NORTHERN BERKS REGIONAL POLICE COMMISSION MEETING

February 14, 2011 7:00 PM

Present Charles Berger – Leesport Borough Alternate Commissioner, Rodney Younker – Ontelaunee Township Police Commissioner, Joseph Rudderow III – Maidencreek Township Commissioner, Claude Beaver- Maidencreek Township Alternate, and Alexis Hahn – Ontelaunee Township Alternate, and Chief Scott Eaken, Ruth Manmiller-Secretary, and Whitney Rahman – Solicitor

Guests Ronald Mohl, Diane Hollenbach, Brian Horner

Joseph Rudderow III called the February 14, 2011 Northern Berks Regional Police Commission meeting to order at 7:00 PM in the Ontelaunee Township Municipal Building.

PLEDGE TO THE FLAG

For the Record – An Executive session was conducted on Tuesday January 25th at 7:30 pm at the Maidencreek Township Authority Office. The purpose of the meeting was to have an information, strategy and negotiation session related to the negotiation of the 2011 collective bargaining agreement. It began at 7:35 pm and ended at 9:10pm.

MINUTES – January 10, 2011 Reorganization Meeting

Charles Berger made a motion, seconded by Rodney Younker, to approve the January 10, 2011 Reorganization Meeting minutes as presented. All Commission members voted, "Aye." Motion carried.

MINUTES – January 10, 2011 Commission Meeting

Rodney Younker made a motion, seconded by Charles Berger, to approve the January 10, 2011 Commission Meeting minutes as presented. All Commission members voted, "Aye." Motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Ruth Manmiller presented the January Treasurer's Report that included the fund balances, the year to date budget report, and documentation of all transactions. Rodney Younker made a motion, seconded by Charles Berger to approve the January 2011 Treasurer's Report, approving payments/transfers from the Money Market Accounts, Checking Account, Payroll Account and Health Benefits Account. All Commissioners voted, "Aye." Motion carried.

Ruth Manmiller informed the Commissioners of the poor customer service Health First has provided since our October 2011 renewal. The standard process: the Officer provides an invoice and an EOB, Ruth emails to Health First, Health First reviews information and emails an invoice to Ruth, Ruth electronically transfers funds to Health First, bills get paid. Since our renewal (10/1/2010) the process has deteriorated to the point of officers receiving two and three late notices, rude phone calls at home and most recently an officer was denied health care because his account had been forwarded to collections.

Ruth has contacted the claims processor, her supervisor several times about the delays in the claims process and most recently had the Chief contact her supervisor. The Chief promised to contact her supervisor once more. If the process does not improve, our complaints will continue up the ladder until something is done.

Rodney Younker made a motion, seconded by Charles Berger authorizing the Commissioners to sign the new signature cards for Fleetwood Bank and Vist Bank accounts. All Commissioners voted, "Aye." Motion carried.

CHIEF'S REPORT

Chief Eaken read the January 2011 Northern Berks Regional Police activities report and commented on several arrests made during this time period.

- Mandatory Update Training is scheduled for each officer occurring gradually for the next four months.
- Sgt. Mohl will attended a Motor Carrier Seminar as a guest of Brenntag Northern East
- Officer #1 is still on disability, tentative return in 6 weeks
- Officer # 2 is off on sick leave, tentative return 3/11/11

OLD BUSINESS

Code of Ethics

At the January 10, 2011 Commission meeting the Chairman distributed a "Code of Ethics" outline for the commissioners to consider and sign. The Chairman asked for comments and consideration to adopt. Rodney Younker stated the Code of Ethics is great however; he would not sign because he signed an ethics code when he became an Ontelaunee Township Supervisor. Charles Berger had no comment. Matter was tabled.

Web Site

The Commissioners requested a progress report for the Northern Berks Regional Police web site at the January Commission meeting. Chief Eaken commented that the Officer in charge of designing the web site is currently out on sick leave. Prior to his sick leave this Officer leaving had encountered problems with the county web site. The Chief promised to have more info on the direction the web site will take by the next meeting. The Commission requested a counter on the web site.

Engagement Letter

Rodney Younker made a motion, seconded by Charles Berger authorizing the Chairman to sign the Roland Stock engagement letter which outlined services and billing procedures for our new solicitor – S. Whitney Rahman. All Commissioners voted, "Aye." Motion carried.

Marked Police Vehicles

Rodney Younker asked when the next police vehicle would be marked. Chief reported there would be no price negotiations with the current vendor and he plans to contact another vendor in the near future however; he will proceed with marking the vehicle as soon as the weather improves.

CORRESPONDENCE - None

BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR - None

NEW BUSINESS

AG-385 – Pension
Ruth Manmiller presented the completed AG-385 for the Auditor General. This report determines the Foreign Fire Insurance/State's Contribution to the pension plan. Charles Berger made a motion, and it was seconded by Rodney Younker authorizing the Chairman to sign the AG-385 form to be forwarded to the Auditor General. All Commission members voted, "Aye." Motion carried.

AG-64 – Pension
Ruth presented the completed AG-64 for the Auditor General. This report provides information relative to the retired officer's or widow's compensation from the pension plan. Charles Berger made a motion, and it was seconded by Rodney Younker authorizing the Chairman to sign the AG-64 form to be forwarded to the Auditor General. All Commission members voted, "Aye." Motion carried.

Aggressive Driving Agreement
Rodney Younker made a motion, seconded by Charles Berger authorizing the Chairman to sign the Aggressive Driving Agreement for 2011 which included a recent addendum relative to comp time. All Commission members voted, "Aye." Motion carried.

Resolution 2011-1 – Pension Contributions
Charles Berger made a motion, and it was seconded by Rodney Younker, adopting Resolution 2011 -1 to clarify that 2011 Pension contributions will be paid by the Northern Berks Regional Commission as a result of previous contractual agreements. Commissioners Joseph Rudderow III and Charles Berger voted, "Aye." Rodney Younker voted, "No." Motion carried. ***Pennsylvania State Auditors requested a yearly resolution for this matter*.

FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER

Rodney Younker questioned how the officer's uniform allowance is utilized. Chief commented that each officer does not have a uniform allowance however; each officer is instructed to request replacements when the need arises.

Alexis Hahn asked if the Association's grievance was going to be addressed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION 7:53-PM - 8:11 PM
Personnel issues.

Charles Berger made a motion, seconded by Rodney Younker authorizing the Solicitor to reply to Attorney Gavin's letter relative to the Association's grievance. All Commission members voted, "Aye." Motion carried.

Charles Berger made a motion, and it was seconded by Rodney Younker to adjourn the Commission meeting at 8:13 PM. All Commission members voted, "Aye." Motion carried.

Submitted By,
Ruth M Manmiller
Northern Berks Regional Police

CC: Maidencreek Township Board of Supervisors
Ontelaunee Township Board of Supervisors
Leesport Borough Council
Diane Hollenbach, Maidencreek Township
Alexis A. Hahn, Ontelaunee Township
Sandra Weiser, Leesport Borough
S. Whitney Rahman