Pennridge Regional Police Commission Meeting Minutes

January 25, 2023

The regular business meeting of the Pennridge Regional Police Commission was held at 5:00pm on January 25, 2023 in the meeting room at the Pennridge Regional Police Headquarters, 200 Ridge Road, Sellersville, PA 18960.

Present:

Jay Keyser Hal Schirmer Commissioner Commissioner Commissioner

Gary Volovnik
Paul T. Dickinson Jr.
Matt Hoover, Esq.

Chief Solicitor

Marianne Morano Greg Lippincott

East Rockhill Township Manager
West Rockhill Township Manager

Jim Nietupski David Nyman

East Rockhill Supervisor East Rockhill Supervisor

The meeting was called to order at 5 pm by Mr. Keyser with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Citizen Comment #1

There were none

Announcements:

Reorganization:

Mr. Volovnik nominated Mr. Keyser for Chairperson. Mr. Schirmer seconded the nomination, with no additional discussion, all present voted in favor. Mr. Keyser took over the meeting.

Mr. Keyser nominated Mr. Schirmer for Vice Chairperson, Mr. Volovnik seconded the nomination, with no additional discussion, all present voted in favor.

Mr. Keyser nominated Mr. Volovnik as secretary, Mr. Schirmer seconded the nomination, with no additional discussion, all present voted in favor.

On motion by Mr. Schirmer, seconded by Mr. Volovnik, to approve Resolution 2023-01 Acknowledgement of Appointments, Reappointments and Status of Existing Appointments as presented. With no additional discussion, all present voted in favor.

Consent Agenda

- A. November 17, 2022 Meeting Minutes
- B. December 14, 2022 Financial Report
- C. December 14, 2022 Payment of Bills totaling \$70,478.38
- D. December Chief's Report

On motion by Mr. Volovnik, seconded by Mr. Schirmer, to approve the January 25th 2023 Consent Agenda. With no additional discussion, all present voted in favor.

Solicitors Report: Matthew Hoover.

There was no report from Mr. Hoover.

Business

Consider Letter of Resignation from Ofc. Daniel Forbes

On motion by Mr. Volovnik, seconded by Mr. Schirmer, to accept the resignation of Ofc. Daniel Forbes effective February 12th 2023 as presented. With no additional discussion, all present voted in favor.

Consider hiring full time officer to replace Ofc. Daniel Forbes effective as early as February 13th 2023.

Discussion was had regarding moving forward with hiring a replacement officer. Chief Dickinson relayed that the department began background investigations on the top three candidates and that once the backgrounds are done he would discuss the candidates with his staff before offering a conditional offer of employment to proceed with the hiring process. Mr. Keyser expressed that communication should be had with the Commission before moving forward with a hiring.

On motion by Mr. Schirmer, seconded by Mr. Volovnik, to approve the hiring of a replacement officer, following communication with the commission, for Ofc. Daniel Forbes, all present voted in favor.

Consider signing memorandum of understanding (MOU) with Bucks County regarding the co-responder program.

Chief Dickinson presented an update on the Bucks County Upper Bucks Co-Responder program and MOU. The Chief explained that there were interviews held on January 14th2023 at Police Headquarters regarding the hiring of two co-responders that would serve the upper Bucks region of the county. Chief Dickinson then deferred to the Solicitor regarding legal concerns regarding the MOU.

Mr. Hoover presented concerns about the potential liability issues regarding an employee from the county being injured while assisting the police department. He stated he was in communication with the county and also with Delaware Valley Insurance to make sure that all coverage was sufficient. Overall Mr. Hoover expressed the need for the some clearer language to be in place to ensure the commission and department do not face liability issues moving forward.

Mr. Nyman asked about other jurisdictions regarding their involvement and what their questions or concerns were. Mr. Hoover stated he would check with the other municipalities represented by his office to get additional feedback and opinion.

Topic was tabled until next meeting.

Discussion had regarding the heating system at police headquarters.

Chief Dickinson presented to the commission that Air Management was present at headquarters today and that on of the heating delivery systems were not operating correctly. The Chief relayed he was waiting to hear back from the company with a quote. In addition, the Chief conveyed concern regarding the operating computer system of the Geo Thermal system. Air management expressed concerns about the efficiency and age of the current computer system. Also of concern was the inability of Air Management

to properly access and manage the system. If the system computer was to fail there would be no heat to the building and repair time would be unknown.

Mr. Collingwood inquired about the lead time in ordering parts and replacement if the system should fail, he suggested follow up to occur and be presented back to the board. Mr. Keyser expressed similar concern and stated that research should be done then presented to the board.

Chief Dickinson will gather more information for the next Commission meeting.

Chief Dickinson presented donation from Grace Inspired Ministries. Chief indicated he would respond with a thank you.

Citizen Comment #2:

Mr. Nyman commented that East Rockhill Township had provided \$43,000 in American Rescue Funds for body camera upgrades and new mobile data computer systems for the patrol vehicles. He also requested that a 2022 profit/loss end of year report be submitted.

Adjournment

On motion by Mr. Keyser, seconded by Mr. Volovnik, to adjourn. With no additional discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 530 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul T. Dickinson Jr. Chief of Police