

**BERLIN POLICE COMMISSION
MONTHLY MEETING
PUBLIC SESSION**

DATE: Thursday, March 4, 2021
TIME: 7:30 A.M.
PLACE: BERLIN POLICE DEPARTMENT CONFERENCE ROOM

II. Roll Call: Commissioners Nault, Tremblay, and Morin were present.

Others Present: Chief Morency, Deputy Chief Buteau, and Captain Jeff Lemoine. Jennifer Cloutier participated via zoom.

Recorded by: Kimberly Bijeau

III. Acceptance of Minutes of February 3, 2021. Comm. Morin had a question in reference to the Tower Grant and extending the lease on the land. Chief Morency advised that it is uncertain whether the grant would allow the extension reference putting an investment on leased land. The Comm. questioned if the department sent anybody to the tactical training in Bethlehem and was advised that three officers attended. There were two corrections made. The first was under section **I. Other:** changing 'they do have' to 'they have'. The second was under Non-public session in reference to nothing being heard until 2022. Minutes were unanimously accepted as amended on a motion by Comm. Morin, seconded by Comm. Tremblay.

IV. Monthly Financial Report: There was discussion in reference to the overtime expenses. We are 66.6% into the fiscal year and the '**Total 420 Police**' line item is at 62%. The Comm. suggested that the '**Total 420 Police**' section of the budget printout be highlighted or shaded in gray to make it easier to read. The financial report was unanimously accepted on a motion by Comm. Tremblay, seconded by Comm. Morin.

V. Old Business

- A. Hiring Process:** There were two candidates in the process but one ended up not making it due to failing the polygraph. The department is now moving forward with the second candidate and is in the process of completing his background check. This subject would be filling Jon Imperial's position.
- B. Dish mount antenna:** Not much to update. The equipment is still on backorder and is supposed to arrive sometime in March. Once equipment arrives OME can schedule the work.
- C. LEACT training:** The department is still waiting for the 'Implicit Bias, Ethics, and De-escalation' courses to come out. The courses should be out in April.

- D. Budget and CIP meetings:** Chief Morency provided the Commission with a cover sheet showing where the department is at and indicating that the department is not alone as other departments within the city are in a similar position. The Governor's budget offers little help. The department is hoping to get some infusion from federal monies. The Chief advised that the department is just looking to maintain the services it currently provides. The City Manager has indicated his plan to remove the 'Ramp/paved parking area' from the department's CIP requests.
- E. Contract negotiations:** We are currently waiting for the body to go over the recommendations and things that have been requested. We are also waiting for the numbers and options with reference to the insurance plans.
- F. Other:** Chief Morency advised the Commission of the new sewer issue involving the men's locker room toilet, sink, and shower. Mt Washington Sewer ran a scope down the drain and there's an issue with a 90 degree bend in the pipes. Mikem has given an estimate of \$1,800 to complete the job.

VI. New Business

- A. Juvenile lock up inspection:** State inspection was done and the department is in compliance.
- B. Evaluations:** The evaluations have been completed although they have not all been reviewed with the employees.
- C. Training:** There has been a lot going on with reference to training over the past couple of months. The LEACT training is at 10 hours and the department should be able to work through that with no problems. Officers had their 4 hrs of liability training this week pertaining to use of force. The training was combined with taser training, defensive tactics, and a first aid tactics course. Officers will also be participating in a 12 hr training day at the high school. Adam Sperlonga is up to his 9th week in the academy and is doing very well. This week he was able to go full-time down at the academy. Officers were required to do 8 hrs of continuing education by March 1st. The department far exceeds its training requirements and as a whole has completed over 1,000 hours in training within the first couple months of the year. The use of force training courses are on a three year rotation and Lt Roy was able to cover all the required courses during this weeks training.
- D. K-9 drug certification:** Officer Gale and Kodiak have completed a six week drug certification course. Discussion ensued with reference to the K-9 proving to be good for public relations.
- E. Corporal positions:** The department will be posting two corporal positions this week. The department held off on the posting in order to obtain the feedback from evaluations.
- F. Fish and Game ATV course:** The department is working with F&G to coordinate a full day course for officers to participate.

G. SNS Service cost: The department is in the process of renewing the contract with SNS for IT vendor services. SNS has proposed a 40% increase in the cost. SNS advises that they have not raised their service cost for the past 5-6 years. SNS has agreed to break up the increase cost over the next 5 years and sign a 5 year contract. SNS further advises that the increase in cost is more in line with the industries costs for IT services. There will be additional network security with the rise in cost. The City covers the cost for IT services and Pam Laflamme believes she won't have an issue with covering the increase in their budget. There was discussion on the prospect of IT services eventually having to go out for bid.

H. Statistics: Statistics were reviewed and discussed.

I. Correspondence:

- Several training opportunities were highlighted.
- Chief Morency advised the Commission on the thank you letter he received from Governor Sununu with reference to his service on the PSTC.
- Donations for a vest for Kodiak have been referred to the VPCA and currently exceed the \$2,600 cost for the vest.
- John Formella has been nominated as the next NH Attorney General.
- Sue Tremblay is retiring from her position at city hall.
- White Mtn. Community College is moving ahead with their commencement ceremony in May and have requested two officers.

J. Other:

- The new law books are in.
- A new wrecker agreement has been signed with Caron's. Part of the new agreement states that there will be no fee for wrecker service for the department vehicles.
- The Regency MOU contract has not yet been signed. There is a stipulation in the contract that the department agrees to respond for wellness checks which is a service the department already provides. The Deputy Chief plans to contact the home health department to discuss the contract prior to signing it.

VII. Public Comments: None.

VIII. Adjournment of Public Meeting: At 08:31 a.m. the meeting adjourned to Non-Public Session per RSA 91-A:3, II (c), by roll call vote on a motion by Comm. Nault, seconded by Comm. Tremblay. Public Session reconvened at 10:43 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, as their release could adversely affect the reputation of a person other than a member of this Commission. The meeting adjourned unanimously on a motion by Comm. Tremblay, seconded by Comm. Morin. The next meeting will be held on **Thursday, April 1st at 7:30 a.m.**