

**BERLIN POLICE COMMISSION
MONTHLY MEETING
PUBLIC SESSION**

DATE: Thursday, September 7, 2023
TIME: 2:00 P.M.
PLACE: BERLIN POLICE DEPARTMENT CONFERENCE ROOM

- I. Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order by Comm. Nault at 02:00 P.M.
- II. Roll Call:** Commissioner Nault, Comm. Tremblay, and Comm. Morin were present.

Others Present: Chief Buteau, Deputy Chief Roy, Jenn Cloutier, and Bradley Panto.

Recorded by: Kimberly Bijeau

- III. Acceptance of Minutes of July 18, 2023:** Correction (typo) under Non-public 91-A section three changing forth to fourth. Minutes were unanimously accepted as printed on a motion by Comm. Morin, seconded by Comm. Tremblay.
- IV. Monthly Financial Report:** Financial report was reviewed and discussed. Currently 18.4% into FY'24. Printed directly from BS&A. Discussion ref numerous line items that come out early in FY'24. Question ref voucher pertaining to Moe Croteau coming out of training. Discussion ref Jon Imperial still working SE. Discussion ref Dalton Mtn voucher and the condition of current ATV's and need to replacement them. The report was unanimously accepted on a motion by Comm. Morin, seconded by Comm. Tremblay.
- V. Old Business**
- A. PTR Focus Group:** Chief Buteau provided an update with ref to the groups progress. Recovery center has property (behind Aubuchon). Hoping to open October 1st. Discussion with ref to the expenditure of monies; \$6,000 paid for start-up costs. In the future will discuss the expenditures with the Commission prior to releasing.
- B. PET Position:** PET officer spent the week in Washington for training.
- C. USFS Agreement:** \$9,500 remaining in funds. USFS advised that department could continue to do forestry patrols to expend.
- D. Rainbow Gathering:** Jenn advised on debrief. Much praise was received on how well the department worked with the forest service. Discussion on internal tactics to be used in future events. Majority of CFS involving the gathering were from concerns with them making people uncomfortable. Walmart had some issues. Minimal impact on the city.
- E. Call to Duty Event:** September 16th @ 9:00 am. 51 registered participants to date. Meeting today at 4:30 at the common in Gorham. Start is 6.1 miles out the Glen Rd.

- F. **ATV Festival:** Went off like clockwork. Went well with no major issues. There were a couple of accidents and dui's. Friday was slow but Saturday was busy. The block party downtown was very busy as was the event at Heritage Park.
- G. **NHPSTC Academy Update:** Adam Gonyeau currently in the academy and on his 6th week. Academy is a lot more scenario based and a bit more challenging.
- H. **Other:** Nothing.

VI. New Business

- A. **City Audit Week:** Last week of September.
- B. **Opioid Settlement:** Discussed under PTR Focus Group.
- C. **New Hires:** Officer Panto introduced himself to the Commission and provided a little background on himself. Hoping to test out of the academy on October 6th. Has passed the PT.
- D. **Retirements:** Both Barney Valliere and Don Gendron had their last day on August 31st. The luncheon and escort were both very well attended. Both were honored with the granite award. Tim Charbonneau and Mike Carifio have also retired. Valliere staying on PT for NIBRS. Gendron also staying on PT 16-20 hrs.
- E. **Dispatch/Admin. Supplement Plan:** Milan Dispatch monies previously turned back to the City as revenue will now be used to put on an additional dispatcher a couple days a week. Today was the first day with the extra dispatcher. Plan to use up the \$11,000 Milan monies and then move on to SE monies.
- F. **Promotion:** Joe Priest promoted from Sgt. to Lt.
- G. **Kelly Ayotte Visit:** Running for Governor and stopped by the PD and met with the PET group.
- H. **Social Worker Discussion:** Chief Buteau advised on a discussion he had with a local social worker ref getting on the PD roster to be available for mental health related calls. The department did previously have a mental health worker from the prison working closely with the ERT.
- I. **Department Photo:** 2012 was the last photo. Discussion with ref to potential conflict; the Deputy Chief's wife provided a reasonable proposal. The commission viewed the proposal and unanimously agreed that there was no conflict.
- J. **Training:** Deputy Chief Roy advised on upcoming expenditures on training and travel. Dennis Gale in week 1 of 13: Apex (K9) training. Sperlonga was scheduled for LEAD training but it was cancelled. Will be looking for another course so he can assist Lt Howry with LEAD classes. Discussion ref a couple of upcoming Roger Williams training courses.
- K. **Statistics:** June and July statistics were reviewed and discussed. CFS up almost 2000 calls in July but the % was less. Discussion with ref to Assists to Other City departments being up. MV stops up.

L. Hiring: Met with candidate from Israel. Dual citizen Germany and US. He is from VT and would like to be employed by a NH department. Wife may have a residency in Dartmouth. Candidate from SC (conditional offer) coming for polygraph in a couple weeks. Currently have 4 openings.

M. Correspondence: Chief Buteau highlighted several training opportunities and thank you letters:

- Troop F troop inspection coverage
- Asst. troop commander is Ladd.
- Praise report (email) for Officer Beal in his handling of Verizon employee
- BHS homecoming Sept 22nd.
- Gendron gratitude letter. There has been a Gendron on dept. for 67 years.
- LE Substance Abuse Grant renewal.
- Crossing Guard benefits currently includes some vacation time. Looking into wage adjustment. Have requested holiday pay.
- 91A request ref Mike Pence visit.
- Radio project funding letter from Jeanne Shaheen.
- NHPST accreditation program press release

N. OTHER: Use of force report (included in Commission packet). Requested by WMUR.

VII. Public Comments: None.

VIII. Adjournment of Public Meeting: At 3:22 p.m., Comm. Morin motioned, with a second by Comm. Tremblay, to move into non-public session per RSA 91-A:3 II (a), (b), and (e). The Commission entered non-public session by roll call vote with all members voting in the affirmative. Public session reconvened at 03:57 p.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 Commission meeting will be held on Thursday, **October 5, 2023, 07:30 hrs.**