



Evans City/Seven Fields Regional Police
Commission Meeting Minutes

July 25, 2022 @ 5:15 p.m. (Seven Fields)

Members Present Dawn Servello, Dean Galitsis, Cheri Deener-Kohan, Dean Zinkhann, Patty Tumminello-Murphy, Sandy Hein, Tom Smith, Regional Police Administrator, and via phone conference call Matt Racunas, Solicitor.

Cheri Deener-Kohan requested to open the agenda to discuss the ECSF Regional Police Department's Charter Agreement. Matt Racunas, the Solicitor, stated the agenda does not need to be amended for a discussion, but any amendments to the Charter Agreement will have to go back to both the Borough of Seven Fields and Evans City Borough councils and pass with a 2/3 vote. Patty Tumminello-Murphy questioned how the borough councils will know what to vote on if the police commission does not discuss what they feel needs to be amended. Cheri Deener-Kohan asked the ECSF Police Commission members if they could look at the Charter Agreement, discuss if anything needs to be amended, and then take it back to their respective borough councils. Sandy Hein questioned the value of the ECSF Police Commission going through the Charter Agreement if it has to go to both borough councils and we do not know if it will continue. She added that it should first go to the borough councils to see if they want changes, then have their delegates meet. Patty Tumminello-Murphy stated that all the borough council members may not know the issues. Cheri Deener-Kohan said she just wanted to discuss the Charter Agreement to take away any obstacles before it goes to the borough councils. Dean Galitsis questioned if the borough solicitors have met with each other regarding the Charter Agreement, then how do their council members not know what the issues are? Patty Tumminello-Murphy suggested that both the Seven Fields and Evans City ECSF Police Commission members go to each other's borough councils so the council members can hear both perspectives. Sandy Hein suggested that it may be more productive if each police commission member reviews the Charter Agreement and comes back with what they think needs changed. Cheri Deener-Kohan made a motion to put a discussion about the ECSF Regional Police Department's Charter Agreement on the July 25, 2022 agenda. Patty Tumminello-Murphy and Dean Zinkhann seconded the motion. Dawn Servello, Dean Galitsis, and Sandy Hein opposed the motion. Motion failed.

Dawn Servello made a motion to approve the May 16, 2022 meeting minutes as amended. Patty Tumminello-Murphy seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The payables (5/16-7/14/2022) were presented. Patty Tumminello-Murphy questioned why the police secretary had to personally pay for officer business cards which were ordered from Vista Print. Vista Print no longer takes payment via check. She asked if obtaining a credit card for the ECSF Regional Police Department had been looked into. Regional Police Administrator Smith responded no since the credit card has not been put back on a meeting agenda. He suggested that the Borough of Seven Fields could use their credit card for the ECSF Police Regional Department purchases and then invoice the police department for the expenses. Matt Racunas stated that most municipalities use a credit card versus a debit card to reduce the chances of having to pay fraudulent charges if they happen to occur. Dawn Servello made a motion to add the credit card to the August 2022 meeting agenda. Cheri Deener-Kohan seconded the motion. Motion carried. Sandy Hein made a motion to approve the payables (5/16/2022-7/14/2022), as presented at this meeting. Dawn Servello seconded the motion. Motion carried.

The Commission Members reviewed the Evans City Seven Fields Regional Police Department's Calls for Service for May and June 2022. Regional Police Administrator Smith noted that Evans City Borough had 73 calls in May and 79 calls in June; the Borough of Seven Fields had 87 calls in May and 91 in June. Cheri Deener-Kohan commented that warning and citation numbers are up so enforcement seems to have increased. Dawn Servello said she feels that warning and citation numbers are down from year to year.

Regional Police Administrator Smith requested approval for changing the ECSF Regional Police Department's email provider from Course Vector/PA State Association of Boroughs to Microsoft 365 at the cost of \$1,800 per year. Course Vector is no longer providing email service. Sandy Hein noted that Microsoft Office 365 is better at logging into email with a phone or laptop. Cheri Deener-Kohan requested that for security, 2-step verification is mandatory. Mr. Smith responded that Jeff Gooch, the IT specialist, already has taken care of that. Sandy Hein made a motion to approve the use of Microsoft 365 email (\$1,800/yr.). Patty Tumminello-Murphy seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Regional Police Administrator Smith reviewed the 2022 ECSF Regional Police Department's 2nd quarter budget analysis and fund balances. He stated that the department is doing well and under the 50% projected, with 43.2% of the budget spent. He mentioned that Officer Di Cesare was hired full-time at another department and has reduced his hours. Patty Tumminello-Murphy asked if he is supposed to be available for 32 hours per week. Mr. Smith stated we do not have an employment agreement. Dean Galitsis stated Pennsylvania is considered an "at-will" employment state. Patty Tumminello-Murphy asked why only 1% of the amount budgeted for training was spent. Mr. Smith said there were times that the police commission did not send the officers to training. He continued by stating the hearing with the PA Labor Relations Board is in August. Matt Racunas, the Solicitor, added if this is discussed it should be in an executive session. Mr. Smith requested that Matt Racunas provide the police commission members with a legal overview memo of the PA Labor Relations Board filings. Matt Racunas agreed and said it will contain the status of the filings and what is going on. Cheri Deener-Kohan asked if we can recoup money from officers' uniform expenses if an officer does not work for the department soon after being hired. Sandy Hein noted if wearing a uniform is a condition of employment, we can't recoup those costs from the employee.

Regional Police Administrator Smith presented a quote for a new laptop from Innovative Public Safety for Chief McCombs at the cost of \$1,500. He explained the hard drive in Chief's laptop is failing and cannot be repaired. Dawn Servello made a motion to approve the purchase of a new laptop for \$1,500. Cheri Deener-Kohan seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Cheri Deener Kohan asked if all the police commission members have a copy of the Charter Agreement. Everyone responded that they did. She requested that the Charter Agreement be reviewed at the August ECSF Regional Police Commission meeting. Dean Galitsis said they can go over the Charter Agreement with their borough council members before the August police commission meeting so it can be reviewed.

Sandy Hein stated that she is unavailable on August 15th and 22nd which were the dates advertised in the Butler Eagle for the August 2022 ECSF Regional Police Department Police Commission meeting. Another ad would need to be placed if the meeting is rescheduled to August 29, 2022.

Dawn Servello made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:05 pm. Dean Galitsis seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Lori Brooks
ECSF Regional PD Secretary