

CENTRAL BUCKS REGIONAL POLICE COMMISSION

Minutes

October 26, 2015

The monthly meeting of the Central Bucks Regional Police Commission was called to order by Chairman Ron Strouse at 7:30 PM. All Commission members were present except Ms. Nancy Schuyler. Also present were Lt. Pat Penecale, Mr. David Sander, Ms. Caroline Brinker, Ms. Marilyn Becker, Mr. Marilyn Jacobson, Mr. John Abbott, and Mr. Joe Flood.

Mr. Strouse addressed the Commission regarding the matter involving a complaint filed by Attorney Paul Martilla against a Central Bucks Regional Police Officer. The investigation by The MacMain Law Group has been completed and determined the policies of Central Bucks Regional Police were not violated. The Commission will take no further action regarding this matter.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: A motion was made by Mr. Macklem to approve the meeting minutes of September 28, 2015; seconded by Mr. Ansinn. Motion approved.

FINANCE: A motion was made by Mr. Holewinski to accept the Financial Reports; seconded by Mr. Ansinn. Motion approved.

2016 Budget – The Finance Committee met on October 22, 2015 and approved the proposed 2016 Budgets line by line. Two proposed budgets were submitted, one including Chalfont Borough and a second proposed budget excluding Chalfont Borough should the merger not take place by January 1, 2016.

Mr. Strouse pointed out the significant difference in revenue between the two budgets is the Municipal Assistance Program grant which is included in the Chalfont Borough version. The MAP grant, received in January 2014, will reset if the Central Bucks Regional Police Department expands. In addition, a Regional Assistance Program grant will be open in January in the amount of \$60,000 (legal, personnel, equipment) should the merger take place. The Chalfont inclusion budget also shows an increase in the Body Camera Grant commitment as the Commission will be responsible for Chalfont Borough's portion.

Mr. Strouse explained the MMO contribution is represented on both proposed budgets. This expense was not reflected in the 2015 Budget because the municipalities individually took care of this expenditure which will now be passed on to the Commission. The increase in budget from 2015 to 2016, minus the MMO contribution, is 4.65% excluding Chalfont.

Under expenditures, Chief Donnelly had proposed a 3% increase with the exception of the clerical staff as job descriptions have changed and been enlarged. Under the proposed budget including Chalfont, the clerical staff number has increased due to the additional part-time clerical Chalfont staff. Salaries, excluding Chalfont, shows a Lieutenant position; and the budget, including Chalfont, shows the removal of the Lieutenant position and addition of two Captain positions.

Anticipated health insurance savings are reflected in the budget. Overtime has been reduced to \$25,000, which Chief Donnelly reports is a conservative figure. Reduction in gas/oil is noted due to the economy and the arrangement for the Department to purchase gas directly from the Doylestown Borough Public Works Department.

The capital outlay was reviewed with mention of radio equipment being a continuing figure, trading in a patrol vehicle for a new vehicle, computer upgrades, body cameras, and the installation of a generator. A generator was acquired by the Federal surplus program requiring installation at a cost of \$13,000 each from the Commission and Doylestown Borough. The generator will supply electricity to the entire building should a problem present.

A motion was made by Mr. Holewinski to approve the Capital outlay; seconded by Mr. Ansinn. Motion approved.

A motion was made by Mr. Ansinn to approve the 2016 Budget and submit to the respective Borough Councils for approval; seconded by Mr. Holewinski. Motion approved.

A motion was made by Mr. Holewinski to approve the 2016 Budget, including Chalfont Borough, and submit to the respective Borough Councils for approval; seconded by Mr. Det Ansinn. Motion approved.

Mr. Macklem inquired about changing the initial due date of the budget to October versus September considering insurance numbers are not available until that time. Lt. Penecale pointed out that although insurance numbers are not available, the September due date allows the required discussion on all other areas of the budget and the time is actually very useful. Mr. Sanders commented that the September date is contractually required. Mr. Strouse concluded the first submission of proposed budget to the respective Councils will remain in September with the anticipated rejection each year until insurance numbers are obtained.

POLICE ACTIVITY: Lt. Pat Penecale reported September incidents for Doylestown 1,045; New Britain 481. Reportable accidents for Doylestown totaled 4; New Britain 1. Non-reportable accidents for Doylestown totaled 28; New Britain 8. Part I Crimes for Doylestown totaled 12; New Britain 4. Burglaries in Doylestown totaled 2; New Britain 2. Lt. Penecale explained three of those burglaries are scheduled to be cleared shortly. Part II Crimes in Doylestown totaled 32; New Britain 8.

NEW BUSINESS:

Municipal Assistance Program Grant – Lt. Pat Penecale informed the Commission of the MAP grant funded by the Department of Community and Economic Development. This grant is offered to police departments who expand further after their initial regionalization. With the impending expansion, this grant would defray costs involved with the expansion. The grant would cover branding and equipment costs such as uniforms, vehicle painting/stripping, weapon conformity, in-vehicle camera, records management merge, Vehicle LTron scanners, traffic safety equipment, PowerDMS licenses, survey/site plan and a wood-carved sign for the new facility. The grant requires an in-kind match of \$36,000.

A motion was made by Ms. Robyne Kelemen to approve Resolution 2015-07 Authorizing an Application to the Department of Community and Economic Development Municipal Assistance Grant Program; seconded by Mr. David Holewinski. Motion approved.

OLD BUSINESS:

Body-Worn Camera Grant – There was discussion regarding the Resolution vs. Ordinance. Mr. David Sanders stated the Resolution was necessary to submit as part of paperwork for the grant; however, an Ordinance will be required to ratify the Intergovernmental Agreement. Mr. Strouse stated the Chiefs from the nine municipalities have already attended a meeting; policies will be presented to the Commission for approval prior to body-worn camera deployment.

A motion was made by Ms. Kelemen to authorize Mr. Sanders to draft an ordinance for the Body-Worn Camera Grant; seconded by Mr. Bill Macklem. Motion approved.

A motion was made by Ms. Kelemen to approve Resolution 2015-08 Providing for the Establishment and Regulation of a Body-Worn Camera Collaboration for Central Bucks Regional Police Commission Relating to the Department of Justice Grant Award 2015-DE-BX-K066; seconded by Mr. Ansinn. Motion approved.

Civil Service Vacancies – Mr. Strouse stated the Civil Service Commission vacancies will be addressed at the December meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: None.

ADJOURNMENT: A motion was made by Mr. Macklem to adjourn at 8:02 PM; seconded by Mr. Ansinn. Motion approved.

Respectfully submitted,

James Donnelly
Chief of Police