**BERLIN POLICE COMMISSION**

**MONTHLY MEETING**

**PUBLIC SESSION**

**DATE: THURSDAY, MAY 3, 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 April 5, 2018:** Minutes were unanimously accepted as printed, on a motion by Comm. Morin, seconded by Comm. Tremblay.

**IV**. **Monthly Financial Reports:** The chief highlighted several large expenses that are still slated to occur before the end of the fiscal year: ammunition, a/c unit, ID badge machine, shredder, and treadmill expenses, and well as radio reprogramming. Some unexpected CIP-related costs will also be addressed. The report was unanimously accepted on a motion by Comm. Morin, seconded by Comm. Tremblay.

**V. Old Business**

1. **Phone System & Bid:** Between the time the bid was posted and the time the project came to fruition, approximately $7,000 in additional costs were incurred for recording software licenses and work pertaining to the service upgrade. This is one of the unexpected CIP-related costs that will be addressed before the end of the fiscal year.

1. **Opioid Crisis:** NHSP is asking the legislature for funding for five more positions, including one on the Drug Task Force. One officer will be assigned as liaison to back-feed information to the North Country. The Attorney General’s Office is also asking to add positions. Chief Morency has been asked to testify in support of the requests, and the North Country chiefs are in support as well. Progress is being made: per NH Information and Analysis Center statistics, the County has dropped from 3rd to 4th in overdose deaths per capita; 7th in Narcan administration; 5th from 3rd in emergency room visits; and is #1 in treatment admissions.
2. **Opioid Litigation**: The contract was reviewed by the City Attorney, and he is ironing out his concerns directly with the New York firm.
3. **Capital Improvement Update:** Replacement windows were originally projected at $600 each. The contractor has since discovered that there was no insulation installed years ago, so the new windows must be smaller, custom-sized and wrapped, which increases the cost to approximately $1,200 per window. The chief is hoping to be able to cover the cost for at least one or two windows before the end of the fiscal year.
   * Rifle purchases will be completed by the end of the fiscal year.
   * Quotes on the monitoring system are expected any time.
4. **“Call to Duty” Memorial**: Restoration of the memorial is now scheduled for August
5. **Budget**: Chief Morency met with the mayor to discuss budget reductions. Of $288,000 in CIP requests, the Department will receive $141,000. Both were agreeable to the compromises.
6. **Other:**  The officer suicide rate is now doubled the number of officers killed in the line of duty.
   * There are no new case laws or decisions on the marijuana law. The chief will continue to monitor the rulings.
   * Active shooter training will take place at the school and range in June.
   * HB561 has not yet been finalized.
   * Laurie List: Chief Morency is frustrated with what he has seen on television and believes that anyone with credibility issues should not be employed in law enforcement.
   * Hiring Process: Three candidates passed the oral board. The top two will proceed with background investigations and polygraphs.
   * The crossing guard sign project at Hillside/Wight is now complete and correct. The deputy even recouped the PD’s costs.

**VI. New Business**

1. **Radio Reprogramming:** The Fire Department’s application for a tactical repeater license was approved, and Ossipee Mountain Electronics will be scheduling the reprogramming of all City radios. The overall cost is expected to be $7,000 and the PD’s share is $2,600.
2. **Firing Range:** There is a meeting regarding the range land scheduled tonight in Milan.
3. **Vehicles:** Two new cruisers will be ordered per the CIP. Because the PD is currently short one vehicle, only one instead of two older vehicles will be turned over to another City department.
4. **Accident Report Bill:** A proposed bill states accident reports must be forwarded to everyone involved in an accident. Chief Morency reached out to Senator Woodburn and expressed his concerns but has not received a response. The chief will continue to monitor the bill’s progress.
5. “**Call to Duty” Memorial Scholarships**: A meeting of the Memorial Committee will immediately follow today’s Commission meeting.
6. **Special Olympics Torch Run**: The run is scheduled for May 19. Sgt. Hollie Dube oversees the Berlin PD’s participation.
7. **Statistics**: Statistics were reviewed.
8. **Correspondence**: Thank you notes were received from the Board of Assessors for allowing them to hold their recent meeting at the Police Department and from Linda Vaillancourt for Lt. Theriault’s presentation.
   * Law Enforcement Memorial Day is May 18.
   * Part Time Academy graduation will be held May 11.
   * Primex’s Summit will be held May 9-10.
   * The New England Chiefs Conference and training will take place in September.
   * The US Attorney’s Office is inviting all houses of worship to a meeting at the Good Shepherd Parish to discuss hate crimes.
   * The child involved in a recent kidnapping case was returned; however, warrants remain out for the suspect.
   * The deadline for the Granite Shield grant application is May 15.
   * Consequences & Pathways Forward will be held at the Gorham Opera House on May 15 at 6 p.m.
   * Lt. Wayne Saunders will retire and will go to the Sheriff’s Department to coordinate OHRV activity in the North Country.
9. **Other**. As a former PSNH employee, Comm. Tremblay expressed his disapproval of the amount of time it took Eversource to repair recent accident damage to a pole, subsequently blocking traffic. Citing that 12 hours seems too long even in the worst case scenario, he suggested an explanation from Eversource be requested.
   * Jenn Cloutier’s application to the Telecommunicators Emergency Response Taskforce has been accepted.
   * Profits from this year’s CAC pizza fundraiser exceeded last year’s; officers assist by delivering pizzas.
10. **Public Comments**: None.
11. **Adjournment of Public Meeting:** At 9:05 a.m., Comm. Tremblay motioned, with a second from Comm. Morin, to move into non-public session per RSA 91-A:3, II. (a) & (b). The motion carried unanimously by Comm. Nault.

The chief advised of impending retirements and the development of a succession plan; no decisions were made.

Public session reconvened at 9:15 a.m. and adjourned unanimously on a motion by Comm. Tremblay, seconded by Comm. Morin. The next regular meeting will be held Thursday June 7, 2018 at 7:30 a.m.