

**MINUTES**  
**MEETING POLICE & FIRE COMMISSION**  
**BERLIN, WISCONSIN**  
**BERLIN CITY HALL – 2<sup>ND</sup> FLOOR COUNCIL CHAMBERS**  
**October 07, 2020 – 6:30 PM**

President Justin Lindahl called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm. Present: Commissioners Ed Marks, Chris Jenkinson, Joanne Guden, Dan Johnson and Justin Lindahl. No one absent. Also present: Acting Chief Pulvermacher, Fire Chief Paugels, Liaison Alderman James Lehr, City Administrator Jodie Olson, Officer Plath, Officer Knetzger, Corporal Schroeder, Fire department member Jordan Cassidy; Berlin Journal: Scott Mundro and Public appearance: Family members of Plath; Robert Plath, Gina Plath, Lawrence Huver, Cameron Huver, Rebekah Plath, Kristen Klaver.

Under approval of minutes, Guden moved to approve the August 05, 2020 P&F Commission minutes with corrections on page two of motion to closed session. Marks seconded the motion which carried by voice vote.

Under approval of closed session minutes, Guden motioned to approve the August 05, 2020 closed session minutes. Marks seconded the motion which carried by voice vote.

New officer Zachary Plath was sworn in by Acting Chief Pulvermacher.

Marks moved to approve the fire department expenses. Johnson seconded the motion which carried by voice vote.

Chief Paugels stated that with approval of committee we ask to approve hiring of Jordan Cassidy. Guden motioned to approve of the hire and second by Marks which carried by voice vote.

Paugels informed that the department had seven calls this past month. There will be maintenance for the trucks that will go until December. Due to the increase of Covid-19 all training has been suspended for in person. The training will continue to be available through online efforts.

Johnson moved to approve the Police Department expenses as presented. Marks seconded the motion which carried by voice vote.

Acting Chief Pulvermacher stated that the chart provided to the commission shows that traffic crashes are up. There was a stolen vehicle that was recovered in another county. It appears to be linked to the same individual that has stolen other vehicles in the past. There was a targeted event of an in home robbery. The investigation is ongoing and there appears to be no threat to the community.

Under police activity updates, Pulvermacher explained, we have nine officers signed up for online training. The new radios have been purchased and will hopefully be available by the end of the week. There is one officer out on leave due to non-work related injury. Officer Bennett is now officially the PLSO for the school and doing well. The electronics will need to be replaced for the new squad car and we have some estimates for that. The union continues to be helpful with flexibility in keeping overtime low by flexing officer's schedules. Policy and procedures are

continuing to be worked on. Hiring updates: We are currently down a chief, and one patrol vacancy. The patrol vacancy has closed and we have ten applicants, but of those only six are able to be looked at. Justin Lindahl asked if there will be a video interview first? Pulvermacher: we will need to touch base with applicants first and then go into interview planning. Lindahl: let us know when the interviews will be set up and who needs to be on the panel. Any questions for Chief? Marks stated that one person contacted him and he is the same person from last month with the same issues. Pulvermacher: those issues have been addressed.

At 6:53 p.m. Johnson moved to convene into closed session pursuant to Wis. Stat §19.85(1)(c) to consider employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility, and pursuant to Wis. Stat §19.85(1)(e) to deliberate or negotiate the purchasing of public properties, the investing of public funds, or conducting other specified public business, whenever competitive or bargaining reasons require a closed session (1) Police Chief hiring process (2) Salary for Interim Chief of police. Guden seconded the motion. A roll call vote resulted in five (5) ayes, zero (0) nays and zero (0) absent. Motion carried.

Jenkinson moved to seat Jodie Olson and Jim Lehr for the closed session discussion. Guden seconded the motion which carried by voice vote.

Discussion continued in closed session.

Marks moved to reconvene into open session at 7:10 p.m. Johnson seconded the motion which carried by voice vote.

Jenkinson moved to adjust Brian Pulvermacher's salary to \$75,000 annually as Interim Chief retroactive to August 22, 2020. Marks seconded the motion which carried by voice vote.

Under New Business, Commissioner Lindahl requested funeral processions be placed on the next agenda.

Johnson moved to adjourn at 7:15 p.m. Marks seconded the motion which carried by voice vote.

*Submitted by Stephanie Skivers  
Administrative Assistant*

Next scheduled meeting will be Wednesday, November 04, 2020 at 6:30 pm at the Berlin City Hall