**BERLIN POLICE COMMISSION**

**MONTHLY MEETING**

**PUBLIC SESSION**

**DATE: WEDNESDAY, JULY 3, 2019**

**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 7:31 a.m.

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

**Others Present:**  Chief Morency and Deputy Chief Buteau; Councilor Roland Théberge

**Recorded by:** Lisa Arguin

**III. Acceptance of Minutes of June 6, 2019:** Minutes were unanimously accepted as printed, on a motion by Comm. Morin, seconded by Comm. Tremblay.

**IV**. **Monthly Financial Report:** The report does not include outstanding payables and revenues. The PD has been short of staff resulting in a backlog of earned time to be taken. The department scraped to be able to turn back approximately $150,000, and Chief Morency has made it clear to the mayor that there is no chance of being able to do this again.

**V. Old Business**

1. **Hiring Process:** Three applicants are eligible to participate in today’s Oral Board. Another hiring process is scheduled for July 20.
2. **Budget & CIP:** The PD’s FY20 budget was restored to the original request, and CIPs were adjusted to a total of $187,050. Since then, the governor vetoed the State Budget and the State is operating under a continuing resolution. The outcome will impact the City, and departments have therefore been asked to temporarily postpone CIPs. As always, the PD will be as conservative as possible. Discussion ensued as to the boiler replacement project. The Commission unanimously agreed by consensus that since the boilers are no longer dependable, it is critical they be replaced prior to the upcoming winter season. The PD will hold-off on the expense as long as possible, but the replacement will be scheduled to ensure completion of the project before winter.
3. **Armory Building:** Information on the PD’s needs has been forwarded to Director Glenn Normandeau.
4. **Commission Recusal Policy & Non-Public Worksheet:** Noting that the Commission still maintains the responsibility of raising concerns not listed in the policy, the policy and forms were unanimously adopted on a motion by Comm. Morin, seconded by Comm. Tremblay.
5. **Windows, Desks, & Furnace Updates:** Windows have been ordered, and a bid for the desk has been posted. (See Old Business A for furnace discussion.)
6. **Software for Discovery:** The software is working and should save on CD, thumb drive, and copy expenses. There was an issue with the County Attorney’s Office, but Hollie Walters is helping them with the transition.
7. **Other:** None**.**

**VI. New Business**

1. **Radio Reprogramming:** All necessary information has been submitted, and radios are scheduled for reprogramming beginning October 1.
2. **Witness Fees & Mileage:**  The State has decided not to budget for court witness fees or mileage reimbursement; there will no longer be reimbursement to the City.
3. **New State Juvenile & Bail Forms:**  The State has developed new criteria and forms for law enforcement to use.
4. **NHPSTC:** Chief Morency has been asked to chair the committee assigned to finding a replacement for Director Don Vittum who is retiring in August due to health reasons.
5. **Drug Monitoring Statistics:** Per capita, Coös County ranks lowest in overdose deaths and emergency room visits, second lowest in Narcan administration, and highest in the percentage of people going to rehab. While statistics are encouraging, there is still a need to remain vigilant.
6. **Recent Cases**: Chief Morency provided a gist of recent events, briefing the Commission on an armed robbery involving a gun, robbery at knife-point, arrest of a major drug dealer, and a stabbing. All occurred over one weekend and were drug related.

(Comm. Morin exited at 8:05 a.m. for a medical appointment and rejoined during non-public session.)

1. **Other:** (see item J.)
2. **Statistics** were reviewed. Many statistics have dropped which is attributed to the lack of targeted patrols as a result of the reduction in Highway Safety grant funding. The increase in overdoses pertains to Meth use.
3. **Correspondence**: Thank you notes were received from Allison Theriault for her scholarship award and Priscilla Gemmiti for assistance with a parking issue.
   * AV Fish & Game is considering a new $11,000 gate for the range. The PD cannot assist with the cost.
4. **Other**: In light of three recent cases involving missing persons, the PD acquired a thermal imaging device for the detectives which works with in conjunction with a cell phone app.

1. **Public Comments**: Councilor Théberge asked the Commission’s opinion on charging ATV operators a $50 fee for using City streets. Discussion ensued; Chief Morency advised a fee had been considered years ago and was declined as it is virtually unenforceable.

Councilor Théberge then inquired of the status of George Stanley. Chief Morency referred the councilor to the city manager or code enforcement officer, as they are the primary contacts with regards to the City’s issues with Mr. Stanley.

1. **Adjournment of Public Meeting:** At 8:20 a.m., Comm. Tremblay motioned, with a second by Comm. Nault, to move into non-public session per RSA 91-A:3, II (a), (c), and (e). The Commission entered non-public session by roll call vote with both members voting in the affirmative. Public session reconvened at 8:55 a.m. The Commission unanimously approved the extension of Chief Morency’s contract up to July 21, 2021 on a motion by Comm. Morin, seconded by Comm. Tremblay. There were no additional 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. Due to scheduling, there will be no August meeting unless an immediate need arises. The next monthly meeting will be held Wednesday, September 4, 2019.