

**MEETING POLICE & FIRE COMMISSION
BERLIN, WISCONSIN
BERLIN CITY HALL – 2ND FLOOR COUNCIL CHAMBERS
June 03, 2020 – 6:30 PM**

President Lindahl called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm. Present: Commissioners Marks, Jenkinson; Excused: Guden; Retired: Eckstein. Also present: Chief Lind, Assistant Chief Pulvermacher, Emergency Management Director Gary Podoll, Fire Chief Bob Paugels, and Liaison Alderman Lehr.

Lindahl approval of open minutes for March 04. Motion by Marks to approve the open session minutes for the March 04, 2020 meeting as presented with no additions or corrections, seconded by Jenkinson and carried by voice vote; None opposed.

Fire department expenses, motion to approve of fire department vouchers and payments by Marks, second by Jenkinson and carried by voice vote; None opposed.

Fire Dept reports and updates: Podoll stated nothing to report aside from previous night's storm, June 02. Lightning strike hit a house and it started on fire. People within the home were safely evacuated. The home's electrical system was damaged and that is how the fire spread. It left burn marks throughout the electrical system and showed signs of burning on insulation in attic. Fire Chief Paugels stated these fires are very dangerous as the lightning can travel a long way and in this case blow out a toaster on the other end of the home from the strike. Podoll stated there was a pump test done and passed.

Lindahl: BPD expenses: Motion by Marks to approve the police vouchers for payment, seconded by Jenkinson, carried by voice vote; None opposed.

BPD reporting updates: Chief Lind: stated that Assistant Chief Pulvermacher has the statistical reports for the fire/police commission to review. Assistant Chief Pulvermacher: stated that he will continue to hand out the report at the meeting to give the most accurate report. But also indicated that if that is not something everyone wants he will send with agenda packet. Pulvermacher: stated that traffic stops were down due to COVID-19. The bar graph shows the most accurate information on police presence within the past month. Chief Lind: asked if there are any questions regarding the graph. Marks: stated that it gives good history and with further months it will be a good way to look at how things are. Lehr: really likes this information and feels it would be good to send to the council meetings as well. Pulvermacher: asks when to send the graph, Lehr: stated the following month would be just fine.

Chief Lind: stated Ripon Rd has been under construction and at first not everyone was obeying the road closure signs. Increased patrol was then done on that road starting with warnings but gradually went to citations as drivers were not adhering to the signs. It was noted that within one day there were 31 traffic stops on that particular road. These traffic stops help to ensure safety of the construction crew and citizens. Marks: asked when the closure will end, Chief Lind: stated it is believed to end late summer.

Chief Lind: stated that the past month during the COVID-19 efforts the police officers are using more PPE to interact with citizens and during traffic stops. He believes this helps greatly with keeping the officers safe and these efforts will continue even after COVID is over.

Chief Lind: stated they have used zoom meetings with other chiefs around the area to deal with COVID issues and will continue doing these meetings to deal with other police issues. This also provides an opportunity to do sharing of information in regards to other issue within the country.

Chief Lind: stated that Georgia has retired after 19 years of service. The PLSO position will be looked at with the school. Officer Horn has also left from the PD and has gone to Dodge CO Sheriff Office. Officer Horn left on good terms and was a great officer; always welcome to come back if he so chooses. New officer of J. Smith he has been with the PD for about 6 weeks now and seems to be a good fit within the PD. He grew up in Green Lake and knows the area. Officer Bennett has fully recovered from his work related injury and is now back on to full status.

Chief Lind: stated that we now have mobile Spillman working within our squads' at large part to Assistant Chief Pulvermacher who worked very hard with the IT dept to get that up and running. Pulvermacher: stated that this new system will help to make things more efficient with records management. It shows the call type and what is going on with the officers responding. It also gives the officers the ability to add information while they are on scene instead of the old way which was coming back to the office to do reports. The workflow is now able to be reviewed by a supervisor and after that will then go to administrative assistant for dissemination of reports to appropriate departments. Lindahl: this seems like it will bring the efficiency level up. Chief Lind: It will and will help to keep the officers out on the road more instead of in the office.

