

**POCONO MOUNTAIN REGIONAL POLICE COMMISSION
REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING
8 SEPTEMBER 2020**

PRESENT:

DAVID W MOYER	-TOBYHANNA TOWNSHIP	-CHAIRMAN
FRANCIS DePIANO	-TUNKHANNOCK TOWNSHIP	-VICE CHAIRMAN
KURT CUMMINGS	-COOLBAUGH TOWNSHIP	-TREASURER
DAVID CARBONE	-TOBYHANNA TOWNSHIP	-MEMBER
JUAN ADAMS	-TUNKHANNOCK TOWNSHIP	-MEMBER
LYNN KELLY	-COOLBAUGH TOWNSHIP	-MEMBER
JOHN SEESE	-BARRETT TOWNSHIP	-MEMBER
CHRIS WAGNER		-CHIEF OF POLICE
HARRY COLEMAN		-SOLICITOR

ABSENT:

CLAUDETTE WILLIAMS	-BOROUGH OF MOUNT POCONO	-SECRETARY
BRENDON CARROLL	-TOBYHANNA TOWNSHIP	-MEMBER
MIKE PENN	-BOROUGH OF MOUNT POCONO	-MEMBER
TONY LAMANTIA	-COOLBAUGH TOWNSHIP	-MEMBER

CALL TO ORDER:

The Regular Business Meeting of the Pocono Mountain Regional Police Commission was held at the Pocono Mountain Regional Police Building and called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chairman Moyer with the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL:

APPROVE MINUTES:

Motion:

Francis DePiano made a motion to adopt the minutes of 11 August 2020, seconded by Juan Adams. The motion passed unanimously.

APPROVE BILLS:

Motion:

Francis DePiano made a motion to approve the Bill-pack of 8 September 2020 in the amount of \$20,590.96, seconded by Juan Adams. The motion passed unanimously.

POLICE REPORT:

Total calls for the month of August were 1489 consisting of 1386 Complaints and 103 Accidents. There were a total of 107 Criminal Arrests, 163 Traffic Arrests, 169 Traffic Warnings and 4 Ordinance Arrests.

Chief Wagner went over the monthly and year to date activity numbers per municipality as well as the UCR Crime Stats.

Motion:

Francis DePiano made a motion to accept the August Police Report, seconded by Kurt Cummings. The motion passed unanimously.

VEHICLE REPORT:

Chief reviewed the mileage and expense report for August. Chief reported that the fourth vehicle is now in and at the upfitter.

Motion:

Francis DePiano made a motion to accept the August Vehicle Report, seconded by Juan Adams. The motion passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS:

- **Resolution 2020-002 – Follow Municipal Records Schedule**

Resolution to follow the Municipal Records Schedule for the destruction of records.

Motion:

Dave Carbone made a motion to approve Resolution 2020-002, To Follow Municipal Records Schedule, seconded by Juan Adams. The motion passed unanimously.

- **Resolution 2020-003 – Disposition of Records**

Resolution with listing of records

Motion:

Dave Carbone made a motion to approve Resolution 2020-003, seconded by Juan Adams.

Kurt Cummings asked if it was mostly paper and electronic records. The Chief stated there would be some electronic -possibly floppy disks.

With no further questions or comments, the motion passed unanimously.

- **2021 MMO**

- 1) Police MMO \$840,773.66
- 2) Non-Uniform MMO \$10,704.61

Chief Wagner stated we inquired as to why there was such an increase. The actuary indicated it was due to a poor 4th quarter back in 2018 in the stock market. The next valuation is 2022, if all stays good we are hoping to see a reduction in the MMO's.

Lynn Kelly asked the chief to specifically explain where the amount on line 6 comes from? Chief stated it comes from the actuarial study that comes out every two years. Ms. Kelly had additional questions concerning the study. Chief suggested having John Vargo attend next meeting to answer any additional questions.

- **Policy amendment: 6-3 Weapons Qualification**

Chief Wagner stated the changes are due to new laws passed by Governor Wolfe that are quickly coming through the accreditation process. The Chief stated the new laws were compared to our current policy. Our current policy was pretty much in line with the new laws just needing a few word changes to fall in line with the new standards. There was also an increase in training from once every two years to now annually.

Motion:

Dave Carbone made a motion to approve stated changes in Policy Amendment to 6-3 Weapons Qualification, seconded by Juan Adams.

Lynn Kelly asked if the change on page 8 item L coordinates with the Use of Force policy. The Chief stated yes and continued that some of the other policy recommendations are already in the Use of Force policy, therefore they were not included here do to the redundancies.

With no further questions or comments, the motion passed unanimously.

