

**NORTHERN BERKS REGIONAL POLICE
BUDGET WORKSHOP
SEPTEMBER 21, 2026**

ATTENDING: Josh Meck – Maidencreek Commissioner, Ronald Strause – Leesport Commissioner, Josh Steingraber – Ontelaunee Commissioner, Diane Hollenbach – Maidencreek Alternate, Marty Goetz – Leesport Alternate, Chief Wayne Holben, Office Manager Alysia Fredericks

GUESTS: Donna Culp, Sandy Pascavage, Bill Dillman, Steve Row, David Reimer Sr.

Commissioner Meck called the September 21, 2026 Budget Workshop to order at 6:04 PM, followed by the pledge of allegiance and a moment of silence.

BUDGET PRESENTATION

Chief Wayne Holben and Officer William Dillman (NBRPD Fleet Manager) began the presentation by discussing the Vehicle section of the 2027 Draft Budget. The department would like to purchase a Ford F150 truck (\$50,800.00) to be upfitted (\$42,700.69) as a MCSAP vehicle. After much discussion, it was agreed that the Chief would look into alternative options, such as obtaining a quote to convert our current F150 patrol truck into a MCSAP vehicle. The Chief will also be obtaining a quote for a Police Interceptor Unit (Ford Explorer) that would then replace the truck in the patrol fleet.

Chief Wayne Holben and Office Manager Alysia Fredericks then presented the Operating Costs section of the 2027 Draft budget. One of the most expensive items in this section is Line Item 533 – Radios. Due to radios approaching “end of life”, the County Commissioners have set forth a final plan for County support of the replacement of these radios. Chief Holben will talk to Brian Gottschall, director of Berks DES to clarify expected costs, such as accessories for the radios. The commission is also interested in exploring the option of financing the project over 7 years, depending on the interest rates. Another high Line Item is 536 – Equipment Replacement/Repair/Purchase. Many items such as LPR’s, Body Cameras and Tasers are fixed costs under current contracts. However, regarding the proposed purchase of new rifles, the Chief will obtain additional quotes in an effort to reduce costs. Under Line Item 537 – Telephone/Internet, the commission does not want to switch to fiber, due to the cost. Other options for faster Internet speeds will be researched.

Finally, Chief Holben presented the Headquarters section of the 2027 Draft Budget. Line Item 560.02 – Utilities has been decreased from the 2026 amount. The issue with the NBRPD and Ontelaunee electric meters has been corrected and the NBRPD electric bill is much lower. Line Item 560.05 – Computer has been increased, due to the impending switch from Cody RMS to Pathfinder.

The commission has asked for a third budget workshop meeting to be held on October 5 at 6pm in the Ontelaunee Township meeting room. A revised draft budget will be presented to be built around 16 officers (including the Chief).

ADJOURN: Commissioner Steingraber made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Strause to adjourn the meeting. All commissioners voted, “Aye”. Motion carried and meeting was adjourned at 8:20 PM.

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Respectfully Submitted,
Alysia Fredericks
NBRPD Office Manager

CC: NBRPD Commission & Alternates
Diane Hollenbach, Maidencreek Township Manager
Kim Berger, Ontelaunee Township Secretary
Sandra Pascavage, Leesport Borough Secretary
Colin Macfarlane, Solicitor