

MINUTES
MEETING POLICE & FIRE COMMISSION
BERLIN, WISCONSIN
BERLIN CITY HALL – 2ND FLOOR COUNCIL CHAMBERS
March 06, 2024 -6:30pm

President Joanne Guden called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm. Present: Commissioners Joanne Guden, Gary Knoke, Denise Krentz, Ron Ross, and Keith Hess. 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 P&F Commission minutes of February 07, 2024. Ross seconded the motion which carried by voice vote.

Under Luxury Smoke LLC alarm permit, Krentz moved to approve the alarm for the business. Hess seconded the motion which carried by voice vote.

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

Fire Department annual report was presented by Chief Paugels, he explained there were 27 fire calls for the year already. This puts the department above normal this time last year. Maintenance issues, none. Upcoming events, none. Truck committee has met couple times this past month. They are working with the company who is writing the spec and that should be ready soon.

Hess moved to approve the Police Department expenses as presented. Knoke 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 155 traffic stops, 6 drug investigations, 9 welfare checks, 5 emergency detentions, and 5 property damage crashes. The chart indicates, emergency detentions were higher than average for the past month and previous month. Knoke asked if the process for an EDI could be explained. Chief stated that an EDI can stem from any type of check on an individual. Sometimes those checks result in just a misunderstanding from one person to the next and no harm will come to that person or others. In the event the person may want to harm themselves or others crisis is called. They will speak with the person and determine if a safety plan is best or if being committed is the only option. If it is a safety plan that person is then placed with a family member or friend for the night and crisis will check up on them. If they are to be committed, they must go to Thedacare for a medical evaluation before being sent to a mental health institution. That is the part that may take longer as we have to wait with them until a bed opens up and we then transport them there. After they are transported the individual will then have a hearing in front of a judge who will determine further course of action.

Under police activity updates, Chief Pulvermacher explained Zacharias and Fox are on their own now and doing well. The new shift picks have been completed and with that the schedule has been moved around for the officers to get in align with their new rotations and schedules. We still have two officer positions open. We interviewed three candidates today and they are welcome to do ride-a-long. I will be discussing with Assistant Chief tomorrow on potential background investigations. Of these candidates two do not have the academy and one is

completely certifiable. Two staff members will be attending rescue tactics for patrol. One staff member has attended a marijuana related training. One staff member will be attending firearms instructor training. Overtime has been elevated for the months of January and February primarily due to staffing shortages and the higher EDI calls. At this time, I am evaluating body worn cameras and hope to present information on that next meeting.

Under old business: None.

Under new business: Body worn camera discussion. Chief survey discussion.

Public appearances: None.

Guden adjourned the meeting at 6:50pm.

*Submitted by Stephanie Skivers
Administrative Assistant*

Next scheduled meeting will be Wednesday, April 03, 2024 at 6:30 pm at the Berlin City Hall