

**BERLIN POLICE COMMISSION
MONTHLY MEETING
PUBLIC SESSION**

DATE: Wednesday, January 10, 2024
TIME: 1:00 P.M.
PLACE: BERLIN POLICE DEPARTMENT CONFERENCE ROOM

I. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Comm. Nault at 01:00 P.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 Mancini. Cpl. Noah Dumas (@ 01:17 P.M.)

Recorded by: Kimberly Bijeau

III. Pledge of Allegiance

IV. Moment of Silence

Introduction of new hire, Jack Mancini: Learned of the position on indeed. Moving to NH with his fiancée'.

V. Acceptance of Minutes of December 7, 2023: Page 3 (Section G) Question with ref to the community meeting. Chief Buteau provided some clarification. Minutes were unanimously accepted as written on a motion by Comm. Morin, seconded by Comm. Tremblay.

VI. Monthly Financial Report: Financial report was reviewed and discussed. Currently 52.6% into FY'24 as of 01/08/2024. Discussion ref OT being high and whether Don Gendron working PT helps offset. Utilities low at only 23%. New furnace contributes to same. Question in ref to the community policing expense under voucher report. Question ref Daigle Law group expense: online training on demand. The report was unanimously accepted on a motion by Comm. Morin, seconded by Comm. Tremblay.

VII. Old Business

A. FY'25 CIP's: Has been back and forth with the CM. Question with ref to the Impound Carport. Police Building (New Facility) explained the rationale for both the new building and building maintenance. Appears that the CM is going to include all the CIP's in his presentation.

B. Community Behavioral Health Meeting: Another meeting: went very well. Well attended. Insight provided to what is going on in the schools. Good connections with Norther Human Services and had an additional meeting with them with ref to an ongoing issue with one of their clients. Been dealing with client for years but has been worse the last 6-8 mos. Working towards a resolution.

C. Homeland Security Grant: Cates Hill radio project. Deadline for grant is Friday. Met with Chief Watkins and the CM yesterday. Grant consultant being utilized. Grant doesn't have a match but they did want to know what the City had for monies. Transition to City Hall in the FY'25 budget. Estimated total project: \$360,000. May reach out to surrounding communities including unincorporated areas to contribute.

- D. PTR Meeting:** Next meeting the 23rd of this month. Hope to provide an update at the next meeting.
- E. Other:** Nothing.

VIII. New Business

- A. Mental Health Collaboration:** Good (Discussed above)
- B. Department Meeting:** Went very well. ACERT training in collaboration with the Family Resource center. Goes hand in hand with the PET project. K9 training by Sgt. Gale. Chief Watkins training on Narcan. Team building exercise and presented annual awards.
- C. Retiree Breakfast:** This Friday, January 12, 2024. Project to start connecting with retirees. At Heritage Park at 08:00 a.m.
- D. RWU Graduation:** Roger Williams University - Command Training: Attended by Silva and Beal. Intensive two-week training. Specific to LE. Also utilize FBI LEEDA training. Both very good trainings.
- E. Faith Community Meeting:** Next meeting will be February 8th. More info to come.
- F. FY'25 Budget:** Due January 19th. Request to meet next week to review the draft. CM advising not level funding: level positions. Open to hearing justification for new dispatcher. Looking to bump up the Crossing Guard pay significantly. Also looking to bump up SE. Not looking to combine any additional line items.
- G. Training:** Panto attending Gracie ground fighting class in VA.
February – March there will be a lot of inhouse training.
- H. Statistics:** November statistics were reviewed and discussed. Same trend: Downward trend in many categories. Incidents are up. DV trending low compared to past number of years. MV enforcement trending upward. Possible direct connection to other lines going down. OHRV complaints down significantly: although OHRV stops are up. Juvenile incidents/arrest are probably going to go up in next couple month. Assists from GPD still trending up. Drug complaints / OD's numbers down. Discussion ref low budget housing being taken over by Airbnb(s) possibly contribution to the low numbers with drugs.
- I. Hiring:** Deputy Chief Roy advised on same. Met new officer Mancini. Kobi Lees started 12/31/23. Commuting from Conway so not here today. Both are signed up for the February academy. Preparing to sign up for and attend job fairs this Spring.
- J. Correspondence:** Chief Buteau highlighted several training opportunities and thank you letters:
- Radios down this morning. Tree/branch on wire possibly fried the BFD radio. Generator had not kicked on. OME made trek to Berlin and snowshoed in to the tower. May obtain a loaner but will have to purchase a new radio. Question ref insurance and whether it may assist with cost. Eversource ground wire issue: contributed to fried radio.
 - CM with ref to the budget.
 - Reminder ref dispatcher training
 - Comm. Nault resignation letter
 - Walter Nadeau thank you

- Solar eclipse meetings continue
- Jane Young Valor program ref Suicide prevention in LE – Gilford, PD
- Citizen letter with ref to Officers

K. OTHER: Awards discussion/presentation next meeting. New officers at next meeting. Work session with ref to FY'25 Budget: January 18th @ 07:30 a.m.

VII. Public Comments: None.

VIII. Adjournment of Public Meeting: At 2:21 p.m., Comm. Morin motioned, with a second by Comm. Tremblay, to move into non-public session per RSA 91-A:3 II (a) and (e). The Commission entered non-public session by roll call vote with all members voting in the affirmative. Public session reconvened at 2:54 p.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, **February 8, 2024, 07:30 hrs.**