

**MEETING POLICE & FIRE COMMISSION
BERLIN, WISCONSIN
BERLIN CITY HALL – 2ND FLOOR COUNCIL CHAMBERS
APRIL 5, 2017 – 6:30 PM**

President Pionke called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm. Present: Commissioners Guden and Eckstein (3). Excused: Lindahl and Marks (2). Also present were Chief Plantz, Emergency Services Director Gary Podoll, Fire Chief Paugels, and Ald Secora.

Motion by Guden to approve the March 1, 2017 minutes as presented, approve the March 27, 2017 minutes with the correction made in paragraph 2 adding motion seconded by Marks and carried by voice vote, and closed session minutes from March 27, 2017 approved as presented. Motion seconded by Eckstein and carried by voice vote.

Podoll stated the department has had lots of calls (42 YTD), Engine 69 fixed with air leak and saws up to date, have ordered three bunker pants. Podoll reviewed burning permits and what the law allows according to ordinance #05-03 which was reviewed by all commissioners which includes all cooking fires require UL tested appliances. Reviewed the burning paperwork that is given out to persons and a copy of the permit. Permits are not issued in residential areas and if there is a fire without a permit, a citation could be issued. During grass fire season, need to look at the Smoky sign or can call DNR Hot # to determine if low to moderate (ok to burn) or high to extreme there is no burning. The DNR does bill for grass fires and then pays a percentage back to the local fire department. Motion by Guden to approve and file the Fire Department Report and vouchers for payment, seconded by Eckstein, and carried by voice vote.

Chief Paugels presented Kevin Garza who then stated he used to drive for ambulance and would like to give service back to the community and learn about firefighting. Podoll stated Kevin had passed the physical agility and Chief Paugels stated Kevin would have to do the Firefighter 1 class in the fall. Motion by Eckstein to approve Kevin Garza as a member of the Berlin Fire Department, seconded by Guden, carried by voice vote.

Chief Paugels stated in 2015 they had contacted the Tomahawk DNR main station for equipment regarding availability of used trucks. Jeep #163 was sold 3 years ago for \$7,750 and old command truck was sold for \$5330. Green Lake Fire Dept will buy the Wildland skid unit for \$3600. Podoll described 2 units they are looking at through the DNR (2000 or newer); Single axle truck for \$12,925 and a Dual axle truck for max amount of \$14,425 which will have cabinets put in it and already have a pump to put on it. Purchase price for the two DNR trucks would be maximum of \$27,350, credit of \$13,080 from past sale of 2 vehicles, credit of \$3,600 from sale of skid unit to Green Lake FD and then taking \$10,670 out of FD budget (no pagers needed this year and no one going to convention) which would create a zero cost to the city. If bought new the two trucks would cost over \$300,000. Podoll would be notified by DNR when the final selection of trucks were available to review and would then go to Tomahawk to look at and take pictures and then bring back to decide with Chief Paugels. Podoll stated that Jodie had approved the purchase with Podoll stating Jodie had worked with the department to get final numbers. Decaling and striping would probably be done next year. Motion by Guden to approve the acquisition of the two DNR trucks and forward to Common Council, seconded by Eckstein and carried by voice vote. Commissioners stated Podoll and Paugels had done a good job getting everything together.

Chief Plantz stated there had been 250 calls for service in March with several lengthy investigations still ongoing. Monday was Sgt. Patterson's last day after 27 years and all joined in thanking him for his years of service and to his wife Barb and wishing him a wonderful retirement. Chief stated he had always done an excellent job and spent the majority of his career on the midnight shift. The two new officers are Lucas Meyer and Carly Kolodzik with both having been given a conditional offer of employment and will stagger their employment by about 3 days with Lucas having seniority. They will stagger between the two FTO officers Schroeder and Strahan spending 3 days with each on different shifts. Neither can work midnight shift alone until off probation.

Had a full department meeting last Thursday discussing the new abatement ordinance with Zoning and Economic Development Director Lindsey Kemnitz in attendance so there is no duplication of effort. The first goal will be to concentrate on all the main thoroughfares in the City focusing on zoning and junk in the yards. The abatement also includes if 3 or more negative contacts at a residence including apartment buildings. August 1, 2017 is scheduled for National Night Out, which last year over 16,000 communities participated and will include demonstrations, games for children, food, fire service, and Theda Star. Vicki Murphy and Officer Schroeder will be setting up a PD facebook page and will then be able to get more information out to the public including information on scams and community information. Motion by Eckstein to approve the police department report and vouchers for payment, seconded by Guden, carried by voice vote. Pres. Pionke thanked both Fire Dept and Police Dept for what they do and have done.

Old Business – None

New Business: None

Public Appearances: None

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

Submitted by Vicki Murphy

Next scheduled regular meeting Wednesday, May 3, 2017 at 6:30 PM