

**NORTHERN BERKS REGIONAL POLICE**  
**COMMISSION MEETING**  
 September 12, 2022 6:00 PM

**ATTENDING:** Ronald Strause – Leesport Commissioner, Gary Hadden – Ontelaunee Commissioner, Heidi Fiedler – Maiden creek Commissioner, James Moquin – Leesport Alternate, Josh Steingraber – Ontelaunee Alternate, Josh Meck – Maiden creek Alternate, Andrew Rongaus – Solicitor, Chief Jim Keiser, Alysia Fredericks – Administrative Assistant

**GUESTS:** Eric Bauman, Mike Schittler, Mark DeBlasi

Commissioner Strause called the September 12, 2022 Commission meeting to order at 6:01 PM, followed by the pledge to the flag and a moment of silence.

**AGENDA:** **Commissioner Fiedler** made a motion, seconded by **Commissioner Hadden** to approve the agenda as presented. All commissioners voted, “Aye”. Motion carried.

**FOR THE RECORD:** Nothing

**COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES:** **Commissioner Fiedler** made a motion, seconded by **Commissioner Hadden** to approve the August 2022 Commission Meeting minutes. All commissioners voted, “Aye”. Motion carried.

**TREASURER’S REPORT:** The August 2022 Treasurer’s report was given by Alysia Fredericks as follows –

Money Market - \$523,955.17	Tompkins Vist - \$180,724.14
General Checking - \$74,457.38	NNO - \$12,711.39
<u>Payroll - \$2077.43</u>	
Total Budget Balance - \$600,489.98	

**Commissioner Fiedler** made a motion, seconded by **Commissioner Hadden** to approve the August 2022 Treasurer’s report as presented. All commissioners voted, “Aye”. Motion carried.

**DEPARTMENT REPORT:** Chief Keiser read the activity report for August 2022.

<b>TOWNSHIP</b>	<b>CALLS</b>	<b>CITATIONS</b>	<b>WARNINGS</b>	<b>CONTACTS</b>	<b>ARRESTS</b>	<b>HOURS</b>
Maiden creek	274	78	84	140	4	26.98 day
Ontelaunee	235	92	86	157	6	23.64 day
Leesport	103	30	17	46	2	6.38 day
Administrative	17					
<b>TOTAL</b>	629	200	187	343	12	

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FUEL: 1186.596 gallons

MILEAGE: 9862 miles

CITATION TOTAL = \$4,961.25

Maidencreek: \$1,547.39

Ontelaunee: \$2,507.07

Leesport: \$906.79

CRASH TOTAL = 42

Maidencreek: 22 (7 reportable/15 non)

Ontelaunee: 14 (5 reportable/9 non)

Leesport: 6 (1 reportable/5 non)

BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR: Nothing

OLD BUSINESS:

Update on Parking Tickets – **Solicitor Rongaus** spoke about the progress on the parking tickets. The parking ticket will be the notice of the violation. If an individual fails to respond to the parking ticket, the police department will issue a citation on the state form, which goes to the district court. A summons would then be issued outlining the notice of rights as to what is required. The townships/boroughs can decide the dollar amount for a parking ticket.

**Commissioner Hadden** said that current handicapped signs state that fines can be \$50-\$200. Could those signs stay posted as is with the introduction of the parking tickets or would they have to be replaced? **Solicitor Rongaus** answered that they could stay, as long as the fine on the parking ticket would be at least \$50 for that violation, to avoid any confusion. He asked if the commission wants to consider a sliding scale before a state citation is issued. Other municipalities have utilized this scale and it allows people the ability to pay up front, saving the police department time that would be spent on having to issue a state citation. The sliding scale works as a good incentive to pay the fine in a timely manner. A locked mailbox can be installed outside the police station for people to drop off their payments. **Commissioner Hadden** asked if there would be an option to pay the fine online. **Chief Keiser** replied that we do not currently have the capability to accept an online payment. We will only accept fines that are mailed or dropped off at the department in the early stages of the parking ticket implementation. As this progresses, the department can look into options for online payments. It was also discussed that there could be a separate/higher fine amount for overweight vehicles. The solicitor will now work with the solicitors of the municipalities to create an ordinance that can be adopted, which includes agreed upon language.

Budget 2023 – **Administrative Assistant Alysia Fredericks** said that she is still waiting on various quotes for next year, so the draft budget is not available at this point in time. The draft budget will be presented at the October commission meeting with a budget workshop to occur after that date. The commissioners asked if a budget workshop could be held sooner. It was agreed that a date in late September/early October would be selected and advertised.

New Vehicles – **Chief Keiser** discussed the difficulty in finding a CoStars dealership that is taking orders for police vehicles. We will need to expand our search to other counties. However, the cars are just not available at this point. **Alternate Steingraber** asked who does

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the outfitting of the cars. **Chief Keiser** said that we would like to utilize RMI, but unsure if they still do this. We need to think ahead for the outfitting, as well, as this can add to our wait time for a vehicle.

NEW BUSINESS:

Car Camera Install – Motorola will be coming out at the end of October to do training.

**Commissioner Hadden** mentioned that there will be a public meeting on October 24 that will be held at the Leesport Farmers Market that may require officer presence. He wanted to make sure that this would not be a conflict with the Motorola training possibly occurring that day.

**Chief Keiser** said it would not be an issue.

**Commissioner Strause** brought up the topic of Maiden creek planning a new building.

**Commissioner Fiedler** said that Maiden creek's Water Authority was looking at possibly building on a property that the authority owns. It was a general discussion and the authority had minimal information at the time. **Chief Keiser** said that he had been approached by the Maiden creek Township manager about including the fire department and the police department in a new building to be built in Maiden creek Township. **Commissioner Fiedler** responded that the board of supervisors have not made any decisions or asked anyone to look into building a new building on behalf of the police commission or anyone else.

FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER: Nothing

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Held from 6:37 to 7:23 PM

**Commissioner Hadden** made a motion, seconded by **Commissioner Fiedler** to amend the agenda to extend Officer Vaillant's probation by an additional 6 months. All commissioners voted, "Aye". Motion carried.

**Commissioner Hadden** made a motion, seconded by **Commissioner Fiedler** to extend Officer Vaillant's probation period by 6 months. All commissioners voted, "Aye". Motion carried.

**Commissioner Fiedler** made a motion, seconded by **Commissioner Hadden** to amend the agenda to allow the Chief to start testing for corporal positions. All commissioners voted, "Aye". Motion carried.

**Commissioner Hadden** made a motion, seconded by **Commissioner Fiedler** to permit the Chief to start testing for corporal positions. All commissioners voted, "Aye". Motion carried.

**Commissioner Fiedler** made a motion, seconded by **Commissioner Hadden** to adjourn the meeting at 7:25 PM. All commissioners voted, "Aye". Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,  
*Alysia Fredericks*  
NBRPD Administrative Assistant

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CC: NBRPD Commission & Alternates  
Hunter Ahrens, Maidencreek Township Manager  
Kim Berger, Ontelaunee Township Secretary  
Sandra Weiser, Leesport Borough Secretary  
Christopher Berger, Solicitor