

**MINUTES OF THE STROUD AREA REGIONAL POLICE COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING OF JULY 14, 2021**

The regular meeting of the Stroud Area Regional Police Commission was held on Wednesday, July 14, 2021, at 7:00 p.m. in the Stroud Area Regional Police Meeting Room. Commission members in attendance were: Armand Martinelli, Daryl Eppley, Mary Pat Quinn, Brian Bond, Joanne Kochanski, Tara Probst and Rod Baechtold. Also in attendance was Chief Jennifer Lyon, Captain Paul Gasper, Tracie Kresge, and Solicitor John Prevoznik. One Commission member attended via zoom: Rick Staples. Absent was Sonia Wolbert.

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.

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Martinelli called the July 14, 2021 regular meeting of the Stroud Area Regional Police Commission to order at 7:00 p.m. and Mr. Eppley called roll.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mr. Martinelli led the Pledge of Allegiance.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Solicitor Prevoznik reported that executive session was held prior to the meeting which began at 6:20 p.m. and ended at 6:58 p.m. Discussed were contract negotiations with the Union and one litigation matter involving the Pennsylvania Human Relations Commission. No decisions were made. All members of the Commission with the exception of Ms. Wolbert were present. Mr. Staples participated via zoom.

MINUTES OF JUNE 9, 2021 COMMISSION MEETING

Motion by Mr. Eppley, seconded by Ms. Quinn to accept the June 9, 2021 Commission Meeting Minutes. All voted aye. Motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENTS – AGENDA ITEMS

None.

CORRESPONDENCE

None.

DEPARTMENT REPORT FOR THE MONTH OF JUNE 2021

Motion by Mr. Baechtold, seconded by Ms. Kochanski to accept the Department Report for June 2021 as submitted. All voted aye. Motion carried unanimously.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Operations Committee

No meeting.

Personnel

No meeting.

Safety

Mr. Staples reported the Safety Committee met. He further reported that the windows in the Detective union were caulked to fix a leak; the building's fire alarm panel is scheduled to be fixed upon arrival of the necessary parts; the Department experienced two minor motor vehicles accidents with no injuries; and that the Department was shredding boxes of paperwork after the paperwork was converted to electronic files.

Police Pension Board

Mr. Staples reported that he received information that PFM was selling its asset management business to U.S. Bancorp Asset Management. Solicitor Prevoznik reported that he would need to look into the rights of assignment and whether such actions invoked the requirements of Act 44 thereby having to solicit new pension administrator.

Non-Uniform Pension Board

No meeting.

Budget/Finance

No meeting. The committee will begin to meet next month for the 2022 Budget.

Negotiation Committee

Mr. Eppley reported that the Negotiation Committee has a meeting scheduled with the union tomorrow on 7/15/21.

SARPC Foundation

No meeting.

Solicitor

No report.

OLD BUSINESS

Acoustical Consultant Meeting Update

Chief Lyon reported that the Municipalities Managers met with JMS Acoustical consultant on 7/8/21 to discuss the noise issues. Discussion was held on noise made by vehicle mufflers and other noise issues in the municipalities. Mr. Spence, the acoustical consultant, made clear that the noise issues are complicated issues with few, if any, low-cost enforcement remedies. He indicated that the most cost-effective way of utilizing noise ordinance is to establish performance standards in zoning ordinances for uses that can be measured at the property line and can be reasonably measured through existing technologies. He opined that other issues, such as loud cars and fireworks, were better off handled by existing laws and nuisance-type ordinances. He did note that nuisance ordinance came with their own enforcement difficulty as many are written very broadly allowing for much ambiguity and therefore very difficult to enforce. He also noted that utilizing a police department to enforce noise standards was very complicated and expensive. While the police department may be available 24/7, it would lack the necessary training and equipment to be able to enforce such policies. Further, he opined that nuisance ordinances, if legally enforceable by the police, may be an alternative option for enforcement, but more research is needed into this area.

TREASURER'S REPORT

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

BILLS PAYABLE THROUGH JULY 14, 2021

After discussion, motion by Ms. Quinn, seconded by Mr. Staples to accept and pay the bills payable through July 14, 2021. All voted aye. Motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

2021 Housing Authority Agreement.

Motion made by Ms. Kochanski seconded by Ms. Quinn to enter into a 2021 Agreement with the Housing Authority for up to \$25,000.00 of additional police services at a rate of \$75.00 per hour and receive a lump sum payment of \$4,500.00 upon signing of agreement with the same terms and conditions as last year.

All voted aye. Motion carried unanimously.

Destruction of SARPD Property

Motion made by Ms. Kochanski seconded by Ms. Quinn to dispose of 33 firearms as listed on the attached list of firearms for disposal, to wit: 8 inoperable firearms set for destruction per the Property Destruction Policy and 25 firearms to be traded into Atlantic Tactical and Dunklebergers. The list of firearms for disposal without serial #'s is to be attached to the minutes and the list of firearms with the serial #'s is to be preserved by the Department. All voted aye. Motion carried unanimously.

Officer Matthew Condrad Resignation

Motion made by Mr. Baechtold seconded by Ms. Kochanski to ratify the Chief's acceptance of Officer Matthew Condrad's resignation from the SARPD effective 6/27/2021. All voted aye. Motion carried unanimously.

Approval of Accrued Benefits- Matthew Condrad

Motion made by Ms. Kochanski seconded by Mr. Bond to approve payment of the audited accrued benefits (110.17 hrs. comp time at \$29.5644 hr.) per the CBA, for Matthew Condrad in the total amount of \$3,257.11 All voted aye. Motion carried unanimously.

Promotions Test

Motion made by Ms. Kochanski, seconded by Mr. Staples, to authorize the Chief to institute the promotional process for Sergeants and Corporals with a target date of November 2021. All voted aye. Motion carried unanimously.

Conditional Offer of Employment

Motion made by Ms. Probst, seconded by Ms. Kochanski, that a Conditional Offer of Employment for candidate ID #62677 on the certified hiring list be tendered July 14th, 2021, subject to him passing his background check, physical examination, and psychological examination. All voted aye. Motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENTS – NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Keith Swiatkowski, a Stroudsburg Borough resident, was present and registered complaints on fireworks being set off in the area of North 8th Street. After discussion on enforcement and State Law referencing fireworks, Chief Lyon stated that Lt. Raymond would reach out to him to further discuss the ongoing issue and possible resolutions.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Mr. Baechtold, seconded by Mr. Bond to adjourn the meeting at 7:43 p.m. All voted aye. Motion carried unanimously.