

MINUTES
MEETING POLICE & FIRE COMMISSION
BERLIN, WISCONSIN
BERLIN CITY HALL – 2ND FLOOR COUNCIL CHAMBERS
February 03, 2021 -6:30pm

President Justin Lindahl called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm. Present: Commissioners Ed Marks, Dan Johnson, Joanne Guden and Justin Lindahl. Absent: Chris Jenkinson. Also present: Acting Chief Pulvermacher, Fire Chief Paugels, Liaison Alderman James Lehr, City Administrator Jodie Olson, Berlin Journal Steve Mudrow, and Public appearance: None.

Under approval of minutes, Guden moved to approve the open and closed P&F Commission minutes January 06, 2020. Johnson seconded the motion which carried by voice vote.

No motion needed to approve the fire department expenses as there were none.

2020 Fire Department Annual report, Fire Chief Paugels explained that the overall call volume was down from 2019. The charts within the report will show there were 98 calls in total for 2020. The charts will also break down the type of call. Johnson moved to approve of the 2020 Fire department annual report. Guden seconded the motion which carried by voice vote.

Fire Chief Paugels stated that the fire calls were down last month. There were only four calls total. There are no upcoming events or maintenance issue within the fire department. Training continues to go well and after the second shot of Covid-19 vaccine is given the training will go back to in person. Covid protocols will still be in place and adhered to.

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

Acting Chief Pulvermacher stated that the chart provided to the commission shows last month's calls. A new section has been added of welfare checks. With the new addition to the chart it can give a better overview of the types of calls the officers go to more often. The chart also shows that meth is up and it seems to be very present within the community.

Under police activity updates, Pulvermacher explained, the Covid-19 vaccine was administered to most of the department. Even with the vaccine shots we will still adhere to the protocols. Officer Knetzger had advanced online interview/interrogation class. He stated that it was a very good training and with that we will look to have more officers take that class. Training continues with all officers. Throughout February the officers will be taking four different trainings either online or in person. I myself attended, via online, new chiefs' conference which I found beneficial. Officer McDowell will be off of training in a few weeks and he is doing very well. There was a purchase of faraday bags for all of the squads. This bag is a tool to use for the officers in terms of evidence preservation. The bag allows electronics to be put inside of it and then blocks any attempt to erase the electronic(s) remotely. Components for the new squad have been ordered and we continue to see those orders come in. Once they are all here we can get the new squad scheduled for assembly. Squad 57 had a catalytic convertor issue that was covered by warranty and was repaired last week. Squad 59 had an alternator that was over charging the battery and both items needed to be replaced.

Under new business: N/A

Under old business: N/A

At 6:50 p.m. Marks 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 (Chief of Police Hiring Process) Guden seconded the motion. Roll call vote resulted in four (4) ayes, zero (0) nays and one (1) absent. Motion carried.

Marks moved to seat Ald. Lehr and Jodie Olson for the closed session discussion. Johnson seconded the motion which carried by voice vote.

Discussion continued in closed session.

Marks moved to reconvene into open session at 7:45 p.m. Johnson seconded the motion which carried by voice vote.

Johnson moved to direct staff to present the employment agreement to Jeffery Engel for the Chief of Police position with the terms discussed in closed session. Marks seconded the motion which carried by voice vote.

Johnson moved to adjourn. Marks seconded the motion which carried by voice vote.

*Submitted by Stephanie Skivers
Administrative Assistant*

Next scheduled meeting will be Wednesday, March 03, 2021 at 6:30 pm at the Berlin City Hall