

**MEETING POLICE & FIRE COMMISSION  
BERLIN, WISCONSIN  
BERLIN CITY HALL – 2<sup>ND</sup> FLOOR COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
APRIL 4, 2018 – 6:30 PM**

President Lindahl called the meeting to order. Present: Commissioners Guden, Pionke, and Eckstein (4). Excused: Marks (1). Also present were Chief Plantz and Ald Secora.

Motion by Guden to approve the open session minutes for the March 7, 2018 meeting as presented with no additions or corrections, seconded by Eckstein and carried by voice vote.

Motion by Pionke to approve the open session minutes for the March 26, 2018 meeting as presented with no additions or corrections, seconded by Eckstein and carried by voice vote.

Motion by Guden to approve the closed session minutes for the March 26, 2018 meeting as presented with no additions or corrections, seconded by Pionke and carried by voice vote.

Emergency Services Director Gary Podoll and Fire Chief Paugels were both absent due to an ongoing fire in the City. Pionke reminded the public to be mindful of the burning regulations especially with the dry grasses. Motion by Guden to approve and file the Fire Department Report and vouchers for payment, seconded by Eckstein, and carried by voice vote.

Chief Plantz stated there were 315 calls for service which the department is up 100 calls from last year at this time. Capt. Block held an Active Shooter Training at Wisconsin Spice for all their employees and made multiple recommendations for safety. Chief Plantz handed out door knob hangers being put on some residences as a reminder that the spring pick up is April 23-27<sup>th</sup> and a post card is then also sent to the landlord if there is one. City has been split into 3 sections in the PD for spring cleanup and also looking to engage tenants and landlords. Officer Krause spearheaded the process and paperwork and is doing a great job. A Department meeting was held the prior week with all employees in attendance. Chief stated that with all the new promotions and young group of new officers it is the new age in the BPD and the future of our community. Lindahl questioned the type of calls increasing and why with Chief Plantz stating multiple drug cases and the younger officers getting more involved and active, long time property owners are gone and properties are being bought by landlords and have more of a transient population. Chief Plantz stated he was in Madison for the signing of a new domestic abuse law. Lindahl also questioned needing more personnel with discussion ensuing by both Chief and Capt. Block that the department strives to maintain patrol protocols and be proactive but it becomes very stressful and more reactionary. Pionke stated that the financial aspect of personnel is controlled by the Council and additional personnel request needs to be presented to Council. Berlin is the largest community in our County and also has the largest income based housing. Ald. Secora questioned tapping into other resources if needed and Capt. Block stated that we do but even the funding for the CWDTF in down to \$90,000 versus the \$186,000 in 2005 Chief Plantz stated that we did have a 13<sup>th</sup> officer in 2004 but the position was lost due to budget and in these times of increased state mandated laws, electronic requirements, and need to present more details to present cases it becomes more time oriented. Motion by Pionke to approve the police department report and vouchers for payment, seconded by Guden, carried by voice vote.

Chief stated Officer Jason Young has become the County's 13<sup>th</sup> deputy and wished him well. Motion by Guden to accept Officer Young's resignation, seconded by Eckstein carried by voice vote.

Chief Plantz stated Bradley Kurczek has certainly earned the Sergeants promotion and is a smart, intelligent, savvy officer and respected by Chief, Captain and all the staff. Kurczek will be replacing Sgt. Jones and Capt. Block thanked Tim for his years of service and assisting Kurczek and other officers. Motion by Eckstein to approve Chief's promotion of Corp. Kurczek to Sergeant of Investigations effective April 5, 2018. Motion seconded by Pionke and carried by voice vote.

Capt. Block reviewed and explained the few changes to the Use of Force Policy which took place two years ago and with the definition of deadly force changing. Guden requested that the document have a time and date stamp showing when it was approved. Secora questioned pg. 10 sec B regarding prohibited items and it was explained with Captain stating that 90% has not changed from the previous revision. Motion by Guden to approve the updated revised Use of Force policy with the added stamped date, seconded by Eckstein, and carried by voice vote.

Alarm permit for Patriot Place, 609 Broadway which Chief Plantz stated was reviewed and in order. Motion by Eckstein to approve alarm permit for Patriot Place, seconded by Guden and carried by voice vote.

Hiring update: Two conditional offers of employment were made to #1 applicant Matthew Mayer scheduled to start April 16<sup>th</sup> and the second offer to Brady Felmer who is scheduled to start April 19<sup>th</sup>. Both passed the psychological testing and will still need to complete the physical agility, drug tests and physicals. Hope to have both out on the road by early July.

Old Business – None

New Business: None

Public Appearances: None

Motion to Adjourn by Pionke, seconded by Eckstein and carried by voice vote.

*Submitted by Vicki Murphy*

Next scheduled regular meeting Wednesday, May 2, 2018 at 6:30 PM at the Berlin City Hall