

TOWN OF NORTHWOOD
POLICE COMMISSION
6/14/2022

Chairman John Schlang calls the meeting to order at 4:59 pm at the town hall.

PRESENT: Chairman John Schlang, Commissioner Justin Miller, Commissioner Scott Bryer, Chief Glen Drolet, and Police Commission Administrator Linda Smith.

Minutes:

Motion is made by Commissioner Bryer, second by Commissioner Miller to approve the minutes of 5/17/2022 as written. Vote: 3/0.

Selectman Chairman Hal Kreider is present to speak to the commission about continuing to promote the idea of a safety complex, or two separate facilities for fire and police. He states that he believes the police station is most in need and presents a greater liability to the town. He states that he would like to see a new committee be formed to continue to discuss the options and continue to keep the issue in front of the community. He states that he has met with some resistance to a committee but feels it is necessary to solve the problem at some point in the future.

He notes that the new committee would consist of a selectman that would represent the fire department, a police commissioner to represent the police department and three citizens at large. He believes there will be citizens willing to serve on the committee. It would be up to those selected to determine how often to meet; he suggests once a month at a minimum. The police chief and fire chief, or their designees, would serve in an advisory capacity to the committee.

Chief Drolet states he is most supportive of the idea and is well aware of the need for a new facility as he has been dealing with the substandard space for many years. He states that one obstacle may be to change the safety complex fund back to a police facility fund as it was changed previously at town meeting. He adds that he does not think a safety complex is feasible and is 100% in favor of a separate police facility.

Selectman Kreider states that when the town placed numerous properties for sale by auction last year there were several that were retained for various reasons. One property that the town owns is an 8 acre parcel on Main Street. This could be looked into whether this property would be useable for a police station.

Selectman Kreider asks the commissioners if any of them would be willing to volunteer to serve on the committee. Commissioner Miller states that he is very interested in seeing the police facility be addressed and is willing to serve on the committee.

CHIEF'S REPORT:

Chief Drolet reports the following statistics for May 2022:

Calls for Service	Arrests	Motor Vehicle Accidents	MV Warnings Issued	Motor Vehicle Summons	Business/Property Checks
281	8	12	58	13	410

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Budget: Chief Drolet distributes the expenditure detail report. Currently there is 50.86% remaining in the department budget and 98.85% in the ACO budget.

Purchase Orders:

Chief Drolet distributes a purchase for review and signature:

1. \$918.35 W.B. Mason, file cabinet

Cruisers: Chief Drolet is pleased to report that the repairs to Car 1 are finally completed and it will go to AMI for graphics.

Building: Chief Drolet reports that Chris Brown re-shingled the roof on the garage; this was paid with federal ARPA funds.

Personnel: Chief Drolet states there are two positions and the school resource position open. He has received two applications; neither is certified. He adds that he is looking into the idea of doing radio advertising through I Heart Media. He does not have any firm costs at this time to relay.

Correspondence: Chief Drolet reports that he received additional 91-A requests and is continuing to work with town counsel on this matter.

New Business:

1. Chief Drolet reports that there was a recent incident on Bennett Island that was handled by the state police. They did not request Northwood PD to assist.
2. Chief Drolet reports that he met with Mr. Scholz and Mr. Barna regarding concerns they had with speeding on Gulf Road. He states he came up with a game plan to address their concerns and had a 2 hour patrol in the area today.
3. An untimely death that occurred this week is being investigated.
4. Commissioner Bryer states he was asked by a citizen if the department has an Explorer program. Chief Drolet responds that they do not. He adds that he does not have the manpower to do a program of this type now but can be considered in future. He notes that he would consider a Citizen's Academy, which is similar but includes both adults and juveniles.

Motion to adjourn is accepted at 5:24 pm

Respectfully submitted,



Linda Smith, Police Commission Administrator