

MINUTES
MEETING POLICE & FIRE COMMISSION
BERLIN, WISCONSIN
BERLIN CITY HALL – 2ND FLOOR COUNCIL CHAMBERS
November 01, 2023 -6:30pm

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

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

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

Fire Chief Paugels stated that there were 14 calls last month. This seems to be another above average call month. Maintenance issues we have one engine up at Redpower. This engine seems to be having a lot of issues. The current issue deals with the pump and it will need to be replaced. The current cost for that is \$3400.00. Since this is the engine that will be replaced hopefully by next year we are looking at other options. At this point not sure what to do as the engine would fail a pump test without the replacement. Upcoming events, we have the holiday parade coming up. Last month we had our annual open house and there was a large turn out this year.

Knoke moved to approve the Police Department expenses as presented. Krentz 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 146 traffic stops, 3 drug investigations, 9 welfare checks, and 3 property damage crashes. Traffic enforcement is up from last month. Drug investigations have come back down to normal level.

Under police activity updates, Chief Pulvermacher explained the union has accepted a side-letter for wages and that will be discussed further in closed session. The budget was finalized with the new wage increase in mind also. The quote has not come in yet for the FOB access for City Hall. I will have to reach out to the company and see if there is any progress. The new squad had its last service completed so it is officially done and in service. We had two squad cars serviced for fuel pump that sustained damage from sand. At this point to source of the contamination is not yet determined. Detective Knetzger was selected as the new Assistant Chief. He will be starting his new role on the 5th. He is currently at training for internet crimes against children. He also completed child forensic interview training. As of now additional specialized training is not being scheduled at this point due to staffing shortages. We currently have two conditional offers out to candidates who are currently in the academy. To recap we have three openings with two more possibly leaving. Officer McDowell has put in his two weeks and will be leaving us for Manitowac county. Johnson asked if the new pistols were out to all officers and how are they doing? Chief stated all the officers have their new service pistols and have qualified with them. I have not heard of any complaints and seems to be going well.

Under old business: None.

Under new business: Swearing in of Assistant Chief Knetzger.

Public appearances: None.

At 6:55pm Knoke 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 (*Yearly Police Chief and Fire Chief Evaluation*) Johnson seconded the motion. A roll call vote resulted in five (5) ayes, zero (0) nays, and zero (0) absent. Motion carried.

Discussion continued in closed session.

Hess made a motion at 8:47pm to convene into open session, with a second by Johnson. Motion carried by voice vote.

Johnson made a motion to approve suggested wage changes and forward to Common Council for final approval. Hess second the motion which carried by voice vote.

At 8:49pm Johnson motioned to adjourn. Guden seconded the motion which carried by voice vote.

*Submitted by Stephanie Skivers
Administrative Assistant*

Next scheduled meeting will be Wednesday, December 06, 2023 at 6:30 pm at the Berlin City Hall