

## **Berlin Police Commission Meeting Minutes Oct 18, 2023**

The Berlin Police Commission held their monthly meeting on Wednesday October 18, 2023 in the 'Doc' McIntosh Conference Room at the Berlin Town Hall, 240 Kensington Road, Berlin CT.

**In Attendance** Chairman Steven Wilson, Vice Chairman Dave Rogan, Commissioners Paul Eshoo, Melissa Urrunaga, Ryan Zelek and Deputy Chief Drew Gallupe and Sargeant John Flynn **Excused** was Chief Matt McNally

**The meeting was called to order** by Chairman Wilson at 630pm.

### **The Pledge of Allegiance.**

**Audience of Citizens**-Anata Bailey- 393 Main Street -East Berlin was on hand to address the Commission. As she was recently involved with a traffic accident near her home and she wanted to speak to the Commission regarding concern over increased vehicle speeds. Discussion involved several measures the commission could enact for temporary relief.

**Approval of minutes** as submitted for September 20, 2023 was made by Commissioner Melissa Urrunaga and seconded by Vice Chair Dave Rogan. All were in favor.

There were no Commissioner Correspondence received.

Chiefs Monthly Report- Deputy Chief Gallupe reviewed the highlights of the Chiefs report, providing an update for the recent lightning strike at the town hall. He discussed that the event raised many concerns. One resolve allowed for the town to jump onto the State Radio System. This would allow the use of many transmission towers in the area. The other option is to own their own system, but that money involved is staggering. The State system will allow for total town coverage eliminating 'dead spots' Lieutenant Martin is working with the State and will be invited to attend the next meeting.

He also shared that there are two solid candidates for hire that will be before the Commission soon. Additionally, the hiring process continues and there are another four potential candidates that may be ready to move forward in the process.

Concern over costs overrun, due to the storm, Commissioner Urrunaga inquired who would incur the added bill. Chairman Steve Wilson stated any cost from storm should go to the Town.

The 'CALEA' assessment continues and is going very well. Once the process is completed, an accreditation will be issued and this will be valid for four years.

**Old Business**-There were no questions or concerns.

**New Business**- There was a discussion with the commission regarding a Civilian FOIA position. Ideally, a retired officer who knows policy and procedures – even a reserve officer. As more FOI requests come in, it places demands on staff to fill the requests. As there is no system to track the hours officers are off the street and behind the desk securing information for the FOI.

**Motion to move into Executive Session** for the purpose of personnel matters at 708pm was made by Vice Chair Dave Rogan and seconded by Commissioner Ryan Zelek. All were in favor. In Attendance was Chairman Wilson, Vice Chair Rogan, Commissioners Eshoo, Urrunaga and Ryan. Invited to join were Deputy Chief Drew Gallupe and Lieutenant Flynn.

**Motion to exit Executive Session** was made at 721pm was made by Commissioner Paul Eshoo and seconded by Commissioner Ryan Zelek. All were in favor.

The Commission voted unanimously to promote Officer Cathy Griffin to Sargeant .

**Investigations Division Report**- Vice Chair Rogan asked if dates of occurrences could be included in future reports.

**Youth Services**- The Commission had no questions or comments.

**Support Services**- The Commission had no questions or comments.

**Patrol Operations Division**- The Commission had no questions or comments

**Administration Operations and Training Report**- The Commission had no questions or concerns

Chairman Wilson Asked if the Commission had any concerns over the department budget. Deputy Chief Gallupe advised the Commission that there is a new finger printing system from the State and it saves a lot of time. The cost to the town is with the service contract.

**FOI Request Log**- Chairman Wilson is seeking a way to track officers hours involved with FOI request.

**Motion to adjourn** was made at 734pm by Vice Chair Dave Rogan and seconded by Commissioner Paul Eshoo

Minutes submitted by

Joan Veley

Recoding Secretary/ Police Commission

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