

CENTRAL BERKS REGIONAL POLICE COMMISSION
January 11, 2024

The January 11, 2024, meeting of the Central Berks Regional Police Commission was called to order at 6:30 PM by John Theodossiou. The meeting opened with the pledge to the flag.

The meeting was turned over to Solicitor Mark Merolla.

NOMINATIONS FOR CHAIRMAN, VICE-CHAIRMAN, SECRETARY, AND TREASURER

John Theodossiou was nominated for Chair. Ryan Maurer was nominated as Vice-Chair. Todd Weikel was nominated for Treasurer and Christine Dise was nominated for Secretary. There were no more nominations.

MOTION TO: nominate John Theodossiou for Chairman, Ryan Maurer for Vice-Chairman, Christine Dise for Secretary, and Todd Weikel as Treasurer.

MOTION BY: Mr. Maurer SECONDED BY: Mr. Theodossiou

ROLL CALL VOTE: Maurer Aye, Theodossiou Aye and Stief Aye.

The meeting was turned over to the Chair.

ASSIGNMENTS OF COMMITTEES

- a. Administration/ Personnel
- b. Finance
- c. Insurance/Pension
- d. Building/Equipment

Administration/Personnel will be Maurer and Theodossiou. The other three committees are tabled till the next meeting.

Commissioners answering roll call included Ryan Maurer, John Theodossiou, and Roger Stief. Also, in attendance was Mark Merolla, Solicitor; Raymond Serafin, Chief of Police; and Rochelle Gresh, Executive Asst. to the Chief of Police. Absent: James Oswald, Todd Weikel and Christine Dise.

Members of the audience in attendance are Mayor of St. Lawrence Corrie Zana, Joe Duda, Michael Janvrin, Borough Manager Hunter Ahrens, Samson Audino, and several police officers from Central Berks Regional Police Department and family members of the three new police officers to CBRPD.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION: Samson Audino spoke to the commission on how he is open to supporting the community and was grateful for the opportunity to donate to our Shop With the Cop Event.

MOTION TO: Ratifying the hire of Busch and Hernandez effective January 3, 2024, at the rank of recruit for patrol officer.

MOTION BY: Mr. Theodossiou SECONDED BY: Mr. Maurer VOICE VOTE: All in favor

Swearing in of three new police officers Busch, Hernandez, and Yeager was led by Theodossiou.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION (continued) - Joe Duda our actuary spoke on the pension and the results of the asset smoothing study done. Duda's recommendation is to go to 7% and use asset smoothing. Discussion was tabled till the March meeting. Mr. Janvrin spoke on the stock market and the current economy.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

MOTION TO: approve the November 2, 2023, meeting minutes as presented.

MOTION BY: Mr. Maurer SECONDED BY: Mr. Theodossiou VOICE VOTE: All in favor

FINANCIAL REPORTS:

MOTION TO: Approve Accounts Payable & Payroll Invoices from General Fund as of November 30, 2023, in the amount of \$327,280.13.

MOTION BY: Mr. Theodossiou SECONDED BY: Mr. Maurer VOICE VOTE: All in favor

MOTION TO: approve accounts payable & payroll invoices from General Fund as of December 31, 2023, in the amount of \$236,537.80.

MOTION BY: Mr. Theodossiou SECONDED BY: Mr. Maurer VOICE VOTE: All in favor

MOTION TO: approve Treasurer's Report for November 2023 in the amount of \$607,078.08 and Treasurer's Report for December 2023 in the amount of \$569,701.41.

MOTION BY: Mr. Theodossiou SECONDED BY: Mr. Maurer VOICE VOTE: All in favor

SOLICITORS REPORT: No Report

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Administration/Personnel:

Assistant Chief or Equivalent Position: Roger Stief had three questions. Is there was a job description? Theodossiou stated not at this time. The position is for someone to come in for a short time to help offset the learning curve since our current police chief is retiring in two years. The decision will not be made until next year. Is the salary in the budget for this year? Chief stated no, this is for the year 2025. Is this an open hiring process? Chief stated Commission handles this. Theodossiou stated we traditionally hire within if we have a qualified candidate.

MOTION TO: Ratify Resolution 14-23 as of November 27, 2023, to apply for Local Share Assessment grant in the amount of \$160,000.00.

MOTION BY: Mr. Maurer SECONDED BY: Mr. Theodossiou VOICE VOTE: All in favor

MOTION TO: Ratify payment of \$100.00 on November 27, 2023, to apply for the Local Share Grant.

MOTION BY: Mr. Maurer SECONDED BY: Mr. Theodossiou VOICE VOTE: All in favor

Discussion was held on the local shares grant and the letter our solicitor sent to PCED in regard to our eligibility.

2024 Resolutions

1. **Resolution 01-24 Adoption of fee schedule for 2024**
2. **Resolution 02-24 Appointment of Engle-Hambright & Davies, Inc., as insurance agent**
3. **Resolution 03-24 Appointment of OneAmerica as life insurance and long-term carrier**
4. **Resolution 04-24 Appointment of MRM WC Pooled Trust as worker's compensation carrier**
5. **Resolution 05-24 Appointment of Feaster Pension Consulting, Inc. as plan administrator for the Central Berks Regional Police Pension Plan**
6. **Resolution 06-24 Appointment of Duda Actuarial Consulting, as actuary for the Central Berks Regional Police Pension Plan**
7. **Resolution 07-24 Appointment of Atlas Wealth Partners as financial advisor for the Central Berks Regional Police Pension Plan**
8. **Resolution 08-24 Appointment of Brumbach, Mancuso & Fegley P.C. as solicitor for the Central Berks Regional Police Commission**
9. **Resolution 09-24 Appointment of Rochelle Gresh as Open Records Officer**
10. **Resolution 10-24 Appointment of Rochelle Gresh as Assistant Secretary/Treasurer for the Central Berks Regional Police Commission**
11. **Resolution 11-24 Appointment of Herbein & Company, Inc. as financial auditor for the Central Berks Regional Police Commission**

MOTION TO: approve Resolutions 01-24 thru 5-24 and 7-24 thru 11-24. (Resolution 6-24 was skipped)

MOTION BY: Mr. Theodossiou SECONDED BY: Mr. Maurer VOICE VOTE: All in favor.

Finance: No Report

Insurance/Pension: Discussion was held on the police pension plan interest rate study proposed by Joe Duda.

Building/Equipment: No Report

REPORTS OF THE CHIEF AND SECRETARY:

Chief: Chief Serafin presented his monthly report for November and December 2023. The items that still need to be purchased with the grant are the generator and our Record Management system Pathfinder. They expect Pathfinder to be up and running at the end of 2024.

Secretary: No Report

UPDATES:

Lower Alsace Township: No report

Mount Penn Borough: New Borough manager Hunter Ahrens

St. Lawrence Borough: No Report

Police Association: No Report

Codes: Reports were given to Commission members for the fourth quarter and year end.

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS: None

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Was held from 7:05PM-7:09 PM to discuss personnel issues. No action was taken. It was informative only.

ADJOURNMENT:

The next regular meeting is scheduled for March 7, 2024, at 6:30PM at the Mount Penn Borough municipal building.

MOTION TO: adjourn the meeting at 7:11PM

MOTION BY: Mr. Stief SECONDED BY: Mr. Theodossiou VOICE VOTE: All in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rochelle M. Gresh,
Executive Assistant to Chief of Police