

**Pennridge Regional Police Commission
Meeting Minutes**

August 23, 2017

The regular business meeting of the Pennridge Regional Police Commission was held at 7:00pm on August 23, 2017 in the meeting room at the Pennridge Regional Police Headquarters, 200 Ridge Road, Sellersville, PA 18960.

Present:	Jay Keyser	Commissioner
	Gary Volovnik	Commissioner
	Jim Miller	Commissioner
	Rodney Blake	Chief
	Sean M. Gresh, Esq.	Solicitor
	Marianne Morano	East Rockhill Township Manager
	Greg Lippincott	West Rockhill Township Manager

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Mr. Keyser with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Citizen Comment #1

There was none.

Announcements

There was none.

Approval of Minutes from July 26, 2017 Regular Meeting

On motion by Mr. Miller, seconded by Mr. Volovnik, to adopt the meeting minutes from the Pennridge Regional Police Commissions' July 26, 2017 Regular Meeting. With no additional discussion, all present voted in favor.

Financial Report: Chief Blake

Chief Blake read the financial report dated August 23, 2017. After payment of the monthly bills totaling \$51,091.99 the total operational account balances equal \$169,657.98. The cash reserve account funds total \$442,781.68.

On motion by Mr. Miller, seconded by Mr. Volovnik, to approve payment of Bills List dated August 23, 2017 totaling \$51,091.99. With no additional discussion, all present voted in favor.

Chief's Report: Chief Blake

Chief Blake read the monthly report indicating Department activities for the month of July, 2017. The report is on file.

On motion by Mr. Miller, seconded by Mr. Volovnik, to approve the Chief's Report as presented. With no additional discussion, all present voted in favor.

Solicitors Report: Sean M. Gresh, Esq.

There was none.

Old Business

Public Safety Committee Update. Chief Blake announced that as discussed in previous PRPC meetings, the Public Safety Committee will still remain and function as such, however the compensation portion for the two Township Managers will cease as part of the Pennridge Regional Police Department budget item. He stated that the Public Safety Committee is a necessary tool to be used by both Townships and the police department in order to keep moving the department forward and in the right direction. Since

the Pennridge Regional Police Commission formed the Public Safety Committee, the department has made positive advancements in budgeting, spending, personnel decisions and policy making. This Public Safety Committee has proven itself to be effective to the Commission and taxpayer.

On motion by Mr. Miller, seconded by Mr. Volovnik, to approve that the compensation for the Public Safety Committee will end. With no additional discussion, all present voted in favor.

2018 Preliminary Budget. Chief Blake announced that the Board had the latest version of the proposed 2018 budget for review, and asked if they had any questions. Mr. Keyser stated the department had done a good job building the reserves, but suggested that a portion of the reserves be given back to the Townships. He stated that last year he suggested \$224,000 from the reserves be given back to the Townships. Mr. Miller suggested that between 8% -12% remain in reserve. Mr. Volovnik suggested that \$150,000 remain in the reserve account at all times. Sean M. Gresh asked the Board if it would replenish the reserve account from the Townships money if the reserves went below the \$150,000 mark.

Chief Blake announced that there needs to be money left in the reserve account in case the department has a high profile case similar to the case in Solebury Township. Chief Blake also reminded the Board that the HVAC repair bill will need to be paid and that the Townships do not pay for police service in December. Lastly, Chief Blake announced that the Board should be mindful of the true increases of the budget because they would be offsetting those increases from the reserve account. Mr. Keyser stated that the Board is watching the budget more closely than in the past.

David Nyman, Supervisor of East Rockhill Township, suggested that the reserve be used to reduce the Township's allocation for police service.

Don Duvall, Supervisor of West Rockhill Township, suggested taking the surplus monies back to the Township, after the costs and expenditures are examined.

Jim Nietupski, Supervisor of East Rockhill Township, suggested that the reserve amount be lowered to the \$150,000 mark, but added that both Townships should fund the department at a 50/50 ratio with the difference coming from the reserve. Mr. Nietupski also suggested changing the Board dynamics. Mr. Keyser stated that he would need to look into that because the reserve funds were not built up at a 50/50 ratio.

New Business

Chief Blake announced that the following officers received a letter of recognition;

- Officer Samantha Lehman was praised by a citizen for how she handled herself on a traffic stop.
- All the Pennridge Officers were recognized from Solebury Township Police for assisting with an extensive investigation in Solebury Township.

Citizen Comment #2:

- David Nyman, Supervisor of East Rockhill Township, commended the Chief and both Township Managers for their hard work with the budget, and for working together.

Adjournment

On motion by Mr. Miller, seconded by Mr. Volovnik, to adjourn. With no additional discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 7:33 pm.

Respectfully submitted,


Rodney Blake
Chief of Police