



# Long Beach Police Commission

## Meeting agenda / minutes

April 6<sup>th</sup> 2023 Quarterly meeting

4:00 pm CT

Meeting location: Town Center also Via zoom, link provided on the Town website

### **Commission Members Present**

Chief Mark Swistek

John Kocher

Bob McFadden

John Wall

### **OLD BUSINESS**

- ❖ **New Patrol Unit:** Update: The 2023 Ford F-150 Police Responder unit is completed and assigned to Deputy Farthing on the night shift. The previous 2013 Police Ford Taurus is in the process of being sold through public bid. Bids will be opened on Monday April 10<sup>th</sup> during the Town Council meeting.
- ❖ **Firearms testing with Glock:** Update: The new handguns have been ordered and we expect to receive them in 90-120 days. Next week Thursday January 12<sup>th</sup> we will be meeting with Kiesler Police supply and a representative of GLOCK to test fire the GLOCK model 45 9mm handgun with an optic system. Joining us will be the LaPorte County Sheriff department, Michigan City Police Department, and the Trail Creek Police department. We are looking to upgrade the current issued sidearm that our Deputies carry to include an optic system mounted on the weapon.
- ❖ **CRISIS outreach program:** Update: Deputies Jason Yagelski and Deputy Mitchell Sights have completed the national certification after 40-hours of classroom instruction. We received \$2200.00 reimbursement for each officer that attended the grant funded training. \$4400.00 so far this year that will be deposited into our Continual training budget. LaPorte County Law Enforcement was the recipient of a grant for a "Crisis Intervention Team. The team will focus on community intervention to substance use, instability, and suicidal support. The grant period is July 1<sup>st</sup> 2022 through December 31<sup>st</sup> 2024. Overall goal is to reduce the trauma that people experience during a mental health crisis and provide valuable resources for mental health services. Similar programs are being launched nationwide in response to the growing mental health concern. In January-March 2023 the training will be offered to officers of LaPorte County.
- ❖ **New Public Safety facility:** Update: Project is moving closer to the start of construction. Still pending a final decision on the options for financing the new facility, either the building corporation or commercial bank loan. Thank you to Councilman John Wall and the team that worked to get this project moving forward in 2023.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

- ❖ **Drone Purchase:** Prosecutor Sean Fagan has purchased the police department a police drone for \$8,500.00. The drone will be used for search and rescue, investigations, and tracking fleeing individuals. Deputy Farthing is a FAA Federal certified drone pilot. Thank you to Prosecutor Fagan for using the deferral funds to purchase the equipment.



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- ❖ **Polaris 6-seater ATV:** On March 20<sup>th</sup> we took delivery of the new 6-seater Beach operations ATV unit. The unit is currently waiting for the upfit of lights, siren, radio, and the medical insert. Thank you to Britt Whitfield for her generous donation of \$10,000.00 towards the purchase of the unit. The remaining funds to purchase the unit were from the golf cart revenue fund as this vehicle will be used to patrol the beach stops looking for golf cart permit violations also.
- ❖ **Golf Cart annual permit process:** In December we amended the Town Ordinance related to the registration of golf carts. The annual permit was changed from an annual permit for \$50.00 to a two-year permit for \$100.00. Therefore, the 2023-2024 permit will cost residents \$100.00. We have the new permits and registration is now open to the public. Information will also be available on the Town's website. Longbeachin.org Question was asked recently if a golf cart that is registered with the State BMV does it still require a Town permit. Answer: is yes, all golf carts are required to be registered with the Town.
- ❖ **Underage drinking concerns:** Last year we received several complaints reference underage drinking on the beaches in the evening hours. We will be discussing an operational plan to address these concerns this year to include additional manpower deployed to the beach in the evening. We encourage parents to have the underage drinking discussion with their young adults. Underage drinking is an arrestable misdemeanor criminal offense.
- ❖ **Reserve Deputy Marshal unit:** We are in the process of adding a new Deputy Marshal to the Reserve Deputy unit. The new member, Brandon Hugley will need to complete firearms training, 40-hour pre-basic academy training, taser certification, to include additional training, and 100+ hours of FTO training.
- ❖ **Police Memorial ceremony:** The LaPorte County Police Memorial ceremony will be held on Friday May 12<sup>th</sup> at 11am at the Michigan City FOP located at 416 E. US 20. This ceremony is open to the public and a free luncheon follows the services. Annually we host this event to honor the LaPorte County officers who have died in the line of duty and to remember our retired members who are no longer with us. Keynote speaker this year is the State of Indiana Secretary of State Deagio Morales.
- ❖ **Spring Leaf pickup: Starts April 24-28<sup>th</sup> for one week.** Residents are asked to rake the leaves to the edge of their property and to keep the leaves off the roadway. No sticks or large items are to be placed in the piles as it will damage the leaf vacs. Crews will start on the west end of town on the 24<sup>th</sup> moving east.
- ❖ **Departmental policies updates:** We are in the process of updating our Department Policies as several are required by the mandates from the Indiana Law Enforcement Training Board (LETB). Policies related to vehicle pursuits and use of force were updated on April 6<sup>th</sup>. There is also a resolution in front of the Town Council for consideration on Monday April 10<sup>th</sup>. The resolution acknowledges the adoption of the mandated state uniform policies. Goal is to continue updating other department policies.



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**Public Comments:** No one present: None

**Commission Comments:** None

**Adjournment:** Concluded meeting at 4:26 pm

**Next meeting is September 7<sup>th</sup> 2023 at 4:00 PM**

Agenda/Minutes prepared by: Chief Mark Swistek