

**BERLIN POLICE COMMISSION  
MONTHLY MEETING  
PUBLIC SESSION**

**DATE:** Thursday, November 3, 2022  
**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 07:33 A.M.
- II. Roll Call:** Commissioners Nault attended via zoom, Comm. Tremblay, and Comm. Morin were present.
- Others Present:** Chief Buteau, Capt. Roy, and Lt. Zach Howry.
- Recorded by:** Kimberly Bijeau
- III. Acceptance of Minutes of October 6, 2022:** Minutes were unanimously accepted as printed, on a motion by Comm. Morin, seconded by Comm. Tremblay.
- IV. Monthly Financial Report:** Discussion with reference to a training that Cpl. Gale attended, the trend with OT, and the W/C premium coming in higher than anticipated. Question with ref. to the DTF monies and COB monies. The report was unanimously accepted on a motion by Comm. Tremblay, seconded by Comm. Morin.
- V. Old Business**
- A. Tower Project:** Lease draft is still at City Hall. The new lease is due by January 1<sup>st</sup> and still needs to go before the City Council.
- B. SRO Position:** Lt Dube is at SRO training this week. She isn't able to start the position yet but is able to attend training. As of a couple of weeks ago, the school department was still waiting on the funding. Believe the school may have put off submitting for the position due to not having an SRO.
- C. Opioid Settlement Update:** Last check received in October for \$5,350 brought total in fund to 14,344.
- D. Other: None**
- VI. New Business**
- A. FCI Community Relations Meeting:** Chief Buteau attended and met the new warden, Richard Lunna. Meeting was mainly focused on getting to know the new warden.
- B. Drug Prevention / Treatment / Recovery Coalition:** There has been a couple of meetings. Couple of different tracks going to attempt to tackle the drug issue: enforcement track being head up by Det/Sgt Goulet. And then there is the prevention, treatment, and recovery group.

Group has decided to focus on recovery and is moving towards bringing some sort of recovery center/housing to the area. Looking into funding and might utilize some of the Opioid Settlement monies along with some grant funding.

- C. **Corporal Promotion:** Michael Pearson has been promoted to the Corporal position; he has been with the department for 3 years. As a result, will start seeing the Corporal line of the budget go up.
- D. **WMCC Advisory Board:** Capt. Roy attended. They have been seeing an uptick in enrollment in the Criminal Justice program. College has law enforcement representation from the North Country advising on steering the program. Focus on overall wellness; both physical and mental wellbeing.
- E. **WMCC Security Meeting / MOU:** MOU has been revamped quite a bit. Made a clearer line with ref to their responsibility similarly to a University. The officer in charge of security at the college is a former police officer from CT.
- F. **SIMS Training:** Capt. Roy advised that both Lancaster and Gorham PD attended the training and it went well. Created a Facebook post thanking Chapman for the use of the building. In the past we have seen better attendance from surrounding agencies. The department had invited approx. 12 area agencies but only the two attended along with our officers.
- G. **Low Light Training:** Annual training attended by BPD officers. We modify the program from year to year.
- H. **COB Grant:** Lt Howry and Captain Roy met with Paul Rosario who is the contact for the State. Looking to put out presentation to 6 target groups within the community: specific to the elderly, immigrants/refugee, youth, student drivers, low income, and hearing impaired. Lt Howry has already reach out to the driver's ed and has a presentation scheduled for Nov. 14<sup>th</sup>.
- I. **Winter Parking Ban:** Notice posted in paper and on Facebook. Started November 1<sup>st</sup>.
- J. **Retirement:** Capt. Lemoine officially retired as of Oct. 31<sup>st</sup>.
- K. **AVRRDD Contract:** MOU Contract renew yearly. Just updated. Same amount as years past. Updated MOU with Sheriff's Dept. as a part of the contract.
- L. **City Clean-up Effort:** CM has been actively seeking out properties around the city and working with the department to clean-up properties and sidewalks.
- M. **City Events:** Captain Roy provided an update on same. Advised on an accident that occurred during Riverfire that is currently under investigation. Accident involved an ATV that struck a pedestrian. Riverfire was very well attended and has grown significantly. Debrief with the Chamber and may need to up our patrols. Paula does very well organizing events.
  - Parade of lights: November 25<sup>th</sup>.

- N. Statistics:** Statistics were reviewed and discussed. Overdoses continue to trend upwards. 50% increase in DWI's. A.R.I.D.E. three officers have gone to training over past year. Officers proactively enforcing DUI's. Statistics include a high number of 2<sup>nd</sup> offenses. Felonies and Sexual assaults down. Thefts including petty theft that tie into the homeless issue. Discussion with ref to decrease in burglaries.
- O. Training:** Captain Roy: Gale attended close quarters battle instructor school ... and will be training BPD officers on same. SWAT Leadership Command Decision Making training that Lt White will be attending in preparation for Lt Gendron's retirement this upcoming year. In-house field sobriety training at the end of the month; will include area departments.
- P. Hiring:** Captain Roy: Rebecca Latham starting next week. She was recommended by Harmon and roll-played for Sims training. Two other candidates. Oral board this morning and another next week. Kerivan last day Nov. 20<sup>th</sup>. Hoping to backfill for the SRO and PET positions.
- Q. Correspondence:** Chief Buteau highlighted several thank you notes and cards.
- Chief sent out Halloween safety tips which didn't get in the paper. Discussion with ref to City Ordinance that did make it into the paper. Did post the safety tips on Facebook.
  - "Good Job" for Debbie Gaudette from Milan Chief Chapman with reference to a MC accident up near Pontook.
  - "Good Job" from Fish & Game for the Assistance of Cpl. Stapleton ref mother bear that had been shot with three cubs running around the roadway / area.
  - Water tested and is good.
  - Outstanding DTF case ref Candy Demers investigation and arrest.
  - Warrant sweep early Oct. included 5 arrests.
  - Thank you and "Good Job" to Captain Roy from Highway Safety ref on-site audit: no findings noted.
- R. Other:** New Hire Rebecca Latham: starting November 6<sup>th</sup>. She is from the Loudon area and is 19 years old.
- Security meeting on the 19th with superintendent, Julie King, at the school

**VII. Public Comments:** None.

**VIII. Adjournment of Public Meeting:** At 8:26 a.m., Comm. Nault motioned, with a second by Comm. Morin, to move into non-public session per RSA 91-A:3, II (c), (d), and (e). The Commission entered non-public session by roll call vote with all members voting in the affirmative. Public session reconvened at 9:00 a.m. There were no decisions made in non-public session, and minutes were sealed on a motion by Comm. Tremblay, seconded by Comm. Morin, carried unanimously by Comm. Nault, as their release could adversely affect the reputation of a person other than a member of the Commission.

Comm. Morin then motioned, with a second by Comm. Tremblay, to adjourn the public meeting; so moved. The next meeting will be held on **Thursday, December 8th at 07:30 a.m.**