

**BERLIN POLICE COMMISSION
MONTHLY MEETING
PUBLIC SESSION**

DATE: Thursday, October 14, 2021
TIME: 7:30 A.M.
PLACE: BERLIN POLICE DEPARTMENT CONFERENCE ROOM

I. Call to Order: 07:34 am

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

Others Present: Chief Morency, Deputy Chief Buteau, Lt Nathan Roy, Det/Sgt Wade Goulet, and Jennifer Cloutier.

Recorded by: Kimberly Bijeau

III. Acceptance of Minutes of August 30, 2021. Minutes were unanimously accepted on a motion from Comm. Morin seconded by Comm. Nault.

IV. Monthly Financial Report: Reports were reviewed and discussed. The financial report was unanimously accepted on a motion by Comm. Morin, seconded by Comm. Nault.

V. Old Business

- A. Call to Duty Golf / Bricks:** The golf tournament raised approx. \$9,000. The registration fee was raised to \$100 with no complaints. Captain Lemoine did a great job and offered a few new ideas. The department was able to get the extra golf carts needed for the tournament. Chief Morency spoke with reference to putting out for new bricks and the need for maintenance for the current bricks.
- B. Meeting with school reference SRO:** Was covered during last meeting. Went over what was discussed during the meeting and the importance of filling the position. There has not been an officer specifically assigned to the schools but we have been working with the schools to assure an officer is there to cover during special events. Discussion with reference to creating a temp position. Officers responded to the school and dealt with a disgruntled parent issue yesterday.
- C. College Security Meeting:** Chief and Deputy Chief met with new head of security at the WMCC. He is a retired police officer. He has requested to be notified on incidents that happen at or near the college. The department will be doing some training with them.
- D. Hiring Process:** Lt Roy advised on the medical appointment for new candidate. We are

hoping to have him start in a couple of weeks. Met with another candidate who is interested in working part-time. He is currently certified through marine patrol. One of the candidate's needs to meet with PSTC with reference to an issue with past drug use. We believe he will be given a waiver. The drug use pertained to marijuana use in another state where it was legal. The candidate is just under the 12 month cut off.

- E. Meeting with Council:** With reference to the Pelletier suit. City manager suggested the meeting so we can bring the Council up-to-date. Primex will be representing Pelletier but will not be financially responsible for him. The Council was very understanding.
- F. Other:** Riverfire has cancelled the beer tent and the 5k run. The Chief met with Diana and Paula from the Chamber last week. The hayride was also cancelled but vendors are still lined up. They will also still be having the concert and the kiddy parade.
 - **Dept meeting** scheduled for Dec 17th at Heritage Park.

VI. New Business

- A. Opioid (Substance Abuse Reduction) Grant:** New monies: \$26,500. Captain Lemoine will be managing the grant. There will be mandatory training which Jeff and Kim will be attending.
 - **Opioid Litigation:** The AG's office has signed on and have reworked the formula so that the department will get more with reference to money. Berlin PD and 23 other agencies are involved in the litigation.
- B. SNS Contract:** During the council meeting Pam advised that they went out to bid. The bidding included three companies including SNS. The two outside agencies were much more costly. The City has resigned with SNS for another 5 year term. The other two companies were also not CJIS certified.
- C. AVRRDD Contract:** Rate remained the same.
- D. Financial Audit:** No issues were found
- E. NEACOP Training:** No New Orleans training / took advantage of the training in Meredith. They had different tracks of training including; risk management, crisis management, reform and defund, and digital investigation. The state lab has lost their cell phone analysts and are no longer dealing with cell phones. Officer wellness has been a focal point in recent trainings; including life expectancy and how stress effects an officer's health. Will continue to push that issue to keep officers healthy. Dr. Ben Stone talked for two hours and provided a very interesting training.

F. Noteworthy incidents: Discussion with reference to a 13 year old that committed suicide. The juvenile was on video chat at the time of the incident. Didn't appear to be having any issues when it happened. Wade interviewed the friend yesterday. County Attorney is looking into the matter of the juvenile being in possession of a gun. Discussion reference another subject who walked through community field with a BB gun creating panic. Same subject created an issue the day before at NHES and had posted on Facebook requesting a gun. Discussion reference a dog incident where neighbor discharged a weapon in attempt to break the dogs up. Subject(s) had 5 pets at the time but are now down to two.

G. CIP due: Due tomorrow and will finish putting together today. Cellbrite will be added to the list. There was also a suggestion for a detective trailer submitted by patrol. Other CIP's discussed include a roof over the impound area, leather gear, and car cameras.

H. VFW Award: Presented BPD with the plaque on 9/11 during ceremony at the BFD.

I. Statistics: Statistics from August were reviewed and discussed. Burglaries: increase in burglaries may be due to the larger than usual number of homeless drug addicts. Bail reform has contributed to the problem with a large # of people being repeatedly released on PR bail. A campsite was located with a number of subjects camping out on city property. There is a lack of resources for these people due to the drug use. Another subject attempted to set up a mattress in dead river park and was removed. There is believed to be at least a dozen homeless subject(s). Juvenile incidents are up however juvenile arrests are down. Contributed to a large number of incidents not requiring CHINS petition(s). Assists to Berlin EMS continues to be high and is creating a much higher work volume for dispatch. Community impact is being monitored.

J. Correspondence:

- Several training opportunities and thank you letters/cards were highlighted.
- Several upcoming road tolls were reviewed
- Donations received in memory of Esther Gilbert.
- Police app.com signed up for last month/helpful with job searches
- Troop F contact information update
- Employee directive from AG's
- CAC touch a truck event held at Heritage Park. Bearcat and K9 demonstration(s)
- K9 at fair and WMCC
- Comm. Nault reappointed to Commission
- Letter of recognition from one other with ref to Cpl Gale
- \$1,400 incident involving subject backing into BPD truck
- BPD award nominations

VII. Other:

VIII. Public Comments: None.

IX. Adjournment of Public Meeting: At **08:49** a.m. the meeting adjourned. There was no Non-Public Session. The meeting adjourned unanimously on a motion by Comm. Nault, seconded by Comm. Morin. The next meeting will be held on **Thursday, November 4, at 7:30 a.m.**