- **Building Maintenance**

Chief Wagner explained that the compressor that controls the temperature in the Crime Room and his office needs replacing. The Chief estimates the cost to replace the unit should be under \$21,000 which is under the threshold to require bidding. Chief requested a motion to obtain phone bids as long as the bids are under the threshold and move forward with replacing the compressor.

Motion:

Francis DePiano made a motion to have the Chief obtain phone bids to replace the compressor if under the threshold, seconded by Dave Carbone. The motion passed unanimously.

UPDATE:

- **Member Municipality Concerns**

Tobyhanna Township – David Carbone stated Tobyhanna Township agreed to pick up an additional 3.50 hours per week in the amount of \$14,548.41 for extra coverage for their township. Thank you from all to Tobyhanna Township.

Tunkhannock Township – N/A

Coolbaugh Township – Lynn Kelly announced the passing of Judge Clancy Dennis on September 6th.

Ms. Kelly also raised a concern after reading an article in the BORO Newspaper indicating that the article does not reflect the budget session discussions of the Commission. Because of the problems with this past budget she asked if we can get a different process moving forward. Chief Wagner agreed with Ms. Kelly that there is a lot of confusion on the budget process whereas the way this has historically worked is that the municipalities ask the commission for budget numbers, but we can't give numbers until we get information from the municipalities of how many hours they want. Over the past couple years there was a good process going and thought it was understood until this year and he is unsure where the perception changed.

Mount Pocono – N/A

Barrett Township – N/A

- **2020 Budget**

Chief Wagner gave a brief explanation of the challenges the Commission faces to rectify the 2020 budget shortfall. Tobyhanna Township has agreed to pick up the 3.5 hours a week in the amount of \$14,548.41, providing that Mt Pocono Borough approves, by Resolution, the 2020 Budget. Additionally, approving the 2020 Budget Mt. Pocono's hours would be reduced by 3.5 per week and using the 2020 PPU rate Mount Pocono would be increasing their 2020 responsibility by \$98.29.

Mr. DePiano again thanked Tobyhanna Township and voiced his opinion stating that Mt. Pocono should pay the \$98.29 and approve the 2020 budget. Mr. Cummings echoed Mr. DePiano and asked what will happen in the future budgets. Mr. DePiano then suggested Atty. Coleman draft the letter as discussed by Chief

Wagner. Atty. Coleman agreed to draft the letter to Mount Pocono Borough. Atty. Coleman also suggested to review the budgetary process with the municipalities to avoid this in the future.

Motion:

Francis DePiano made a motion to send a letter to Mt. Pocono as stated, seconded by Dave Carbone. The motion passed unanimously.

- **2021 Budget**

Chief Wagner went over the new Municipal Agreement and presented a power point to the Commission and public on the budget process. A brief discussion was had. Statement it should be the budget committee members responsibility to make sure that a Resolution approving proposed budget is passed by their municipality. Moving forward a Resolution must be passed by each municipality **or** send written correspondence by November 15

- **2020 / 2021 Hiring process**

Chief stated that the process is still on hold.

- **Building Capital Projects**

Three bids were received and opened.

Bognet Inc -\$174,789.00
Charles W. Grimm Construction - \$178,861.00
Build All Contracting - \$215,800.00

Motion:

Francis DePiano made a motion to award the bid to Bognet Inc in the amount of \$174,789.00 pending review of the architect, seconded by Dave Carbone. The motion passed unanimously.

- **Pension**

There was a pension meeting on August 18, 2020 for the 2nd Quarter of 2020. 2nd Quarter started at \$21,721,010– net flows (\$343,380) with a return on investments of \$2,730,482 ending the fund at \$24,108,113.

Auditor General completed the Audit of the Non-Uniform and Police Pension plans for the period of 1/1/2017 – 12/31/2019.

Auditor General sent a letter regarding our Police Pension Fund showing a distress score of 0 and that our Police Pension Plan is 91% funded under the Act 205 reporting requirements.

- **Community Events / Letters of Support**

August 25 – participated in car parade for Sweet 16 that has been battling lymphoma since March 2019.

Community Support Public service announcements in front of business

Lynn Kelly asked if there is a date set for budget committee meeting? Chief Wagner indicated not at this time – he will email to schedule.

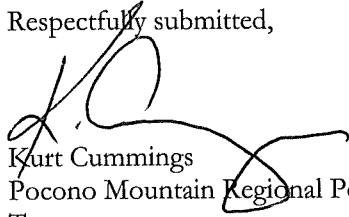
PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion:

Francis DePiano made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Dave Carbone. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned approximately 8.25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Kurt Cummings
Pocono Mountain Regional Police
Treasurer