**BERLIN POLICE COMMISSION**

**MONTHLY MEETING**

**PUBLIC SESSION**

**DATE: WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 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 7:30 a.m.

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

**Others Present:**  Chief Morency and Deputy Chief Buteau

**Recorded by:** Lisa Arguin

**III. Acceptance of Minutes of July 3, 2019:** Minutes were unanimously accepted as printed, on a motion by Comm. Tremblay, seconded by Comm. Morin.

**IV**. **Monthly Financial Report:** The reports were unanimously accepted as printed, on a motion by Comm. Tremblay, seconded by Comm. Morin.

**V. Old Business**

1. **Hiring Process:** Denis Micucci, a certified officer, has been hired, and two other non-certified candidates have passed their polygraph exams and will now be scheduled for their psychological tests. The process is ongoing.
2. **Projects Update:** The new boiler install is underway, and windows in the conference room and chief’s office will soon be replaced. Cars will be ordered, as three PD vehicles are operating with over 120,000 miles, and there is a potential turnaround time of twelve weeks from the time the order is placed.
3. **Tibbett’s Lawsuit:** The case was thrown-out on a technicality; nonetheless, the City’s attorney was very confident that the City would win.
4. **Firing Range:** Chief Morency met with the surveyor at the range, and everything looks good.
5. **“Call to Duty: Memorial Fundraising Event:** Eighteen teams have registered to date. The White Mountains Community College is revamping its Criminal Justice program and has graciously donated certificates for three courses. The college will be working together with the PD on developing ways to recruit, possibly including a curriculum for part-time officer certification.
6. **Other:** Jury selection on the Roger Dana trial begins on September 9, 2019.
   * **Doorway Program:** Chief Morency received an email proposing the dispensing of Narcan. The chief had some concerns with the accompanying protocol, and the issues are being researched.
   * **Armory:** The subject is currently at the Adjutant General level and is still being researched.

**VI. New Business**

1. **Septic Drain Issues:** There have been more issues with sewer backup. A scope was sent down the drain and revealed that Bermico has collapsed. The PWD intends to dig-up the ramp to reroute the failed section.
2. **State Registry for Sex Offenders:**  The State is experimenting with having offenders register on-line instead of coming to the PD.
3. **New AFIS Machine:**  The new machine was delivered; it will be installed on Monday, and training will follow.
4. **Temporary Emergency Management Director:** Lt. Barney Valliere is currently filling in as Interim Director, in the absence of a Berlin fire chief.
5. **ATV Festival Statistics:** Chief Morency credited Deputy Chief Buteau and Lt. Lemoine with doing a great job with enforcement during the festival. This year, however, there were over 8,500 attendees, and the event is beginning to outgrow the PD’s resources. The issue is not with incidents on the trails but with those occurring in the downtown area and at surrounding activities. The chief intends to address Mayor and Council to see how the City intends to move forward with the event in the future. Comm. Nault suggested the possibility of contacting Laconia to see how they handle Motorcycle Week.
6. **New ATV Laws**: Chief Morency distributed an informational packet, noting that many of Berlin’s suggestions were made into law.
7. **School Traffic Changes:** The chief, deputy chief, city manager, Public Works director, and principal met to develop a traffic pattern change at the High School. Only school busses are allowed to enter the school parking lot on Willard Street; all other traffic is diverted down Carl Street to Madison Avenue. This has been working well. Also, three crossing guards are posted around the Middle School.
8. **Other**: One dispatch monitor had to be replaced.
   * Recently, cells contaminated with feces and Hepatitis C had to be decontaminated.
   * One cruiser was temporarily taken off-road due to bedbugs.
   * An MOU with the Milan School has been signed.
   * An MOU with Lancaster has been requested.
9. **Statistics**: Statistics were reviewed. Chief Morency believes the increase in motor vehicle accidents and decrease in motor vehicle-related stops are directly related to the decrease in Highway Safety grant funding.
10. **Correspondence**: Chief Morency highlighted several upcoming training events.
    * The Touch-A-Truck event is on September 14, 2019. The PD intends to send the rescue vehicle again this year, as it has been well received in the past; however, staffing is short, and participation will depend on the availability of personnel.
    * Thank you letters were received by Officer Imperial for assistance with an animal rescue case; Officer Gale for his professionalism during a vehicle stop; and Lt. Theriault and Officer Stapleton for their assistance with Bike Safety Day.
    * The PD’s FY’2019 carryover fund request has been approved.
    * California law enforcement have stopped responding to suicidal subjects, in light of the number of suicide by cop cases. They are now deferring to mental health specialists.
    * Home Base is a Red Sox Foundation program designed to assist veterans and their families, and they have a first responder “No Shave November” campaign to raise money for their program. The CAC also has a similar campaign in October which benefits the CAC. While both campaigns are worthy, they are out of line with BPD policy. The chief will give additional consideration to the programs and intends to meet with employees for further discussion.

1. **Public Comments**: None.
2. **Adjournment of Public Meeting:** At 9:10 a.m., Comm. Tremblay motioned, with a second by Comm. Morin, 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 all members voting in the affirmative. Public session reconvened at 9:30 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 monthly meeting will be held Wednesday, October 2, 2019.