

**MINUTES**  
**MEETING POLICE & FIRE COMMISSION**  
**BERLIN, WISCONSIN**  
**BERLIN CITY HALL – 2<sup>ND</sup> FLOOR COUNCIL CHAMBERS**  
**February 01, 2023 -6:30pm**

President Joanne Guden called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm. Present: Commissioners Joanne Guden, Keith Hess, Gary Knoke, Dan Johnson and Chad Martin. Absent: None. Also present: Police Chief Brian Pulvermacher, Fire Chief Paugels, Emergency Manager Gary Podoll, City Administrator Sara Rutkowski, and Berlin Journal: Paul Wiegel. Public appearance: None.

Under approval of minutes, Hess moved to approve the open P&F Commission minutes of January 04, 2023. Johnson seconded the motion which carried by voice vote.

Fire Department service pins were awarded to Zach Knoke for 10 years of service as a firefighter.

Martin motioned to approve the addition of Jared Elendt to the Fire Department as a new firefighter. Johnson seconded the motion which carried by voice vote.

Fire Department 2022 Annual report was given to the commission. There were 130 calls overall for the year with 11 of those calls being a mutual aid for another department. Last year the two days that seemed to have more fire calls were Wednesday and Thursday. Throughout the year there were several fire prevention events that took place to help the community better understand what to do in the event of a fire.

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

Fire Chief Paugels stated that there were 11 calls last month. With those calls two of them were structure fires. Maintenance issues the cold-water suits that were sent in for repair could not be repaired. The company that was going to repair the suits ended up giving us two new suits at a reduced price. Upcoming events: None.

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

Chief Pulvermacher stated that the chart provided to the commission shows last month's calls. The chart shows that there were 113 traffic stops, 7 drug investigations, 5 welfare checks, and 6 property damage crashes. Overall, the categories were down but close to average for the month. There were a significant 911 call follow ups due to the new update that was put out for android phones.

Under police activity updates, Chief Pulvermacher explained the background for the new patrol officer is nearly complete. A current BPD officer is looking to transfer to another agency. That decision will not be known just yet. One staff member is completing the FTO basic training this month. The County wide in-service is going on this week and all staff members will have completed that by the end of Thursday. One of three sessions of the annual Defense and Arrest Tactics training is happening in January. The next two sessions for this will be at the end of February and March. I have attended the new Chief training that was put on by the DOJ last week and will also attend the Chief's conference next week. The two dogs that were deemed

vicious by the City have been relocated to owners who live outside of Berlin. The previous owner of those dogs is now in compliance with the ordinance that only allows three dogs. There is another case that involves animal cruelty that was sent to the District Attorney's office for charges. One of those dogs died and the other was taken from the owner and placed at the shelter. The wrap restraints that were purchased at the end of December have been received and deployed within the squad cars. Our staff have been trained to use the restraints and the remaining law enforcement officers throughout the county are being familiarized with them in the event it is needed.

Police Department 2022 Annual report was given to the commission. There were 1176 traffic contacts for the department within the year and about 250 calls for service per month for the year. The department attended about 600 hours of training last year. The focus for the training was to put an effort toward basic and advanced skills training for the department. Throughout the year BPD has attended events to promote the department and community policing. We hope to continue that trend in the next year. The SRO report was also given. It gave an overview of the work and current happenings within the school system. The SRO and school system like to use a deferred prosecution for the students instead of writing citations. This will help the students to understand their actions and help to put them on the right path. Currently 13 agreements have been used for loitering, 22 for disorderly conduct and 3 for truancy. When the deferred prosecution does not work citations are ultimately written. Currently 25 citations were written for the school year.

Under virtual seating and voting Guden asked for Sara to explain the parameters of virtual seating and voting. Sara explained that the Commission would need to make a motion to vote in virtual seating and voting for those who are seated that way. Currently this has not been addressed within this Commission. It would allow those who are unable to attend to attend virtually and be able to vote. The other boards have also set parameters such as, only being able to miss an in person meeting up to three times within a year unless medically related. Knoke motioned to move to have virtual attendance by the members of this Commission and have the right to vote; with the parameter of only allowing three unexcused absences for the year. Martin seconded the motion which carried by voice vote.

Under old business: None.

Under new business: None.

Public appearances: None.

At 7:06pm Johnson made the motion to adjourn the meeting, with a second by Hess. Motion carried via voice vote.

*Submitted by Stephanie Skivers  
Administrative Assistant*

Next scheduled meeting will be Wednesday, March 01, 2023 at 6:30 pm at the Berlin City Hall