeks prior to next meeting. Mention that if an additional/separate meeting is needed one could be scheduled.
- O. Training:** FTO in person training. Range updates (Mike Wedge from NNHCF) were scheduled for a couple of weeks ago.
- P. Statistics:** March statistics were reviewed and discussed. Drug complaints down 64% for unspecified or undetermined reason. OD's down. Traffic stops doubled along with DWI's. No reported burglaries. OHRV complaints down; Had to put out a reminder yesterday that the roads are closed.
- Q. Hiring:** Recent new hire: currently in the PA police academy (self-enrolled). Graduates June 9th. Potential to test out of the law package as a couple of the Gorham officers have done so. Insight from Chief Marsh with ref to same. Candidate has been working at the Randolph Mountain Club the past couple of years. MA from NY 2nd candidate has conditional offer: working on background. July 31st is last academy for the year.
- R. Correspondence:** Chief Buteau highlighted several training opportunities and thank you letters:
- NC filling officer positions with Sheriffs.
 - SRO Position memos (Julie King letter)
 - Email .gov communication
 - Jan. 1st PSTC conduct review committee
 - US Forest Service
 - White Horse Northern Borders funding
 - Officer Harmon letter of praise
 - Jason Morneau case letter of praise
 - Badge found in storage container in April.
 - Funding request for \$355,000 for radio equipment
 - Faucher family thank you
- S. OTHER:** Lt White took a position with the CCSO and gave notice approx. 3 weeks ago. Today is his last day. Provided commission with copy of resignation letter. Question ref exit interviews. Going on 13 years of service. Started with BPD at the age of 19. Staying on ERT and SE.
- Fred Devoid visited a couple of times after retirement letter was received

VII. Public Comments: None.

VIII. Adjournment of Public Meeting: At 8:52 a.m., the meeting adjourned unanimously on a motion by Comm. Morin, seconded by Comm. Tremblay. There was no need for a non-public meeting. The next meeting will be held on **Monday, June 5, 2023 at 02:00 p.m.**