**Present** – Commissioner Gary Hadden - Ontelaunee Township, Commissioner Joseph Rudderow - Maidencreek Township, Granville Sandridge – Leesport Commissioner, Chief Scott Eaken, Ruth Manmiller-Secretary, Solicitor Whitney Rahman, and Charles Berger – Leesport Borough Alternate, William Klein – Ontelaunee Alternate.

**Guests:** Diane Hollenbach, Det. Sgt. Horner, Dwain Mennig, Gerald Davis, Reading Eagle Reporter

Gary Hadden called the April NBRPD Commission meeting to order at 11:00 AM.

Pledge to the Flag

**For the Record:** This meeting is being audio recorded by the NBRPD Commission.

**MINUTES**

**March Commission Meeting Minutes**

Joseph Rudderow made a motion, seconded by Granville Sandridge approving the March 14, 2016 Commission Meeting minutes. All Commissioners voted, “Aye.” Motion carried

**TREASURER’S REPORT**  Ruth Manmiller presented the March 2016 Treasurer’s report that included the fund balances, year to date budget report, and documentation of all transactions and bill payments. Grandville Sandridge made a motion, seconded by Joseph Rudderow approving the March 2016 Treasurer’s report as presented and pay all bills. All Commissioners voted, “Aye.” Motion carried.

**CHIEF’S REPORT**  Chief Eaken read the March 2016 Activity Report and reported on arrests made since March

2016 Commission Meeting;

3/15/16 H&R, DUI. 316, Driving Under Suspension - Turkey Hill Parking Lot – Maidencreek Twp.

3/24/16 Retail Theft $852.00 in products from CVS – Maidencreek Twp.

3/24/16 Harassment, Stalking – Leesport Borough

3/25/16 Theft form Vehicle, Receiving Stolen Property, Criminal Mischief – Maidencreek Twp.

3/30/16 Prescription Fraud, CVS – Maidencreek Twp.

3/30/16 Indecent Assault – Lords & Ladies – Maidencreek Twp.

4/05/16 DUI.276 – 222 & 73 – Maidencreek Twp.

4/05/16 Possession of controlled substance, public drunkenness – Sheetz & 61 – Ontelaunee Twp.

Parking Issue – Shackamaxon St & Canal St, Leesport has been addressed – one construction vehicle remains. The Chief suggested implement a permit to park in this location for an extended period of time.

Grandville Sandridge thanked the Chief for the Police assistance in the borough.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

None

**BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR**

Gerald Davis, 111 Sunset Ave., Blandon and neighbor Dwain Mennig reported excessive speeding on Sunset Ave. during the hours of 6:00 AM – 7:00 AM and then at 4:00 PM. Gerald Davis asked if

a three way Stop Sign intersection could be established at Midway and Sunset to slow traffic.

The Chief and Commissioners provided following comments:

Chief:

* The Township can’t install Stop signs without a traffic study conducted for a 24 hour period.
* When Police issue speeding citations, 10 mph over the limit is allowed.
* An officer would have to follow a vehicle for 3/10th of a mile to establish excessive speeding. This area would be difficult in this specific location.
* Should the operator request a hearing the District Justice allows for a 15 mph over.
* This limited location does not allow enough space to run speed.
* Advised Mr. Davis to attend a Maidencreek Township Supervisors meeting for additional informat9ion to install Stop signs.
* Radar would be helpful however; Pennsylvania is the only state that does’t allow local police to use radar.

Joseph Rudderow:

* The citation fine structure has not changed in years, and is very costly for the departments to issue and then prosecute.
* Suggested reaching out to our legislators David Argall and Barry Jozwiack to approve the use of Radar for local police departments.

Gary Hadden:

* You can’t install Stop signs for traffic control

Granville Sandridge:

* Suggested reaching out to Barry Jozwiak as well

All agreed having a Police Officers park in the Sunset/Midway location might be enough to slow traffic.

Diane Hollenbach informed the Commissioners;

* A Penn Dot scheduled road closure of Rt 73 between 222 & 61 beginning 6/19/2016 for approximately 6 days during the evening and overnight hours. Police may consider

Working out of the township building during this time period.

