

MINUTES
MEETING POLICE & FIRE COMMISSION
BERLIN, WISCONSIN
BERLIN CITY HALL – 2ND FLOOR COUNCIL CHAMBERS
April 02, 2025 -7:00pm

President Joanne Guden called the meeting to order at 7:00pm. Present: Commissioners Joanne Guden, Ron Ross, Denise Krentz, Gary Knoke, and Keith Hess. Seated virtually: None. Absent: None. Also present: Police Chief Brian Pulvermacher, Assistant Police Chief Noah Knetzger, Assistant Fire Chief Mike Radke, Liaison Stobbe, and City Admin Jessi Balcom, and Berlin Journal: Paul Wiegel. Public appearance: None.

Under general public comments, Guden wanted to thank the Commission and Liaison for their service. With the last meeting for Guden, Krentz wanted to say thank you and presented her with a gift. Police Chief Pulvermacher also presented a gift to Guden and thanked her for the support to the department and the many years of service on the Commission.

Under approval of minutes, Krentz stated there should be a correction of the date on top. Hess moved to approve the open and closed P&F Commission minutes of March 05, 2025 with correction. Ross seconded the motion which carried by voice vote.

Under Fire Department filling of open positions, Assistant Fire Chief Radke stated they hosted interviews and would like to promote the following to a Lieutenant position: Brian Bending, Kyle Boeck, and Troy Hahn. Knoke moved to approve the promotions of Bending, Boeck and Hahn. Ross seconded the motion which carried by voice vote.

Under Fire Department new members, Assistant Fire Chief Radke explained they held interviews for a new officer. They would like to add Teegan Hahn to the Fire Department. Hess motioned to approve of new member Teegan Hahn to the fire department. Krentz seconded the motion which carried by voice vote.

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

Under Fire Department reporting and updates Assistant Fire Chief Radke explained there were several calls for last month. Maintenance issues, there were some small issues. The UTV got stuck on a fire call. When it was pulled out there was small damage to the tracks that needed to be repaired. Upcoming events, there are none. Training, the department did a few trainings and continue to improve on skills.

Hess 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 223 traffic stops, 4 drug investigations, 13 welfare checks, 5 theft investigations. The chart indicates, all categories are slightly higher than last month. This could be contributed to the fact that we are full staff and Officer Saylor is now on his own. The majority of the welfare checks are concerned family members. Two of the theft cases are due to retail theft.

Under Police reporting and updates, Chief Pulvermacher explained the fatal truck crash is still under investigation. The third session of DAAT has been completed. The department has County Wide in-service, EVOC, and firearms training this month. BPD had an officer at the Boys and Girls Club to speak with the children and demonstrate a patrol vehicle. BPD also assisted with a celebratory escort for the youth boys wrestling team that headed to state. One officer completed a two-week criminal investigations drug investigator training. Two staff members are scheduled to attend a multi-disciplinary team training in Green Lake. Guden asked how Officer Saylor is doing now that he is on his own. Chief stated that he is doing very well. He is on the quieter side of things right now but I believe that is because he is attaining information and learning.

Under Police Department presentation of new squad camera and digital evidence storage, Assistant Chief Knetzger stated the proposal was provided to the Commission. Asked if there were any questions in regards to the proposal. Guden asked if the grant that was received to help fund this is a one-time grant or one that can be renewed every year. Knetzger stated that as far as he is aware it is a one-time grant. Krentz asked if the digital evidence can be shared with other departments. Knetzger stated that the server is for our own departmental use but the cloud base storage could give access when granted to other departments for them to attain video or audio that is involved with any one case. It would save time when it comes to having to produce a DVD of the squad video and then transport that to the District Attorney's office. They would be able to just receive a link that we send them that would include all of the digital evidence for that case. Krentz asked if the proposal was for one camera. Chief Pulvermacher stated this proposal is for one camera and the digital storage. With this we could use Fund 15 money that we had rolled over from 2020 to help offset the cost of the build for the new squad. At this point we are going to be a little over budget with the new build since everything has gone up in price so this could help to offset some of that cost. Krentz asked if this camera could be used in more than one squad so when one is transferred out and a new squad is purchased could it be reused. Chief Pulvermacher stated that it could but we wouldn't want to over use it. When it comes to technology it is best to keep up to date on them. We would ask that we not go over an eight-year span for technology in the squad cars. Guden asked if the total proposal was \$17,202.36 and will they continue to honor that price if this takes a little bit to finalize. Knetzger stated that yes that should be the total end cost and he does believe the company will continue to honor the quote that was given knowing that it takes some time to get through everything. Guden stated that they will recommend to Common Council to approve the proposal for a new squad camera system and digital evidence system. Knoke motioned to approve they recommend to Common Council the proposal. Ross seconded the motion which carried by voice vote.

Under old business: None.

Under new business: elections of officers.

At 7:25pm Krentz 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 ((1) *Update on compensation of Fire Department Officers*) Hess 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.

At 7:54pm Commission reconvened back into open session.

Guden adjourned the meeting at 7:55pm.

*Submitted by Stephanie Skivers
Administrative Assistant*

Next scheduled meeting will be Wednesday, May 07, 2025 at 7pm at the Berlin City Hall