

MINUTES
MEETING POLICE & FIRE COMMISSION
BERLIN, WISCONSIN
BERLIN CITY HALL – 2ND FLOOR COUNCIL CHAMBERS
August 03, 2022 -6:30pm

President Curt Olson called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm. Present: Commissioners Dan Johnson, Joanne Guden, Keith Hess, Curt Olson, and Chad Martin. Absent: None. Also present: Acting Chief Brian Pulvermacher, Fire Chief Paugels, Emergency Manager Gary Podoll, Liaison Alderman Kristina Boeck, Berlin Journal: Paul Wiegel. Public appearance: None.

Under approval of minutes, Guden moved to approve the open and closed P&F Commission minutes of July 13, 2022. Hess seconded the motion which carried by voice vote.

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

Fire Chief Paugels stated that there were 16 fire calls last month. Most of the calls came from the storm that had passed through. Maintenance issues, Red power had received the final switch and is now all ready to go. Truck 64 had an air conditioner issue and that was fixed. Upcoming events: The car show.

Fire Department software program, Emergency Manager Gary Podoll stated the software that is being used currently will become obsolete by the end of the year. The new software that we have chosen will provide the department with everything we need. It can do a lot more than the current program and even has the ability to hold the inspection lists on it. This software can also house all of the past information going back to 1990. In terms of how we will pay for this there will be some moving around in the accounting to offset the initial cost and the cost that may have come up with maintenance. The ongoing cost will only be about eighty dollars a month so that can easily be absorbed through the annual budget. We are looking to kick this software off in September so that it is all ready and set to go by the end of the year. Martin moved to approve of the purchase for new software. Johnson seconded the motion which carried by voice vote.

Hess 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. The chart shows that there were 80 traffic stops, 3 OWI/Drug OWI arrest, 14 welfare checks, and 6 property damage crashes. So far there are no more reports of entry into locked buildings. There is an uptick on thefts and contacts with individuals with controlled substances. The traffic contacts are lower this month due to the volume of service calls and part due to low staff levels.

Under police activity updates, Acting Chief Pulvermacher explained there was significant damage of trees due to the storm that came through in July. An official accepted offer for both patrolman positions were accepted by Cody Wiesmueller and Brandon Lippold. Wiesmueller will start Aug 08 and Lippold will start Aug 15th. Our investigator finished up an online training course for strangulation and suffocation. He will also be attending a two week training in September for death investigation. National Night Out was hosted at Riverside Park last night. It was highly attended and appeared to be well received by the community. The coordinator for the

“Cruze” event was advised the Police Department would not provide a formal escort for their route through town. The officers will help where they can to get the cars through trouble intersections but the coordinator was told they must abide by all traffic laws. We also currently have three staff members out on covid leave.

Under Police Department Job Descriptions Acting Chief Pulvermacher explained the manual was looked over by WPPA and they did not find any profound issues. Most of the small adjustments will come in the form of a Memorandum of Understanding that would be attached to the contract. There did not appear to be any negative feedback from the union. There will need to be an adjustment with the very small wage difference in the Corporal pay and the Investigator’s pay so when they merge those together they will be the same pay in the new contract. There was a question brought forth concerning the Sergeant’s roll during internal investigations. The Sergeant’s roll will be the fact finder in investigations but will not play a part in how the conclusion is handled. Once we have these minor issues cleaned up and ready to present it will go to the City Administrator for approval and if needed will be forwarded to the City Labor Attorney for review. If no attorney is needed then it will be published as an updated manual which includes the Rotational Detective / Drug Investigator Assignment. Guden motioned to approve with the approval of WPPA, City Admin and with the corrections noted in tonight’s meeting. Hess seconded the motion which carried by voice vote.

Under Police Department ICrimeFighter update, Acting Chief Pulvermacher explained that he unfortunately did not have time to review or go over any of the documents for this due to National Night Out being the main focus. There are no updates.

Under old business: None.

Under new business: None.

Public appearances: None.

At 6:50pm Hess moved to convene into closed session pursuant to Wis. Stat §19.85(1)(d) 19.85(c) Considering employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises (*Discussion of Police Chief interviews, deliberations and contract*) Johnson seconded the motion. A roll call vote resulted in five (5) ayes, zero (0) nays, and zero (0) absent. Motion carried.

At 6:50pm Guden moved to seat Kristina Boeck. Hess seconded the motion. A roll call vote resulted in five ayes, zero nays and zero absent. Motion carried.

Discussion continued in closed session.

Guden made the motion to convene into open session, with a second by Hess. Motion carried via voice vote.

Martin made the motion at 7:15pm to adjourn the meeting, with a second by Guden. Motion carried via voice vote.

Administrative Assistant

Next scheduled meeting will be Wednesday, Sept 07, 2022 at 6:30 pm at the Berlin City Hall