* She has received complaints of Stop sign violations at the intersection of Calcium Road & Maidencreek Road.
* Thanked Birdsboro Police Department for loaning their speed timing sign.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**Hiring Protocol**

Chief provided additional information for the PA Chiefs of Police Association to conduct a search for a new Police Chief. He found that the initial cost with the Chiefs of Police would be $5,000.00 plus $1600.00-$1800.00 for each additional day. The Chief reported Bern Township Police and West Reading Police are satisfied with the Chiefs of Police assistance in searching for a new Chief. The Chief suggested, Joseph Blackburn with the Chiefs of Police agency attend the June Commission meeting to further explain the process and to discuss the parameters the Commissioners would be interested in when searching for applicants.

The Commissioners considered a 6 month time line to search for a new Chief.

**Training Report**

2/10 &11/16 Sgt. Mohl – Truck Inspection training *completed*

3/7, 8, 9/16 Officer Parks – Vehicle Inspection Class *completed*

As of 3/14/2016 All officers *completed* 2016 mandatory training

3/29, 30, 31/16 Officer Dillman – Colt Armor Class *completed*

4/11, 12, 13/16 Officer Parks – DUI Instructional Seminar *currently in session*

3/14 & 15/16 Det. Sgt. Horner – Budgeting - *completed*

4/21 & 22/16 Air Soft Pistol – Simulation Training

5/17/2016 & 6/15/2016 Entire Department (various dates & times) Verbal techniques to

(New dates) defuse a situation

Future Entire Department (various dates & times) Tactical Handcuff application

Future Spike Strip Training & Procedures

Future Glock Armorer – Officer Dillman

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Speed Monitoring Signs**

Since the March meeting, Birdsboro Police Department generously lent their speed monitoring sign to the Police department. The sign was mounted for one week and seemed to prove effective. Additional information will be provided if the Commissioners would consider purchasing

a sign. The estimated purchase is $5000.00 which includes attachment equipment, software and support.

Grandville Sandridge made a motion, seconded by Joseph Rudderow authorized the purchase of

(1) 15” Speed Enforcement Sign.

Discussion ensued on the number of signs to be purchased and/or municipality purchase vs. police department purchase. If a municipality would purchase, who would maintain and keep data?

William Kline suggested each municipality purchasing their own sign and taking the information back to the respective boards prior to purchasing.

The Commissioners and the Chief thought Grant funds may be available.

Brian Horner suggested waiting till Chief Eaken obtains a proposal from “All Traffic Solutions”

for the Commission to be aware of exact cost and equipment included in the package. He also has a concern for the budget as this additional equipment was not included.

Grandville Sandridge amended his motion, seconded by Joseph Rudderow to authorize the purchase of (1) 15” Speed Enforcement Sign at a cost NOT to exceed $5000.00. All Commissioners voted, “Aye.” Motion carried.

**Wall Street Bridge Closure**

Gary Hadden informed the Commissioners of traffic problems that will arise when the Wall Street Bridge is closed for replacement in 2017. Centre Township Supervisors have several alternatives pertaining to Schuylkill Hill Road (closure, Penn Dot repair, one-way) and its impact to Leesport Borough. A public meeting is scheduled for 4/18/2016 at 7:00 PM in the Leesport Auction Banquet Hall.

Granville Sandridge stressed that it is important to have as many people possible to attend this meeting. He plans to contact Representative Barry Jozwiak.

The Chief mentioned the status of Schuylkill Hill Road very important in providing emergency services to the west side of Leesport. He is aware the Fire Company has tentative plans in place however; Police will definitely have an extended ETA having to travel Schuylkill Hill Road and/or Cross Keys Road.

There have been discussions in the past of Northern Berks Police to include Centre Township however; nothing materialized.

**Blue Falls Grove**

Gary Hadden reported he had been informed of a “free” two day event scheduled at Blue Falls Grove.

He has concern of extra traffic, parking and the reclaiming project being conducted by DEP in this area. He will be checking on these concerns and have the Ontelaunee Township Code Enforcement Officer check on the current living conditions on this property.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION 12:25 PM-1:20 PM**

Personnel – no action

**FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER**

**ADJOURN** Gary Hadden made a motion, seconded by Joseph Rudderow to adjourn the meeting at

12:25 PM. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Ruth M. Manmiller

NBRPD Secretary

CC: Maidencreek Township Board of Supervisors

Ontelaunee Township Board of Supervisors

Leesport Borough Council

Diane Hollenbach, Maidencreek Township Secretary

Ontelaunee Township Secretary

Sandra Weiser, Leesport Borough Secretary

S. Whitney Rahman, Blakinger Thomas, P.C.