

**MINUTES OF THE STROUD AREA REGIONAL POLICE COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING OF AUGUST 9, 2023**

The regular meeting of the Stroud Area Regional Police Commission was held on Wednesday, August 09, 2023, in the Stroud Area Regional Police Meeting Room. Commission members in attendance were Armand Martinelli, Victor Brozusky, Daryl Eppley, Joanne Kochanski, Sonia Wolbert, Rod Baechtold, and Mary Pat Quinn and Solicitor John Prevoznik. Commission members, Rick Staples and Erica McCabe, attended via Zoom. Also in attendance were: Chief Jennifer Lyon, Captain Scott Raymond, and Tracie Kresge.

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Martinelli called the August 09, 2023, regular meeting of the Stroud Area Regional Police Commission to order at 7:03 p.m. and Mr. Eppley called roll.

SPECIAL NOTE

Mr. Martinelli announced that due to the COVID-19 pandemic and to meet the requirements established by the Office of Open Records for virtual meetings, this meeting was being audio and video recorded via Zoom from the initial announcement of the meeting until its end. The meeting Zoom link was posted on the SARPD's website where the public could join the Zoom meeting, interact, and ask questions in real time.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mr. Martinelli led the Pledge of Allegiance.

MINUTES OF JULY 12, 2023, REGULAR COMMISSION MEETING

Motion by Ms. Wolbert, seconded by Mr. Eppley to accept the Minutes of July 12, 2023 meeting, as submitted. Mr. Martinelli and Mr. Brozusky abstained due to absence. The remainder voted aye. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS - AGENDA ITEMS

None.

CORRESPONDENCE

None.

PUBLIC COMMENTS –AGENDA ITEMS

None.

CHIEFS REPORT

Grant

Chief Lyon reported that she is continuing to work with the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency (PCCD) and is anticipating it to be concluded by next month's meeting.

Tyler Report Management System (RMS) Project

Chief Lyon reported the project is still being worked on and moving forward.

Monthly Report

Chief Lyon reported that although the RMS project is moving forward, it has taken longer than anticipated for her to assure the accuracy of the monthly reports. She asked for the report to be tabled again this month; however, she provided the Commission Members with an "unofficial July monthly

report” to be shared with their respective municipalities. She stated that although she cannot attest to 100% accuracy of the included statistics, that the numbers are close and would only be off by a small percentage, if at all. She asked the Commission Members to email her with any suggestions on any changes they would like to see in the monthly reports.

Bodycams

Chief Lyon reported that the bodycam deployment is at 100% with patrol officers being equipped and using them.

Hiring and Promotion Exams

Chief Lyon reported that the hiring test scheduled for 10/12/2023 at Stroudsburg Middle School and the promotions test has been scheduled for 10/13/2023 at headquarters.

Building/Grounds Issues

Chief Lyon reported that the rooftop heating/AC compressor on DJ Muth’s section of headquarters has failed. She stated that the compressor is out of warranty and needs to be replaced at a cost of \$5,700.00. Groner’s, the Department’s HVAC contractor, will be replacing the unit. The amount is under the procurement threshold and she reported that there is money in the budget to support the replacement. She stated that the failed unit also created a humidity issue at the MDJ’s office and dehumidifiers were brought in to rectify the situation.

Chief Lyon stated that she is also looking at the trees out front of the meeting room as the branches need to be trimmed due to encroaching on the building’s roof and parking lights. She stated that branches are also continuously breaking off and falling onto the property. She will be looking into this issue to determine the best course of action to rectify the tree situation.

DEPARTMENT REPORT FOR THE MONTH OF JULY 2023

Motion made by Mr. Eppley, seconded by Mr. Brozusky to table the July 2023 monthly report due to inability to assure accuracy of information resulting from implementation of the new RMS system. All voted aye. Motion carried unanimously.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Operations Committee

No report.

Personnel

No report.

Safety

A meeting was held on 8/8/2023. Mr. Staples reported that a couple of minor accidents involving patrol vehicles which have resulted in minor damage. Mr. Staples reported that Ofc. Seth Gable has returned to work after being off duty as a result of a motor vehicle accident.

Police Pension Board

Mr. Staples reported that the quarterly meeting will be scheduled for the last week of August or beginning of September.

Non-Uniform Pension Board

No report.

Budget/Finance

No report.

Negotiation Committee

No report.

SARPD Foundation

No report.

Solicitor

Solicitor Prevoznik reported that in the federal court case of Mr. Hunter, counsel has filed a motion to dismiss. He reported he has been working with the Chief on a towing issue, at this time, it does not need to elevate to the Commission. He also reported that he has been working with the Chief on a personnel matter and a hearing is being scheduled for that matter.

OLD BUSINESS

None

Treasurer's Report

Motion by Ms. Wolbert, seconded by Ms. Kochanski, to accept the unaudited Treasurer's Report, as submitted. All voted aye. Motion carried unanimously.

Bills Payable through August 9, 2023

Motion by Ms. Wolbert, seconded by Ms. Kochanski, to accept and pay the bills payable through August 9, 2023. All voted aye. Motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

Corporal Robert Cohowicz Resignation

Motion made by Ms. Wolbert, seconded by Ms. Kochanski, to ratify the Chief's acceptance of Corporal Robert Cohowicz's resignation from the SARPD as a full-time police officer effective 7/24/2023. Rollcall was taken and all voted aye, except Mr. Baechtold who voted No. Motion carried.

Officer Robert Cohowicz Part Time Officer

Motion made by Ms. Wolbert, seconded by Ms. Kochanski, to retain employment of Robert Cohowicz as a Part-Time Officer as per the CBA and as approved by the union, at a rate of \$40.73 per hour. All voted aye. Motion carried unanimously.

Approval of Accrued Benefits- Daniel Munch.

Motion made by Ms. Wolbert, seconded by Mr. Brozusky, to approve payment per the Collective Bargaining Agreement of the audited accrued benefits of 776.5 hrs. Memorialized sick time (50% \$17,379.78), 0.81 hrs. compensatory time (\$36.26) and remaining longevity pay of \$682.21 as per the CBA, for Daniel Munch in the total amount of \$18,098.25 to be paid out of the PLIGIT undesignated funds. All voted aye. Motion carried unanimously.

Transfer of Firearm Request Daniel Munch

Motion Made by Mr. Brozusky, seconded by Ms. Kochanski, to transfer retired Detective Daniel Munch's duty firearm, Glock Model 27, .40 caliber, Serial #EGM953US, to his name as requested per past practice for retirees. All voted aye. Motion carried unanimously.

Advanced Endpoint Protection Contract Renewal

Motion made by Ms. Wolbert, seconded by Ms. Kochanski, to renew the contract with Arete Advisors for advanced endpoint protection which includes Sentinel/One Complete endpoint protection software, Ranger Network Visibility/Control and Arete monitoring and response service 24/7/365 for a 36-month term at a total cost of \$11,016.00 annually (cost is under procurement threshold for bidding). All voted aye. Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion on Charges for Services

Solicitor Prevoznik discussed the legality and case law regarding the purposes for which police departments are allowed to charge additional fees. He stated that there were no statutory or case law provisions that would allow the Department to assess charges for police services beyond those currently being charged.

Discussion on OPEB Trust

Motion made by Ms. Wolbert, seconded by Mr. Brozusky to table to discussion on the OPEB Trust until the September meeting. All voted aye. Motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Ms. Wolbert, seconded by Mr. Brozusky, to adjourn the meeting at 7:30 p.m. All voted aye. Motion carried unanimously.