

CENTRAL MARIN POLICE COUNCIL

HELD AT
CENTRAL MARIN POLICE AUTHORITY BUILDING
250 DOHERTY DRIVE
LARKSPUR, CA 94939
ON
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 2019
AT 6:00 P.M.

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

ROLL CALL

The Central Marin Police Council Special Meeting was called to order at 6:01 p.m. by Chair Ravasio.

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

Bob Ravasio, Chair/Council Member, Town of Corte Madera
Larry Chu, Vice Chair/Council Member, City of Larkspur
Sloan Bailey, Council Member, Town of Corte Madera
Catherine Way, Council Member, City of Larkspur
John Wright, Chair/Council Member, Town of San Anselmo
Ford Greene, Council Member, Town of San Anselmo

COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT:

None

STAFF PRESENT:

Dan Schwarz, Larkspur City Manager
Michael Norton, Chief of Police
Zaneta Feleo, Police Council Clerk

STAFF ABSENT:

Todd Cusimano, Corte Madera Town Manager
Dave Donery, San Anselmo Town Manager
Tom Bertrand, CMPA Police Council Attorney

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

OPEN TIME FOR PUBLIC EXPRESSION

47 Chair Ravasio asked if any members of the public would like to address the Council, and there
48 were no speakers.

49

50 **REPORTS AND COMMENTS**

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52 **A. COUNCIL MEMBERS**

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54 Council Member Way introduced herself as now being officially on the Council in place of Ann
55 Morrison. She also shared that she was once in the Twin City Times Police Blotter in 2005
56 which she read out loud.

57

58 **B. MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**

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60 There were no reports or comments.

61

62 **C. CHIEF'S COMMENTS**

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64 Police Chief Norton read and presented a commendation for Vice Chair Larry Chu for his service
65 on the Police Council since January 2010. He relayed the many accomplishments by Vice Chair
66 Chu since his start, and a round of applause followed.

67

68 Vice Chair Chu stated this was his last meeting and he said he really learned a lot about law
69 enforcement and enjoyed working with the many members and CMPA staff.

70

71 Chief Norton recapped the PSPS (Public Safety Power Shutoff), stating that about 100 gallons of
72 fuel was used per day to power the generator. Approximately 50 to 60 gallons of fuel are
73 needed to run police vehicles and they needed to use the San Anselmo public works station.
74 They also purchased many charging strips, said the Community Room was opened 24/7 and it
75 was the first center in the area to provide outlets for the community and they are also looking
76 at the possibility for a Wi-Fi upgrade as there not much capability to provide Wi-Fi within this
77 event.

78

79 Additional considerations for future events were the Nixle text option and high/low European
80 sirens for any emergencies which alerts people to evacuate their homes.

81

82 Council Member Way asked about any Sonoma/Santa Rosa comparisons regarding a mass
83 evacuation.

84

85 Chief Norton thinks it is better to err on that side than the other, given early morning hours of
86 that event and little time to get people evacuated from their homes.

87

88 Vice Chair Chu asked if any CMPA employees were impacted by the event.

89

90 Chief Norton commented there were some people that got evacuated and personnel were
91 communicating with group emails and texts. Those evacuated chose to stay with their families,
92 but housing was offered within the station and local employees, including volunteers who
93 offered housing to any displaced CMPA families. He noted the County OES was activated so
94 there were other locations for relief. Lastly, they decided to put up traffic signs at intersections.
95

96 Council Member Way asked if CMPA experienced any increase in 9-1-1 calls for service. Chief
97 Norton said no; but many families had called for a variety of non-emergency reasons and they
98 were told that updates would be provided as necessary. Conference calls were conducted
99 three times a day, and they are also looking to improve traffic control when stop lights go out.

100
101 Council Member Greene commented that the traffic went from good to bad.
102

103 City Manager Schwartz explained that once stop signs are put out, they assume legal
104 responsibility for managing intersections and accidents. They have immunity under state law
105 when traffic lights are out from accidents, and a lengthy debate was held about whether or not
106 they should put the signs out.

