

**BERLIN POLICE COMMISSION
MONTHLY MEETING
PUBLIC SESSION**

DATE: Thursday, April 1, 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, Captain Jeff Lemoine, Jennifer Cloutier and Connor Kerivan.

Recorded by: Kimberly Bijeau

III. Acceptance of Minutes of March 4, 2021. The Commission agreed to defer on the approval of the Non-Public minutes until the Non-Public session. Comm. Nault made the motion to approve the minutes from the March 4, 2021 meeting. A correction was made to section 5f changing the 90% to 90 degree with reference to the repairs to the sewer pipe in the men's bathroom. Under J - Other, Chief Morency clarified that the new wrecker agreement with Caron's should state no wrecker fee for the department vehicles. A correction was made under section #3 changing heard to hear and under section G changing the word raise to rise. Minutes were unanimously accepted as amended on a motion from Comm. Morin, seconded by Comm. Tremblay.

IV. Monthly Financial Report: reports were reviewed and discussed. Dispatch training is way down. Jenn advised that a large percentage of the dispatch training money is usually saved for the annual dispatch association conference in April but that will be virtual this year. The financial report was unanimously accepted on a motion by Comm. Tremblay, seconded by Comm. Morin.

V. Old Business

- A. - Budget and CIP presentation:** The meeting with the City Council was held via zoom and was as uneventful as could be expected. There was a city wide concern with reference to budget increases. Chief Morency advised that it is believed that everybody is waiting to see what resources are going to be available from the state. He assured the Council that, in terms of services, the department is not asking for any more than we already have. Chief Morency suggested that there may be some reductions and it was requested that any changes be done within a month. Comm. Nault advised the Council that the changes will be made within a week. Discussion ensued with reference to insurance plans and the cost difference from a family plan, two person plan, and single plan. Chief Morency advised that he received the numbers showing what the actual

increases for the insurance plans were and they went from 4.85 to 3.50. These changes will bring the budget increases down to around 5%. The operating budget is still in the area of 3.1%. The only changes were to the Chief's line item. A concern was brought up with reference to the gas line item. It has been decided to keep that line item where it is due to the prospective upcoming increase in gas and oil prices. The department has noticed a considerable savings with the new heating system. There is a need for the Rec Department to do some upgrades and the cost for the upgrades is out of their budget. These repairs would provide an additional savings on the fuel costs. Comm. Nault entertained a motion stating that the Comm. provides Chief Morency with the authority to discuss the potential savings as documented with the Mayor and Council. So moved by Comm. Tremblay and seconded by Comm. Morin. Chief Morency explained how they have prioritized the CIP by necessity. Discussion ensued in reference to same. It has been brought up several times during the City Council meeting that most of the money that had been set aside for the 3rd Floor Renovations had been used for the sewer repairs. Comm. Morin inquired if the CIP for Cruiser Laptops/Radios was to replace the current ones or for new ones. Chief Morency advised that two of the radios are very old and that they can no longer get parts for them. Jenn advised the Comm. on the status of the laptops as 4 out of the 5 laptops are 6 years old and one has a cracked screen. The typical life expectancy for a laptop is 5 years. There was discussion about the Audio/Visual CIP and how it would be used to outfit the conference room for better utilization by the detectives during interviews. This CIP would also include changing the camera that faces the building from the Gilbert St side that monitors the ramp. This camera is approx. 25 years old and monitors an important area concerning the ramp where the cruisers park while bringing parties that are under arrest into the building. The Comm. motioned to accept the list of CIP as they are presented on a motion by Comm. Morin, seconded by Comm. Tremblay.

VI. New Business

- A. New Hire:** Deputy Chief Buteau introduced Connor Kerivan to the Comm. Connor is from Bethlehem and has been hired by the department. Connor's first day was 03/28/21. Connor provided the Comm. with his educational background as well as his employment history and experience in law enforcement. Connor was sworn in and took his oath of office yesterday with his parents present. The department hopes to get Connor into the academy for the session starting in May.

V. Old Business

- B. Contract Negotiations:** Negotiations have stalled. They were provided with a list to take back to the body. The City Manager will be meeting with the Union President to propose an insurance plan that is constant throughout the city and go over the different ideas.

- C. **Training – Police One:** The department has signed back up with Police One at a cost of around \$2,000. Police One has been sanctioned or approved by the PSTC with reference to the LEACT training that has been mandated. The department, including dispatchers, were able to complete the majority of their training through Police One over this past year. Discussion ensued with reference to a number of upcoming training courses that some of the officers will be attending. The upcoming courses run in cost from \$500 to \$1,000.
- D. **Evaluations:** Evaluations have been completed but may not have all been reviewed with the employee yet. Evaluations are tied to any incentive bonuses that may be given out in May.
- E. **Other:** Certification for the other drug task force position has been completed. GNC has approved the money for our other unit up here. They apologized for the confusion but it is all set and up and running.

The men's locker room drain has been repaired and appears to be working. There were also repairs made to the cell door hinges. An additional hinge was added and they were reinforced.

VI. New Business

- B. **Corporal promotions:** Promotions were finalized and both Noah Dumas and Dennis Gale were promoted to the position of Corporal. The Chief and Deputy Chief met with both of them and expectations were set. They will be attending supervisor school in the near future.
- C. **Evaluations:** (see above)
- D. **Training:** (see above)
- E. **ILO Grant approval:** The GNC approved the ILO Grant position along with the additional DTF position.
- F. **Grant resolutions:** Deputy Chief Buteau went before the City Council and presented the grant resolutions. Presented were Highway Safety, ILO, DTF Byrne JAG, and F&G.
- G. **Statistics:** Statistics were reviewed and discussed.
- H. **Correspondence:**
 - Several training opportunities were highlighted.
 - a. The Governor has nominated Eddie Edwards to serve as the Assistant Commissioner for the Dept. Of Safety.
 - b. \$1,800 invoice from Mikem for the sewer repairs
 - c. The department will be reprogramming all the radios through a grant that was received in 2019 but due to Covid has been delayed and extended to 2022
 - d. DOT sent out new Nodal maps to be used when completing accident reports

- e. Chief Morency advised on a letter he addressed to Asst. Comm. Cass of DOT with reference to the 110 project
- f. US Attorney Scott Murray resigned; John Farley will be serving
- g. The department will now be requiring a minimum of 6 hrs training per year for dispatchers.
- h. The department has received 6 applications for scholarships
- i. The Chamber has voted not to move forward with the ATV festival
- j. A couple of thank you notes were read
- k. National You Drive, You Text, You Pay campaign runs April 4th through the 12th.
- l. DTF put the department in for \$10,000 in OCDETF monies to use towards overtime allowing DTF to work some larger drug cases.

I. Other:

- The Chief and Deputy Chief have a meeting scheduled for the 17th with the judges with reference to exigency involving search warrants and contacting the judges after hours; nights and weekends.
- Discussion with reference to dispatch pay grades; requesting flexibility with pay when hiring subjects with experience. The Commission unanimously agreed by consensus.
- AVRDD; Karl Nelson was doing patrols for them but has resigned from his law enforcement duties. The department will now be absorbing the extra patrols internally.

VII. Public Comments: None.

VIII. Adjournment of Public Meeting: At 08:48 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. Tremblay, seconded by Comm. Morin. Public Session reconvened at 09:25 a.m.; there were no decisions made in Non-Public Session, and minutes were sealed on a motion by Comm. Morin, seconded by Comm. Tremblay, 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, May 13th at 7:30 a.m.**