Chief Lind: Training during COVID-19 has been a challenge but all necessary training has been completed for the DOJ. All officers had to do firearms training and were able to do so with the course and all have passed.

Chief Lind: Our PBT, breathalyzer units are very old and have continued to fail. The department currently has three units to work with. The County has bought new units for their department and with that we were able to secure two of their "older" units. They work just fine and will replace two of our malfunctioning units. It may be a purchase later that will have to be made for the department to replace all units.

Chief Lind: stated we implemented an awards system for the officers. Assistant Chief will designate a committee to help establish the award system as well as meet semiannually to determine who would get awards. It is a great way to show accomplishments for officers and the department. During our fall meeting it could be a way to have a formal award ceremony. We have also started a longevity program that gives out pins and awards to officers showing how long they have been with the department. Sgt Kurczek and Strahan were awarded with 10 years and Officer Krause was awarded with 20 years. The officers seem happy to be recognized with the pins and awards for their service.

Chief Lind: a new patch will be able to be unveiled soon. It has been in the works for a while with input from the community. Once the new patch is ready the old will be retired.

Chief Lind: stated that squad 59 may be cursed as it was struck multiple times within the past couple months and has recently been in a deer accident totaling \$4,600 of damage for insurance claim. It is now back in service and has recently sustained some scratches.

Chief Lind: the PD has undergone some renovations and now has a better pass through window for the citizens to interact with police department personal. It also makes the PD more approachable and gives a better experience.

Chief Lind: the policy and procedures are continually being updated and will continue to get those updated. The ordinance fees are being reviewed concerning their bond amount. These ordinances will be updated with council.

Chief Lind: On June 10 they will be meeting with school to talk about PLSO position and will also be attending the graduation ceremony set for this Saturday.

Chief Lind: Recruitment update: there were 16 applications for the officer position but only 8 were certified and those people have been provided with the prescreen packets. With this the interviews will hopefully start next week. Marks: Questioned if hiring for officer will you look at PLSO and would this then be at capacity for PD. Chief: PLSO is an important position and will likely be filled with an officer from within and the new officer recruits will go forward to hopefully be able to pick two to fill department needs. Mark: then the PD is at 100%? Chief: Yes Lindahl: could you give insight on interview process. Chief: interview normally has a board and it seems to work very well to have a board of people involving council/outside agency/Lindahl/AC/Chief. It is a good way to get different points of view when hiring. During COVID the normal situation was not feasible so in order to hire we used Facebook messenger to have interviews with the applicants. It is something that is hoped to continue when interviewing as the first part, then face to face interviews with remaining candidates.

Assistant Chief Pulvermacher: There is a large amount of found bikes in our possession. There are about 20 bikes. These bikes are not of great quality but it's our hope to donate to children in need instead of what was previously done which was a silent auction. Lehr: how is the process on donations? Chief: Would like to donate to boys and girls club. Lindahl: stated play it again sports is looking for bikes and may pay for them. Chief: stated a proposal will be put together for the bikes and found property can be claimed after a certain amount of time. But will need to check statues to be sure the process.

Chief Lind: The city is looking for a grant that would give them 1.2 million dollars but in order for that to happen the Use of force policy needed to be updated. The updates are in items 5-6-7. The new policy has gone in front of the council and was approved and now wish for approval on commissioners. Marks: all of

the legal stuff is okay? Lehr: yes. Marks motion to approve use of force policy Jenkins seconds; None oppose.

Old Business – None

New Business: None

Public Appearances – None

Motion to adjourn by Lindahl at 7:10pm, seconded by Marks and carried by voice vote.

Next meeting Wednesday July 01, 2020

*Submitted by Stephanie Skivers
Administrative Assistant*

Next scheduled meeting will be Wednesday, July 01, 2020 at 6:30 pm at the Berlin City Hall