

NORTHERN BERKS REGIONAL POLICE
COMMISSION MEETING
November 14, 2022

ATTENDING: Ronald Strause – Leesport Commissioner, Heidi Fiedler – Maiden creek Commissioner, Josh Steingraber – Ontelaunee Alternate, James Moquin – Leesport Alternate, Josh Meck – Maiden creek Alternate, Chris Gerber – Solicitor, Chief Jim Keiser, Alysia Fredericks – Administrative Assistant

GUESTS: Donna Culp, Eric Bauman

Commissioner Strause called the November 14, 2022 Commission Meeting to order at 6:00 PM, followed by the pledge of allegiance and a moment of silence.

Commissioner Fiedler made a motion, seconded by **Alternate Steingraber** to amend the agenda to include a discussion of returning the excess funds. All commissioners voted, “Aye”. Motion carried

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

FOR THE RECORD: Nothing

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

TREASURER’S REPORT: The October 2022 Treasurer’s report was given by Alysia Fredericks as follows-

Money Market	\$616,019.63	Tompkins Vist	\$159,880.23
General Checking	\$11,367.91	NNO	\$11,606.39
<u>Payroll</u>	<u>\$3,263.43</u>		
Total Budget Bal.	\$630,650.97		

Prior to the meeting, **Alysia Fredericks** also presented each of the commissioners with a copy of the Compiled Financial Statements and Agreed Upon Procedures for 2021 that were prepared by Long, Barrell & Co., LTD. Certified Public Accountants.

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

DEPARTMENT REPORT: Chief Keiser read the activity report for October 2022

TOWNSHIP	CALLS	CITATIONS	WARNINGS	CONTACTS	ARRESTS	HOURS OF SERVICE
Maiden creek	292	61	85	138	5	27.08 per day
Ontelaunee	240	71	60	114	3	23.88 per day
Leesport	87	8	12	22	1	7.02 per day

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Administrative 20

TOTAL 639 140 157 274 9

FUEL: 1158.942 Gallons MILEAGE: 9213

FINES COLLECTED: Not available as of meeting date

Maidencreek - N/A Ontelaunee - N/A Leesport - N/A

**CRASHES: Maidencreek - 20 (7 Reportable/11 Non Reportable/2 Hit & Run)
Ontelaunee - 23 (7 Reportable/10 Non Reportable/6 Hit & Run)
Leesport - 3 (2 Reportable/1 Non Reportable)**

BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR: Nothing

OLD BUSINESS:

Car and Body Camera Launch - **Chief Keiser** said that the body and in car cameras were launched on October 31, 2022. Everyone has been trained and policy has been implemented. The Berks County District Attorney's office will be paying the first year of fees directly to Motorola in the amount of \$20,855.99. Since the first installment was due to Motorola before we could forward the bill to the DA's office, a check was mailed to Motorola from the Northern Berks Vist Money Market account in this same amount.

Commissioner Fiedler requested that we ask Motorola to return one of these payments. **Solicitor Gerber** said that this money was not paid in error and it is improbable that Motorola would return it, but it would be kept as a balance towards the next yearly payment. **Chief Keiser** said he would inquire with Motorola to see what can be done in regards to the double payment.

New Vehicle Search - **Chief Keiser** said that we could possibly receive the Ford Explorer in March of 2023, but the F150 would not be available until August of 2023, at the earliest. **Alternate Steingraber** asked what the department is projecting for the fleet going into 2024. He suggested that we think about ordering an additional Explorer in 2023, in the hopes that it would be available in 2024, if we would need it. When the window for ordering opens again in 2023, we will order an additional vehicle. If we do need one for 2024, we will then include it with the 2024 Budget. **Chief Keiser** also mentioned that all of the upfitting and the graphics will be done at the dealership.

NEW BUSINESS:

Mail Box Post: **Administrative Assistant Alysia Fredericks** said that in order to prepare for the new parking tickets that will be utilized in 2023, the department will need a mailbox to receive payments. Ontelaunee Township has a mailbox, but the department will need to order and pay for a post. The Ontelaunee road crew will install everything once the post arrives.

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Discussion Regarding Holographic (Red Dot) Sights: **Chief Keiser** attended a demonstration at the Reading Police Department and was very impressed with the red dot sights. He obtained a quote from Glock for new guns with the sights installed. He also received a better quote from Witwer (the Officer Store) for 18 Glock G45 9 mm of \$12, 878.24 along with new holsters for \$2,348.09. This includes sales tax, which would be removed after we submit our tax exemption forms. He felt that this is a good time to upgrade, as we do have leftover funds in the 2022 budget that could be applied to equipment.

Alternate Steingraber asked if the quoted holsters (Trijicon RMR) are compatible with the Aimpoint Acro P2. **Chief Keiser** said he would confirm with Witmer. When asked why he decided on the Acro P2, he said that that it is quicker to pick up the sight on the Acro. Also, the policy requires that the batteries be changed once a year and the Trijicon threads have been known to wear out, since the battery is at the bottom of the sight, whereas the Acro has the battery on the side. **Alternate Steingraber** asked about weapon lights. **Chief Keiser** said that we already have weapon lights and they will be transferred over to the new guns. **Alternate Moquin** said that we are looking at roughly \$798 per officer for a new service weapon that will last approximately 5 years and improve officer accuracy. This seems like a good deal. **Solicitor Gerber** asked if the department would require qualifications both with and without the sight, to which the Chief responded, "Yes". **Alternate Steingraber** asked if the officers would get an opportunity to buy their duty guns. **Chief Keiser** said that this would be done through Witwer and he will check with them to confirm what pricing they would offer to our officers. **Alternate Steingraber** said that it sounds as if we are at the point where we would be looking to replace the handguns anyway. Chief Keiser confirmed that we have had the current Gen 4 handguns for about 4 years and these would be the Gen 5. **Commissioner Fiedler** made a motion, seconded by **Alternate Steingraber** to spend \$14,264.46 on new handguns and holsters. All commissioners voted, "Aye. Motion carried.

Donna Culp asked if this would affect the ammo that we currently have. Chief Keiser said that it would not. He also updated the commission that we finally received our back ordered ammo and that the quoted price for 2021 was honored.

Discussion of Excess Funds/Returning Money to Municipalities: **Alysia Fredericks** said that we still have significant bills and payroll costs to consider for the remainder of 2022. At this point in time, we do not have a specific reimbursement amount, but it should be comparable to the previous year. We also want to make sure that we carry approximately \$250,000.00 into 2023 to account for our regular expenses and payroll for January. **Commissioner Fiedler** asked that a reimbursement figure is available a week prior to the December commission meeting.

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Commissioner Fiedler asked where we stand with the promotions to corporal. **Chief Keiser** said that these promotions cannot take place until additional officers have been hired. We are hoping to have hiring occur in the spring of 2023. There has been interest expressed to the Chief by individuals wanting to work for Northern Berks. A promotion to corporal would require the individual to be employed by Northern Berks for a certain period of time.

FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER:

Commissioner Strause said that Leesport will be having their tree lighting on December 10th at the Leesport Fire Company at 5pm.

Donna Culp asked if the parking tickets are ready. Solicitor Gerber said they are still a work in progress.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: For personnel, held from 6:52-7:20 PM

ADJOURN:

Commissioner Fiedler made a motion, seconded by **Alternate Steingraber** to adjourn the meeting at 7:20 PM. All commissioners voted, "Aye". Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,
Alysia Fredericks
NBRPD Administrative Assistant

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