

MINUTES
MEETING POLICE & FIRE COMMISSION
BERLIN, WISCONSIN
BERLIN CITY HALL – 2ND FLOOR COUNCIL CHAMBERS
January 08, 2025 -6:30pm

President Joanne Guden called the meeting to order at 6:30pm. Present: Commissioners Joanne Guden, Ron Ross, Gary Knoke, and Denise Krentz, and Keith Hess. Seated virtually: None. Absent: None. Also present: Police Chief Brian Pulvermacher, Emergency Manager Gary Podoll, Fire Chief Robert Paugels, Liaison Stobbe, City Admin Jessi Balcom, Berlin Police Department Officers, family members of Dylan Saylor, Officer Saylor, and Berlin Journal: Paul Wiegel. Public appearance: None.

Under general public comments, Guden announced the thank you card for the flowers sent for the funeral of Bill Books. She also introduced the new city admin Jessi Balcom.

Swearing in of Officer Dylan Saylor.

Under approval of minutes, Knoke moved to approve the open P&F Commission minutes of December 04, 2024. Hess seconded the motion which carried by voice vote.

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

Under Fire Department letter of resignation of Fire Chief, Guden read the letter stating the last day of Chief Paugels will be January 31, 2025. Hess motioned to approve the resignation. Ross seconded the motion which carried by voice vote. The Commission then gave thanks to Chief Paugels for all his years of dedication and presented him with a gift.

Under Fire Department reporting and updates Fire Chief Paugels explained there were 143 calls for the year and 13 for last month. That puts us above average but also lower than 2023. Maintenance issues, there are none. Upcoming events, we attended the shop with a hometown hero. There is nothing upcoming. Training, the entire department attended cold weather rescue training involving our water suits. We also had training with the DNR and did a startup training on the new UTV.

Knoke moved to approve the Police Department expenses as presented. Hess 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 208 traffic stops, 5 drug investigations, 9 welfare checks, 6 theft investigations. The chart indicates, traffic contacts are average. Of the six theft cases three of them were retail thefts.

Under Police reporting and updates, Chief Pulvermacher explained shop with a hometown hero event took place last month. There were about 100 children this year. It went very well and kids seemed very happy. We attended an active shooter training in Markesan. One staff member attended 16hrs of drug identification and trends training. Our first session of DAAT training will take place next week. Two staff members will attend writing search warrants training in January.

The annual classroom in-service training will be taking place in the beginning of April this year. Officer Zacharias has been selected as the rotational detective/drug investigator.

Under old business: None.

Under new business: There will be a special Police and Fire Commission meeting next week January 14, 2025 at 6pm. At this meeting we will appoint the new interim Fire Chief.

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 (*Discussion of appointment of interim Fire Chief*) Ross seconded the motion. A roll call vote resulted in five (5) ayes, zero (0) nays, and zero (0) absent. Motion carried.

Hess moved to seat Fire Chief Paugels, and Liaison Stobbe. Krentz seconded the motion. Motion carried. A roll call vote resulted in five (5) ayes, zero (0) nays, and zero (0) absent. Motion carried.

Discussion continued in closed session.

*Submitted by Stephanie Skivers
Administrative Assistant*

Next scheduled meeting will be Wednesday, January 14, 2025 at 6:30pm at the Berlin City Hall