

**BERLIN POLICE COMMISSION  
MONTHLY MEETING  
PUBLIC SESSION**

**DATE:** February 5, 2026  
**TIME:** 7:30 A.M.  
**PLACE:** BERLIN POLICE DEPARTMENT CONFERENCE ROOM

**I. Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order by Comm. Berthiaume at 07:30 A.M.

**II. Roll Call:** Comm. Berthiaume, Comm. Morin, and Comm. Arguin were present.

**Others Present:** Chief Lemoine, Deputy Chief Roy, Jennifer Cloutier, Det Wade Goulet, and Lt. Bill Daisey

**Recorded by:** Hollie Walters

**III. Pledge of Allegiance**

**IV. Moment of Silence**

**V. Acceptance of Minutes of January 8, 2026:** The public and nonpublic minutes were unanimously accepted on a motion by Comm. Arguin, Seconded by Comm. Berthiaume.

**VI. Monthly Financial Report:** The Chief pointed out one of our new vendors, Allcom, who is replacing a previous vendor, Ossipee Mountain Electronics. The financials were accepted on a motion by Comm. Arguin, Seconded by Comm. Morin.

**VII. Old Business-**

**A. Opioid Abatement Funds:** The Chief handed out a proposal from the Family Resource Center in reference to a drug-free community grant. During their coalition meetings, there has been discussion about hiring a coordinator and using opioid abatement funds to cover the coordinator's salary. This would be a six-month pilot program funded through the Family Resource Center. The Chief discussed the breakdown of the funding they are requesting. The Chief supports the Family Resource Center proposal and would like to submit a resolution to bring it before the City Council. A motion by Comm. Morin, Seconded by Comm. Arguin, was unanimously accepted by Comm. Berthiaume to accept putting the proposal through with a resolution to the City Council.

**B. RMS System Update/Demos:** The Deputy Chief and Comm. Supervisor Jenn Cloutier have had some demos of some new RMS systems presented to them. Jenn said we probably have about 2-3 years remaining in the current RMS system. The Deputy Chief discusses various versions and options for the new RMS system. Comm. Berthiaume noted that the system may need to be purchased within this budget cycle.

- C. Radio Tower:** The Foundation for the new radio tower has been put in. There is some underground electrical work to be completed. We submitted an amendment to the grant funding for this project to implement the recommended enhancements. We are currently waiting to hear back from the grant on this. The Deputy Chief discussed funding and which line items we will use to cover fees that the grant will not cover.
- D. Annual Meeting:** The annual meeting went well. The Chief reviewed the training we covered during the meeting. We held our annual luncheon, team building, and awards.
- E. Retiree Breakfast:** We had the third annual retiree breakfast, and it was well attended.
- F. Budget FY'27:** The budget will be presented on March 2, 2026. Comm. Berthiaume scheduled a work session on February 12, 2026, to discuss the FY' 27 budgets.
- G. Other:** We received the call duty memorial brick for Comm. Pivin. We will invite the family to join us in the spring, when we can install the brick in her memory.

## **VII: New Business**

- A. Hiring update:** We have a new officer starting Sunday, February 8<sup>th</sup>. We have a conditional offer out on a dispatcher. We now have 4 open patrol positions. Comm. Morin had a question about overtime. The Chief discussed the staffing and overtime hours. We are 100% spent on overtime, but have savings in salaries that will offset the overtime line time.
- B. Drug Paraphernalia Ordinance:** Lt. Daisey talked about the new ordinance that we would like to put before the council. Lt. Daisey said the money from this ordinance would go to the city, rather than to the state, as with the Marijuana citations. Comm. Morin asked if this had been run by the City Attorney. The Chief said he believes that is part of the Council's process. A motion was unanimously accepted on a motion by Comm. Arguin with a second by Comm. Berthiaume.
- C. Prosecution Update:** Will discuss at the next meeting.
- D. Personnel Policy Update:** The Chief presented to Comm. with an update that we would like to make to the personnel policy. One change to be updated is the disability insurance amount for non-union employees, increasing from 400 to 500 per

week to align with the union contract. The other change would be to revert the language for non-union employees' personal bank days to the language of past practice. A motion made by Comm. Morin, Seconded by Comm. Arguin, was unanimously accepted by Comm. Berthiaume to update the Personnel Policy.

**E. Correspondence:** We received a thank-you letter from Sherry Young, who recently retired from City Hall. We received a flyer for officers to participate in the Battle of Badges from the Children's Hospital in Dartmouth.

**F. Stats:** Domestic Violence and Criminal Trespass stats have increased. Comm. Berthiaume asked about the increase in Milan calls. The Chief explained the reasoning for the increase. Comm. Supervisor Cloutier explained that Milan has been handling more out-of-town transfers since the change in the ambulance service. This is also part of the increase in calls.

**G. Other:** The Chief mentioned Councilor Theberge had contacted him to apologize for his outburst at the city council meeting on Monday, February 2<sup>nd</sup>. He liked to attend meetings more regularly. Councilor Theberge was present.

**VIII. Public Comments:** Councilor Robert Theberge was present and wanted to apologize for his outburst at the City Council Meeting on Monday, February 2<sup>nd</sup>. Comm. Berthiaume asked Councilor Theberge why he did not come to her or the Chief to address his concerns before making his comments public. Comm. Berthiaume would like Councilor Theberge to apologize publicly for his comments. Comm. Morin said its public perception creates false impressions if not corrected. Councilor Theberge agreed and said he would like to attend meetings more regularly to better understand the commission process and the department. The timing of the meeting was discussed. Previously, meeting times were adjusted to accommodate the public. There was no difference in the public's attendance. It was decided to continue the meetings at 7:30 am. Councilor Theberge had questions about the Radio Tower grant and the tower's location. Deputy Chief answered Councilor Theberge's question. Councilor Theberge asked whether we had reviewed other departments' personnel policies compared with ours. Andre Bergeon was present at the meeting and had a question on the smoking paraphernalia ordinance. Andre asked whether people with medical cards would be cited under this ordinance. The Chief answered Andre's question. There was a discussion on the posting of the agenda. The agenda is posted in three places. Comm. Berthiaume noted that, since the agenda and minutes are posted, people can stay informed about upcoming meetings. Andre mentioned posting the agenda and or minutes in the daily Sun newspaper. There is a fee required to post anything in the paper. Andre mentioned that ICE is in town, taking up arms, and Oath Keepers. It has been publicly stated that we are not part of ICE. Councilor Theberge had one more comment in reference to AI. AI is becoming more prevalent worldwide and could cause disruption in the future; this should be kept in mind.

**IX. Adjournment of Public Meeting:** At 8:34 am, Comm. Arguin motioned, with a second by Comm. Berthiaume, to move into a nonpublic session per 91-A:3 II. The nonpublic session was adjourned at 9:09 am with a motion from Comm. Arguin, with a second by Comm. Morin; we then moved back into a public meeting. No decisions were made in the nonpublic session, and the minutes were sealed on a motion by Comm. Morin, seconded by Comm. Arguin, as their release could adversely affect the reputation of a person other than a member of the Commission. The public meeting was adjourned at 9:10 am, motioned by Comm. Morin, with a second by Comm. Arguin.

The next Commission meeting will be held on **March 12, 2026, at 7:30 a.m.**

Note: Minutes are unofficial until they have been accepted by the Police Commission by motion.