



**Town of Port Deposit
Public Safety Committee Meeting Minutes
November 2, 2021**

CALL TO ORDER – Chairman Brown called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

PRESENT – In person: Chairman Brown, Mayor Kuhs, Town Administrator Rinkerman, Treasurer Sookiasian and Chief of Police Smith. Via Zoom: Councilman Knight

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – The minutes from the August 24, 2021 and October 5, 2021 Public Safety Meeting were presented.

Motion made by Mayor Kuhs to approve the August 24, 2021 minutes. Seconded by Councilman Knight. All in favor. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion made by Councilman Knight to approve the October 5, 2021 minutes. Seconded by Chairman Brown. All in favor. Motion carried unanimously.

POLICE GRANT UPDATE – Treasurer Sookiasian explained the police grant that the town receives each year and the formula which determines the amount of money received. He stated that the town is in jeopardy of losing the grant based upon the amount of hours that Chief Smith and the Cecil County Sheriff's Office is working.

Councilman Knight inquired about the reasoning behind the decrease of shifts covered by CCSO. Discussion ensued on the matter regarding the shortage of Deputies available.

Mayor Kuhs stated that he would like Chief Smith to cover some of the shifts during the week rather than weekends since she has scheduled CCSO for weekends only.

Chief Smith stated in order to cover shifts she is in need of the computer system and radar unit previously requested. The Committee reiterated that they had previously provided Chief Smith permission to purchase the equipment requested.

Councilman Knight stated that he would like to see statistics or a report providing details of the radar unit, benefits, and expected usage prior to approving the purchase of a new unit. Chairman Brown agreed and stated that he would like to meet with MDTA Lt. Bowser first to see what resources they have available and to see if the town can obtain a commitment from them clarifying the frequency of patrolling in town. Chairman Brown stated that this is a way to control expenses and to review and take advantage of the resources at hand before spontaneously purchasing a new radar unit.

2nd FLOOR USE – Treasurer Sookiasian presented the idea of offering the vacant 2nd floor office to the Cecil County Sheriff's Office (CCSO) as a satellite office. He stated that the other offices are on the other side of the county, so offering this office might be beneficial for the officers when in the area. Treasurer Sookiasian stated that in return, there would be police cars parked outside the building when occupied, thus creating more of a police presence in town. Chief Smith stated that she will bring up the offer/suggestion at the next intelligence meeting in addition to sending out an official letter.

EQUIPMENT UPDATE – Treasurer Sookiasian stated that he will pursue the purchase of an air card and cell phone at the same time once Chief Smith has her laptop computer, if the computer does not come with an air card.

Mayor Kuhs questioned the need for the purchase of additional patches. Chief Smith responded that people collect and trade patches as a hobby and she is in need of 2 new patches for her jacket.

UPDATE FROM CHIEF SMITH – Chief Smith will present her report at the November 2, 2021 Town Council meeting.

Meeting was adjourned at 6:56 p.m. The meeting was recorded and audio is available upon request.

Approved:



Kevin Brown, Chairman