**ATTENDING:** Gary Hadden-Ontelaunee Commissioner, David Franke-Maidencreek Township Commissioner, Ron Strause-Leesport Commissioner, James Moquin-Leesport Alternate,

Kim Berger-Ontelaunee Township Alternate, Ruth Manmiller-Secretary, Chief Horner and (Christopher Gerber-Solicitor via ZOOM)

**Guests:** Robert Wood, Dave Reimer, Josh Steingraber, David Reichlein, Jamie Kilyk, Eric Bauman, Lisa Unrath, Shea Nolan, Marcia Nolan, Sean Showalter, Casey Tiderman, Amy Shinkus, Kristy Drazenovich, Katlyn Gruber, Bobbi Jo Green, Heidi Fiedler, Brenda Eaken, Scott Eaken, David Brown, Donna Sturm, Heather Schoener, Jason Meck, Lauren Hadden, Joan Campbell, Steven Lutz, William Dillman, Francis Scott

This meeting was conducted on ZOOM.

Commissioner Hadden called the January 11, 2021 Northern Berks Regional Police Commission to order at 6:05 PM.

Pledge to the Flag & Moment of Silence

**FOR THE RECORD:** Executive Session conducted 1/5/2021

**MINUTES** –**December 14, 2020**

Commissioner Strause made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Franke to accept the December 2020 Commission Meeting minutes as presented. All commissioners voted, “Aye.” Motion carried.

**TREASURE’S REPORT** **December**

Money Market $147,029.86

General Checking $ 38,977.25 Tompkins Vist $295,998.76

Payroll $ 27,978.09 NNO $9,238.55

Total Budget Bal. $213,985.20

Commissioner Franke made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Strause to accept the December 2020 Treasurer’s Report as read. All Commissioners voted, “Aye.” Motion carried.

Ethic Statements provided to all commissioners and alternates.

**CHIEF’S DEPARTMENT REPORT – December**

**CALLS CITATIONS WARNINGS CONTACTS ARRESTS HOURS OF SERVICE**

Maidencreek 311 37 93 117 0 24.97 per day

Ontelaunee 168 25 87 113 4 18.76 per day

Leesport 66 19 38 55 1 8.06 per day

Administrative 25

**TOTAL 570 81 218 285 5**

**Fuel 1023.48 MILEAGE 9785**

**Fines Collected**

**Maidencreek $1,235.11 Ontelaunee $1,726.33 Leesport $ 602.10**

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Jamie Kilykasked the Commissioners if they would reconsider the dissolution of Northern Berks Regional Police, especially since the change in commission members.

Commissioner Strause could not speak on behalf of the 7 Leesport Borough Council members; he would have to go back to the council to entertain another vote. The original vote was 6-1.

Marcia Nolan asked the following questions of the Commission;

1. What precautions are being taken to protect the NBRPD officers?
2. Is the PPE equipment acceptable per CDC guidelines?
3. How does an officer obtain the equipment?
4. What are you doing to limit contact?
5. Why is it mandatory for the officers to make 3 traffic stops?
6. Is there a remedy to keep the officers safe during these difficult times?
7. Why didn’t the Chief notify the other officers that an officer contracted COVID?
8. Was the department and/vehicle sanitized properly?

With the Commissioners permission; Chief Horner proceeded to answer Marcia Nolan’s questions.

1. Since March 2020 the department has acquired all necessary PPE equipment to keep the officers safe. Several policies/directives have been issued as a guide lines for the officers safety while on duty.
2. The PPE equipment is acceptable per the CDC guide lines.
3. All officers received N95 masks, face shields, hand sanitizer and gloves. There is an abundant supply of all PPE equipment. Officers were instructed to contact me should they need more.
4. Minimal public is allowed in the headquarters. There is a station inside with had sanitizer, extra masks, gloves and a thermometer for self- testing.
5. I put the 3 stops mandatory for the officers because some officers were not doing their job. They go in for service only do the minimum and then sign out. I feel for a job where you are making more than $70,000.00 you should being your job. The officers were instructed when making a stop to make contact on the passenger side of the vehicle rather than the driver’s side to putting additional space between the operator and officer.
6. There are several policies in effect for the officers safety. They are instructed to sanitize the vehicle before and at the end of their shift. Wipe down their work areas.
7. I don’t have to notify the officers of an officer who has COVID. That would be HIPPA violation.
8. Upon receiving confirmation; I personally sanitized the officer’s desk area, door knobs inside and out and his vehicle.

**OLD BUSINESS**

Chief Horner explained to the Commissioners the

1. 2018 Dodge Charge is still in the repair shop. Received $10, 266.88 from the insurance, PD has a $1,000.00 deductible that will have be paid upon completion.
2. A decision needs to be made for the 2013 Chevrolet. Insurance has offered $3,757.50 for repairs however; the vehicle is worth $8,475.00.

The Commissioners decided to table a decision on 2013 Chevrolet.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Resignation**

Brandon Moris submitted his resignation effect 12/27/2020.

**Appraiser for NBRPD equipment**

Alderfer Auction Appraiser has provided the following proposal to appraise NBRPD equipment as part of the dissolution as follows; $300.00 1st hour, $200.00 for each additional hour, $85.00 for research, $45.00 for documentation. The appraisal company has an excellent reputation and has worked with other regional police departments that dissolved.

Prior to the motion, Commissioner Franke made a motion to rescind the decision to dissolve the Northern Berks Regional Police Department. He commented that Maidencreek Township is moving forward to establish their Police Department and wanted to give it one last chance to change the dissolution decision.

Commissioner Hadden confirmed the Ontelaunee Township Supervisors voted 3-0 the first time and he was sure there would be no change.

Commissioner Strause agreed, Leesport Council vote was 6-1 the first time and he is sure there would be no change.

Motion died for a lack of a second.

Commissioner Franke made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Strause to engage the services of Alderfer Appraiser to document and estimate the value of Northern Berks equipment; $300.00 1st hour, $200.00 for each additional hour, $85.00 for research, $45.00 for documentation. All Commissioners voted, “Aye.” Motion carried.

Commissioner Franke added that he admired the Northern Berks Regional Police officers for their service and professionalism.

**FOR THE GOOD OF ORDER**

Sean Showalter, NBRPD Association President and FOP representative asked the following on their behalf; How and when were the officers notified about the confirmed COVID case?

Chief Horner stated he was sure he notified the officers today and began searching his emails. He added there is nothing set that an employer must notify other employees of a COVID case. The District Attorney’s Office doesn’t notify employees. I have addressed all aspects of protection for the department with set policies, protocols and directions since the beginning. There are ample PPE supplies available for the officers. Yes, it is stored in my office – all they have to do is ask. Not one has asked or complained. The Association/FOP is unhappy with the dissolution and feels I could have done more to stop it.

**ADJOURN**

Commissioner Franke made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:30 PM, seconded by Commissioner Strause. All commissioners voted, “Aye.” Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Ruth M. Manmiller

NBRPD Secretary

CC:

NBRPD Commission & Alternates

Kim Berger, Ontelaunee Township Secretary

Sandra Weiser, Leesport Borough Secretary

Christopher Gerber, Siana Law Offices