

**BERLIN POLICE COMMISSION
MONTHLY MEETING
PUBLIC SESSION**

DATE: Thursday, December 7, 2023
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 07:32 A.M.

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

Others Present: Chief Buteau, Deputy Chief Roy, Lt. Wade Goulet, Lt. Pros. Zachary Howry, Jennifer Cloutier, and Officer Herrmann.

Recorded by: Kimberly Bijeau

III. Acceptance of Minutes of November 2, 2023: Minutes were unanimously accepted as written on a motion by Comm. Morin, seconded by Comm. Tremblay.

IV. Monthly Financial Report: Financial report was reviewed and discussed. Currently 44% into FY'24. Question re the utilities line: appears to be running low. Will look into same. The report was unanimously accepted on a motion by Comm. Morin, seconded by Comm. Tremblay.

V. Old Business

A. FY'25 CIP's: Have been submitted to City Hall.

B. Other: Nothing.

VI. New Business

A. PET Position: Officer Herrmann provided a presentation and provided a handout with ref to the recovery chip. Provided each of the Commissioners with a chip. Local AA group provided Ofc. Herrmann with a chip to provide people that are within their first 24 hrs. of recovery.

Officer Herrmann left the meeting.

Chief Buteau advised that Pete Morency has stepped down from the PET Position as of 11/23.

B. Services for SSG Grone: Was a great service with a procession the Wednesday before Thanksgiving. BPD was involved in the procession. Services at the GHS were very well attended. Procession was along the entire route from Concord to Gorham and then up to Berlin.

C. GPD Communication: Received a thank you letter from Gorham Chief Willhoite for helping them out and noted the number of officers that helped out and were involved with the SSG Grone services.

D. Jury Visit (Ramos): Came for visit to the site on 11/27/23. BPD were directly involved for security services at the scene.

E. K9 Graduation: After 14 weeks Gale and Apex graduated from the academy. Did one of the main demos during the graduation. Did a great job. Kodiak will still be in service until Apex gets through

drug school in April 2024. Will have a formal swearing in service at that time. Planning to post photos to make the community aware.

- F. Parade of Lights:** Stretched from the bowling center to the starting point. Went well with good attendance. Floats are quite the commitment.
- G. Community Meeting on Behavioral Health:** Headed off by Ken Gordon of CCFHS and July King from the school. Two issues: drug issue and mental health. Often times is a combined issue. Small group starting to meet and is getting some attention. The school is struggling with mental health issues between students and teachers including violence at the elementary level. Include long-term stays at AVH. At a local level we struggle with a number of the people as outpatient. (63 calls in three hours). Effects all communities similarly pertaining to drug issues.
- H. Training:** K9 training. First line supervisor training with graduation tomorrow for Ofc. Silva and Ofc. Beal. Deputy Chief Roy advised on upcoming expenditures on training and travel. Sperlonga attending L.E.A.D. training in Nevada. Lost one of our ground fighting instructors when John Jefferson left. Dept. mtg. January 5th with some training. Annual award presentation immediately after lunch.
- I. Statistics:** October statistics were reviewed and discussed. Juvenile arrests are up. Driven by start in school and an SRO with ability to report these incidents. Trends continue to be down despite how things are portrayed on social media. No shortage of work within the detectives/investigations department despite the down trend.
- J. Hiring:** Deputy Chief Roy advised on same. Three grant positions and four position (three in patrol and one in investigations). One in the background state of hiring. Two lined up for testing next Friday. Applications have slowed.
- K. Correspondence:** Chief Buteau highlighted several training opportunities and thank you letters:
- Trunk or treat thank you from the school dept.
 - Study: NH 10-year mental health plan
 - Northern border alliance plan. Authority of the AG's office. Discussion on the comparison to the Stonegarden Grant. \$800,000 to local agencies and the rest to State Police. Through 06/2025
 - Talk of newly elected local politician stating that we do not need a full-time police dept. in the City. Has been addressed within the dept. to quell any concerns.
 - Homeland Security Grant opening notice received
 - Applied for congressional grant monies through Jeanne Shaheen. Not currently being approved
 - Emergency Alert 5-year contract: Code Red phone notification system. Genesis going into play after January 1st. Will be information released to public for sign up.
 - First amendment auditor at City Hall and the PD. Praise provided ref the officers that responded
 - Harmon stepped up and assisted with the plans for SSG Grone services along with Lt. Priest
 - 91A dispute
- L. OTHER:** -Suggestion to change the order of the monthly meetings. After call to order and roll call; to include the pledge of allegiance and a moment of silence for officers who dies in the line of duty with a gist on recent passing's. Commission has no issues with the modifications to the agenda.

VII. Public Comments: None.

VIII. Adjournment of Public Meeting: At 8:34 a.m., Comm. Morin motioned, with a second by Comm. Tremblay, to move into non-public session per RSA 91-A:3 II (a), (b), and (e). The Commission entered

non-public session by roll call vote with all members voting in the affirmative. Public session reconvened at 10:15 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 Commission meeting will be held on Wednesday, **January 10, 2024, 07:30 hrs.**