

**BEAVER VALLEY REGIONAL POLICE DEPARTMENT**  
**MANAGING COMMISSION**  
**REGULAR MEETING – THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 2023**

1. **Call to Order, Pledge of Allegiance** – Meeting called to order by Chairman Scott Levenson
2. **Roll Call** – Eric Climo, Mike Lucci, Debbie Rose, John Shelkons, Michael Stuban, Dawn Singleton, Scott Levenson
3. **Meeting Minutes – August 10<sup>th</sup>, 24<sup>th</sup> and September 14<sup>th</sup>**

Not available

4. **Administrators Report**

Elaine Rakovan went over the packet that she distributed to the board members that included: bank statement balance, check list, time off tracking for each officer, budget and gas usage report.

- a. **Resolution 23-07 stating that the police department does not need to contribute to the pension fund for the year 2024.**

**Motion** by Michael Stuban, second by Eric Climo to adopt resolution 23-07.

**b. Pension Solicitor**

Elaine Rakovan stated that she reached out the pension representative to see if he could assist in finding an attorney to help with the transition of the Rochester Township pension plan. Garon Fedeles was the attorney recommended by the pension company. Garon was the solicitor for Rochester Township and understands the pension process. Garon will only charge \$150/hour for services regarding the pension.

**Motion** by Michael Suban, seconded by Mike Lucci to approve Garon Fedeles as the pension attorney.

**c. Grant**

Elaine Rakovan stated that she submitted the \$150,000 grant. The entire grant was 87 pages long.

Scott Levenson stated that at the next meeting we will review the financial. Starting next month, they would like to meet the second Thursday of each month.

## **5. Chief's Report**

Debbie Rose asked Chief Johnston about the large amount of overtime and part time hours. Chief Johnston explained that the overtime was for covering open shifts, vacation/time-off and special event coverage.

Debbie Rose asked if comp time results in overtime. Chief Johnston stated that it does not at this time.

## **6. Old Business**

- a. 2024 Budget and BVRPD Resolution admitting Rochester Township to the Regional Agreement fully ratified by all Municipalities.
- b. Offer for FT Officer position made and accepted by Joseph Howard from Hopewell Township PD.

## **7. Review "To Do" List**

### **a. Grants**

\$150,000 grant has been submitted by the Elaine Rakovan.

Chief Johnston spoke with the Nicole Long at the county and will be meeting with the commissions on Tuesday regarding the county grant funding.

Elaine Rakovan said she can submit grant funding for safety police supplies from our insurance company.

### **b. Rochester Township and Body Cams**

Chief Johnston stated that MGSoft has been working on this for the past two days.

### **c. Vest**

Some of the police officers' vests are expiring at the end of the year. Elaine Rakovan stated that she will submit the grant to the insurance company for police vests.

**d. School Resource Officer**

We have heard nothing from Class Academy regarding SRO services. Chief Johnston stated that they have arrested 5 students from Class Academy already. Discussion followed. DA Lozier stated that he spoke with Jeremy Angus from Class Academy and the academy does not have \$90,000 to pay for an SRO. All of the grant funding that Class Academy is getting will not cover an SRO.

Scott Levenson stated that there was some response regarding the SRO for Freedom School District. Freedom Borough passed a resolution withdrawing all granted jurisdiction for New Sewickley from Freedom Borough. Eric Climo (Freedom Borough Councilman) stated that he made the motion at the Freedom Council meeting stating “any and all jurisdictional contracts are null and void (rescinded) with New Sewickley Township.

**e. Auditor**

**Motion** by Michael Stuban, second by Debbie Rose to have Mark Turnley CPA do the 2023 audit for the BVRPD.

**f. SRO Job Description**

No update

**g. BVRPD Parking**

Scott Levenson stated that Conway Council will not put signs saying no skate boards/bikes allowed in the parking area. They are willing to put up signs that say ride skateboards and bikes at your own risk. Conway Council will talk with HOPE to see if some parking spaces could be moved around. Conway Council did agree to try and get playground vehicle parking to the bus lanes along the road and put a gate entrance on that side of the playground.

**h. BVRPD Sign**

Debbie Rose stated that speaking with Eric Climo about a sign for the building, it would be cheaper to place the BVRPD Badge (Logo) and a sheet of metal and hang that on the building. Debbie Rose said she would need to get Conway’s council approval. Eric explained that the sign can be lit up with one light below it. The size would be 10’ by 15’.

## **i. Police Cars**

One of the vehicles needed a new transmission. A used transmission with labor cost \$2,000. Another vehicle needs a new exhaust. Cost for the exhaust was \$1,000 and labor \$200.

New police vehicles are being look into by officer Stitt and Sgt. Shipley. They are looking a V6 Durango's. This would be a cost savings of \$3,000 - \$4,000 per vehicle. The goal is to lease the vehicles across three years with full ownership at the end of the lease. This is how Baden Borough did their vehicle purchases. Eric Climo expressed his concerns with purchasing a V6 versus a Hemi.

## **j. Fire Arms**

Chief Johnston stated that they have a lot of older fire arms and equipment. If the commission is ok with it, he would like to sale the older fire arms and modernize what they have. This would include purchasing pepper ball guns. The commission had no issue selling the outdated and unused fire arms and equipment.

## **8. New Business**

### **New Officer Start Dates & Prorated Sick Days**

Scott Levenson stated that the way the contract reads the officers gets 112 hours of sick time on the first of the year but it does not address new hires. Sgt. Shipley stated that it breaks down to 9 1/3 hours per month. Discussion took place prorating the sick time hours.

**Motion** by Debbie Rose, second by Michael Stuban to prorated sick time for new hires.

### **Holiday Party**

The commission agreed to have a party. Debbie Rose stated that she will take care of the party arrangements.

## **9. Public Comment**

Mike Lucci stated that he has 12 keys made up for police access to the gas tank in Rochester Township. The regional just needs to get a receipt book where they

can put a copy in the mailbox by the pump and keep one copy for the BVRPD. Melissa from Rochester Township will bill the regional monthly.

Mike Lucci stated that Rochester Township has drug money. He was instructed to give the money to Elaine Rakovan for deposit into the regional drug account.

#### **10. Adjournment**

**Motion** to adjourn by Debbie Rose, second by Dawn Singleton at 7:16 PM.

**NEXT MEETING – Thursday, October 12 and/or 26, 2023, at 6PM at Conway Municipal Building.**

Respectfully submitted for approval,

Elaine K. Rakovan