

MINUTES
MEETING POLICE & FIRE COMMISSION
BERLIN, WISCONSIN
BERLIN CITY HALL – 2ND FLOOR COUNCIL CHAMBERS
January 05, 2022 -6:30pm

President Dan Johnson called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm. Present: Commissioners Dan Johnson, Ed Marks, Joanne Guden, Chad Martin. Absent: Curt Olson,. Also present: Police Chief Engel, Fire Chief Paugels, Emergency manager Gary Podoll, Liaison Alderman James Lehr, City Administrator Sara Rutkowski, and Berlin Journal Paul Wiegel.

Under approval of minutes, Guden moved to approve the open and closed P&F Commission minutes of December 01, 2021. Marks seconded the motion which carried by voice vote.

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

Fire Chief Paugels stated that there were 16 fire calls last month. The year 2021 had 14 more calls than normal with a total of 134 calls. Maintenance issues for 66 are a poly tank that has a leak. This will be fixed and is under warranty. Upcoming events, there are none. The past event of shop with a home town hero went very well. Next month the annual report and service pins will be done.

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

Chief Engel stated that the chart provided to the commission shows last month's calls. The chart shows that there were nine drug investigations last month. Emergency detentions have fallen from the previous month. We have implemented a new response to help individuals with mental health. The Sheriff's office, mental health, and BPD came together to draft a crisis response team approach. This approach has had a positive effect and will continue to use this for mental health calls. There was a felony firearms case sent to the District Attorney's office for review.

Under police activity updates, Engel explained, the background for the candidate of patrol officer is going well. The investigator had completed a 40hr course on Negotiator training. One officer completed the instructor development training. New patrol rifles have arrived and are ready to be used. There will be an in-house training for those and after the training is completed by all officers they will go into use. New "roll call" training will start to take place during every shift. This will allow the officers to refresh their skills in shorter time periods to stay up to date. With the assistance from City Managers Jodie and Sara there will be new docking stations and computers for two squads. This will help to keep everything uniform as well as offset the cost when a new squad is needed. There is a continuous purchase for cd and dvds for evidence purposes. We also now have to purchase USB for municipal court as well as phone extractions. To date it is our third purchase for the year. Martin asked if it the software of ICrimefighter would then replace the need for all the dvd or USB? Engel stated that it would and it would house all digital evidence and it would allow it to be sent to anyone. Martin stated that another look into ICrimefighter should take place next month to give a better picture in comparing prices.

Under new business: ICrimefighter discussion.

Under old business: Annual report for Police department.

Public appearances: None.

President Johnson adjourned the meeting at 7 p.m.

*Submitted by Stephanie Skivers
Administrative Assistant*

Next scheduled meeting will be Wednesday, February 02, 2022 at 6:30 pm at the Berlin City Hall