107
108 Council Member Green suggested that the law needs to be changed such that CMPA has
109 immunity from this during PSPS events.
110

111 City Manager Schwartz commented that the County put out stop signs but did not turn off
112 traffic lights and once electricity was back on; they were fully functional.
113

114 Council Member Bailey thinks putting out signs is a good move, and City Manager Schwartz
115 agreed but said he would hope that State law would be revised.
116

117 Council Member Way asked if generators would be placed in busy intersections.
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119 City Manager Schwartz responded that this would be too difficult as far as costs of having
120 personnel there, and he noted that Caltrans has only been electing to power certain
121 intersections on State highways because of the difficulty.
122

123 Council Member Way also asked about the San Anselmo hub.
124

125 Chief Norton said that there was a generator and it went out. There were some problems with
126 it, and two officers had directed traffic until they got gas back in it.
127

128 **CONSENT CALENDAR**
129

- 130 A. Approval of Minutes: August 8, 2019
131 B. Acknowledge Central Marin Police Authority's Warrant List – July 1, 2019 to
132 September 30, 2019

133 C. Acknowledge staff report regarding Insurance Fund activity – July 1, 2019 to
134 September 30, 2019

135
136 Chair Ravasio opened the public comment period and asked if there was anyone wishing to
137 remove an item.

138
139 ACTION: It was M/S/C (Greene/Wright) to approve Consent Calendar Items A, B and C, which
140 carried by the following vote: 6-0 (Ayes: Andrews, Chu, Greene, Way, Wright and Ravasio;
141 Noes: None; Absent: None).

142

143 **BUSINESS ITEMS**

144
145 A. Resolution No. 2019/10 – Modifying the hourly rate of the Central Marin Police
146 Authority part-time police cadets
147 *Recommendation: that Council receives presentation and approves Resolution*
148 *2019/10 regarding modifying the hourly rate of the part-time police cadets.*

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150 Chief Norton explained the need for the increase in the pay range as it had not been increased
151 since inception in 2013 for the position of a Police Cadet which used to be a Community
152 Services Officer. They had established a pay range of between \$14 and \$18 per hour and they
153 have not modified it since 2013.

154
155 They rely on cadets to do 95% of their parking enforcement and also use the positions as
156 pipelines for future officers. Out of 9 Cadet available positions, 4 positions are unfilled, and
157 they have got less and less candidates given the cost of living in Marin and available private
158 sector positions. He stated they are currently paying \$17/hour and approval of the hourly rate
159 increase of \$18/hour to \$23/hour would be a nominal fiscal impact fiscally they can absorb into
160 their budget.

161
162 Chair Ravasio opened the public comment period, and there were no speakers.

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164 ACTION: It was M/S/C (Bailey/Greene) to approve Resolution 2019/10 regarding modifying the
165 hourly rate of the part-time Police Cadets, which carried by the following vote: 6-0 (Ayes:
166 Andrews, Chu, Greene, Way, Wright and Ravasio; Noes: None; Absent: None).

167
168 B. Resolution 2019/11 - The Central Marin Police Authority Council to set meeting
169 schedule for 2020
170 *Recommendation: that Council discusses and approves Resolution 2019/11 on*
171 *setting a schedule of Regular Police Council meetings for calendar year 2020.*

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173 Chief Norton explained there are generally four regular meetings per year and in the past, they
174 have been held on the second Thursday in February, May, August, and November at 6:00 p.m.
175 They follow the Brown Act procedures and are recommending the Council adopt Resolution
176 2019/11 to establish the regular meeting schedule for 2020.

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Chair Ravasio opened the public comment period, and there were no speakers.

ACTION: It was M/S/C (Greene/Wright) to approve Resolution 2019/11 setting the meeting schedule for 2020, which carried by the following vote: 6-0 (Ayes: Andrews, Chu, Greene, Way, Wright and Ravasio; Noes: None; Absent: None).

ADJOURNMENT

The Council adjourned the regular meeting at 6:30 p.m. to the next regular meeting on February 13, 2020 at 6:00 p.m.

Lisa Harper, Minute Taker
c/o Central Marin Police Council