

**Southern Police Commission
Monthly Meeting
November 2, 2016**

A public meeting of the Southern Police Commission was held on Wednesday, November 2, 2016 at the New Freedom Borough Council Chambers, 49 East High Street, New Freedom, PA 17349.

Commission Members Present: Chief Boddington, Roy Burkins, Jeff Blum, Nate Kirschman, John Trout, Jeff Halapin, Buck Buchanan, Robert Herzberger; Solicitor: Peter Ruth

Commission Members absent: Adam Rettig, Pete Schnabel

Alternate Member present: Bruce Merrill; Police Officer present: Paul Heffner

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.

PUBLIC COMMENT

- Bruce Merrill addressed the two formulas that have been discussed in previous meetings, which will determine how municipalities will be billed for police services. The 100% formula approach essentially comes out to a .10 cent per month per-capita loss. Bruce's recommendation is to split the difference where there is a disparity. Bruce also feels a vision statement should be developed for the Police Commission, as well as the formation of a Task Force to plan for the future needs of the department.
- Glen Rock resident Doug Young feels that SRPD is over-manned – especially with the possibility of two municipalities pulling out. He questioned the Commission's plan in relation to staffing the department. He wanted to make clear that Glen Rock has no issue with the officers and the quality of their service, rather, he questions the number of officers employed.

CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

- John Trout shared two letters from New Freedom Borough.
 - Notice that Brady Terrell has been appointed as an alternate to represent New Freedom Borough on the Southern Regional Police Commission.
 - Notice that rent for SRPD will increase 1.24% or \$3139 monthly.

REVIEW & APPROVAL OF OCTOBER MINUTES

- Motion made by Buck Buchanan to approve minutes from the October 5 meeting, as well as minutes from the October 18 Continuation Meeting. Second: Roy Burkins. Motion carried.

REVIEW & APPROVAL OF OCTOBER 2016 EXPENDITURES

- Monthly expenditures for October totaled \$152, 503.27 utilizing checks 10214-10247 (excluding voided checks 10216-10219).
- Motion made by Buck Buchanan to accept October expenditures; second: Jeff Halapin. Motion carried.

CHIEF'S REPORT

- Patrols were present in all municipalities on Halloween night; no incidents to report.
- Four child abuse cases reported in October.

- Burglary occurred Sunday evening at the Sunoco in Stewartstown.
- Chief Boddington followed up with a response in reference to Doug Young's comment, stating that numbers on a spreadsheet don't necessarily reflect the need for officers. At present, SRPD is staffed at the bare minimum.

INSURANCE/PENSION

- Officer Heffner spoke to the Commission; he requested that the officer's current 5% contribution rate to PMRS be reduced to zero, effective immediately, due to the overpayment by officers into the unfunded liability of the pension plan.
- After much discussion, Buck Buchanan made a motion to discontinue the 5% contribution by officers to fund the pension plan – instead zero contribution, effective immediately. Second: Jeff Halapin. Roll Call vote:
Stewartstown – Roy Burkins: nay; Rob Herzberger: yea
New Freedom – Jeff Halapin: nay; Jeff Blum: nay
Shrewsbury – Nate Kirschman: yea; Buck Buchanan: yea
Glen Rock – John Trout: nay
Motion denied.
Jeff Blum made a counter-motion that the 5% contribution to the pension plan by officers be reduced to 2%; Second Buck Buchanan; opposed: Jeff Halapin. Motion Carried.

REVIEW OF EXPENDITURES

- Total funds available: \$544, 279.88; total income is 98.5% of budget.
- Jeff Halapin shared with the commission that New Freedom Borough (pending approval at their next meeting) is not asking SRPD to leave. Therefore, the current budget which includes \$150,000 moving costs needs to be amended.
- A continuation meeting is scheduled to amend the 2017 budget, slated for Tuesday November 15, 2016.
- Question posed by Buck Buchanan re: the Health Care Rebate balance – do we transfer these funds to balance the 2017 budget, or do we give money back to the municipalities now?
- Roy Burkins made a motion to take \$75,000 out of Health Care Rebate funds, and show as a revenue source to offset the 2017 budget. Second: Buck Buchanan. Opposed: Rob Herzberger and Jeff Halapin. Motion carried.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

- Peter Ruth shared a letter from Glen Rock Borough in reference to the Joint Municipal Agreement for Southern Regional Police Services:
 - Invoking Article V Section A; freezing their consideration of the 2017 budget for 30 days. Peter Ruth will formally respond to Glen Rock Borough by November 21, after the Continuation Budget Meeting on November 15, 2016.
 - Invoking Article I Section E; executing a separation agreement which must be prepared by July 1, 2017; second: Jeff Blum. Motion carried.
- Jeff Halapin made a motion for Peter Ruth to begin working on a draft of a Separation Agreement.

ADJOURNMENT

- John Trout made a motion to adjourn the meeting until the Continuation Meeting on Tuesday, November 15, 2016. Second: Buck Buchanan. Motion carried.