

Southern Police Commission
Monthly Meeting
March 2, 2016

A public meeting of the Southern Police Commission was held on Wednesday, February 3, 2016 at the New Freedom Borough Council Chambers, 49 East High Street, New Freedom, PA 17349.

COMMISSION MEMBERS: Richard Buchanan, Roy Burkins, Jeff Blum, Ben Wetzel, Pete Schnabel, John Trout, Robert Herzberger, Chief Boddington

Solicitor: Peter Ruth

Alternate members present: Nate Kirschman, Bruce Merrill

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. with the pledge of allegiance to the flag and a moment of silence for all police officers, firefighters, and EMT's who were killed in the line of duty.

CHAIRMAN ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Chief Boddington introduced new officer Michael Bishop. Michael was officially sworn in last week to allow for a more expedient acclimation and transition to the department. This evening, Michael was joined by his fiancée for the pinning of his badge, as well as other family members and friends. Welcome, Officer Bishop!

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- The February 3, 2016 meeting minutes were approved as submitted. Motion: Ben Wetzel; second: Jeff Blum.

REVIEW OF EXPENDITURES

- Monthly expenditures for February totaled \$139,489.90, utilizing checks 9962-9999. Motion to approve: Richard Buchanan; second: Peter Schnabel.

POLICE CHIEF REPORT

- The total Overtime Breakdown numbers on the Municipality Data Report are not yet available; the hours will be tabulated in early March and will be complete for April's Commission Meeting.
- School coverage time has increased in February; January's lower numbers reflected snow and school closings.
- Officer Storeman continues to be on light duty; he's been doing an excellent job solving cases during this time.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Personnel

- Pete Schnabel provided a monthly calendar page for Commission members to write down the best days and times to meet. From this information, Pete plans to schedule future meetings.

Facilities & Equipment

- Nate Kirschman reports that progress with the phone system continues, however some more work needs done. How much of the \$3000 allocation has been spent?
- The SRO office at Kennard Dale is essentially a maintenance room with a great deal of interference. This problem has been solved with a microcell (providing a four- channel cell site); allowing Officer Carey to receive calls in the office and anywhere in the school. Because this microcell was plugged into the school's network, there was no cost for this device.

Review of Budget

- Overall balance = \$270,433.25; accounts receivable = \$61,669.00
- Overtime is 11.52% over budget due to a continued officer shortage.
- Ammo expense is high due to qualifying requirements for new officers, as well as spring qualification.

Formula

- The committee had a productive meeting last night; on track to have a final report to municipalities by June.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

- Peter Ruth is working with Sergeant Smuck on developing a Ballistic Vest Reimbursement Policy. Specifics will be forthcoming as details finalize.

OLD BUSINESS

- Municipality letters have been mailed.

ADJOURNMENT

- An adjournment motion made, with a second, for a continuation meeting on the third Tuesday of March.