

The regular meeting of the Thurmont Police Commission was held on Wednesday, September 24, 2008 at 7:30 p.m. Present were: Chairman Thomas Iaccarino; Paul Nolan; Patrick Hait; Keith Naff; Ed Hutson; Lt. Williar; Commissioner Muth, and Jim Rada.

The first item on the agenda was the approval of the August 27, 2008, meeting minutes. A motion was made and seconded to accept the minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

The second item on the agenda was a report from Lt. Williar on TPD activities for August 2008. Statistics were previously disseminated. Comm. Muth asked if the 11 thefts and 11 vehicle thefts were the same. They were not; they were simply coincidental. Also, for clarification, the DUI arrests counts are included on the adult and juvenile arrest totals. Mr. Naff asked for information on the officer assaulted. This occurred during a traffic stop when an officer was kicked several times in the leg. There were no other comments.

Regarding the TPD dedication ceremony, Lt. Williar thanked the Police Commission for their assistance in making the event a success. Chairman Iaccarino commented that over 150 people showed up, mostly citizens in Town. Also, so many people came up to him and thanked him for such a great building. He further commented that everyone had a great time. He also noted how helpful Kirby's truck was to transport the chairs to and from the Ambulance building.

Lt. Williar did add that Christopher McLoughlin has been promoted to Sergeant within the department.

Mr. Naff took this time to make a recommendation for a letter of acknowledgement for Officer Vince Testa. He summarized how Officer Testa made a presentation to the Cub Scouts regarding a police officer's duties. He also presented Lt. Williar with a thank you card to be given to Officer Testa.

Chairman Iaccarino mentioned that the Police Commission was given a plaque from the TPD for their commitment on the new building project.

The next topic on the agenda was planning for National Night Out. Lt. Williar stated that a date has yet to be set. This year, NNO would be held at the PD parking lot. Chairman Iaccarino asked Lt. Williar to inform the Commission of a date and time and how they could assist. Comm. Muth noted to remember Halloween in the Park is already planned for Oct. 25<sup>th</sup>.

Next agenda item included a discussion on future Police Commission projects. Chairman Iaccarino suggested identifying grants available to the Department. Commissioner Muth suggested an analysis occur into the cost benefits of TPD having an intoximeter. This analysis would include its benefits on FCSO and MSP, as well as, Thurmont. Comm. Muth also reminded the Commission of his suggestion a few months ago about researching new technologies. Chairman Iaccarino mentioned the addition of a K9 Unit. Commissioner Muth also suggested improvements to the gun range,

specifically the ability to use lead ammo again. Chairman Iaccarino also mentioned that several years ago, he compiled a master list of upgrades/wants of the department. He mentioned that he would make this list available to the members. Lt. Williar did note that satellite phones were listed on our application for the latest homeland security grant. It was also suggested that the group investigate into the costs that would be associated for CALEA fees. Chairman Iaccarino also mentioned that next month a more detailed discussion would occur about retention and recruitment for sworn and civilian staff.

Under the topic of new business, Comm. Muth noted that there was a problem with ground water at the gun range. Although we passed all testing, it was suggested that we go to non-lead bullets and put down lime intermittently. He recalls that the Core of Engineers did offer to help since the Marines use the range so much. He again suggested the Commission look into somehow reengineering the outdoor range so that lead ammo would not cause issues. Comm. Muth also mentioned his complaint with motorcyclists driving around town without mufflers.

Regarding old business, Mr. Nolan asked when the landscaping of the new police building would occur. Comm. Muth noted that he would address the issue at Monday's meeting. Mr. Naff asked if the agenda, as well as meeting minutes, could be posted on web and Channel 99. He also suggested listing public comment as an agenda item each month as a way to inform citizens they are welcome to attend. Comm. Muth also informed the Commission of the Town's live streaming video available to use in the Town Office.

A motion was made and seconded to be adjourned. The Commission voted unanimously. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Carrie Stumpf