

POLICE AND FIRE COMMISSION

Time and Place: Tuesday, July 16, 2013 @ 8:30 A.M., NTC (MPSCOE) Building, Room PS106, 1603 Champagne St, Merrill WI 54452

Members Present: W. Graef (C), D. Huntimer, C. Bahr, T. Patterson

Members Absent: L. Jorstad

Others Present: J. Hardel, G. Buchberger, K. Schildt

In accordance with Chapter 19, Wisconsin State Statutes, notice of this meeting was posted at Wausau City Hall and the Public Safety Building and e-mailed to the Wausau Daily Herald and City Pages in the proper manner. It was noted that there was a quorum present and the meeting was called to order at 8:30 A.M. by Chairperson Huntimer.

Bryce Kolpack, NTC Dean of Public Safety, gave a brief description of the facility and then began a tour of the various training areas throughout the facility.

(1) Minutes of the June 18, 2013 meeting.

Motion by Bahr, to approve the minutes of the June 18, 2013 meeting, second by Patterson. Motion carried 4-0.

(2) Police Department Operations

The police report was given by Police Chief Hardel.

Stephanie Low investigation continues.

The final gun was recovered from the Condition One gun store burglary.

17th Avenue car fatality continues to be investigated.

There have been 19 cases involving methamphetamine, heroin, and cocaine, in the month of June alone. These are cases handled by street officers only, not the drug unit.

There are approximately 16 nuisance declared properties, with 72 problem properties. The CRO's continue to do a great job on working with the information gathered on problem areas.

July 4th carnival went well, attendance has decreased over the past few years.

City Council approved the new location of the warming center. Area neighbor's and shop owners voiced concerns about the new location.

The new Humane Officer has been hired and will begin working on July 22nd.

Problems continue to occur on the 400 Block Park with the homeless and intoxicated persons. Chief Hardel presented one option could be to ban drinking in the park except for when events are being held.

There have been 14 declared vicious dogs since April. The department continues to look into problem pets. A second appeal has been made thru the Public Health and Safety Committee regarding a vicious dog, and the determination was upheld.

Chief Hardel has put in a request for a full time Evidence Technician/Clerical position, to replace the current part time Evidence Technician position.

It was noted that officers spent 90 minutes to direct traffic Saturday night from the Rib Fest event. Traffic seems to be an issue with the growth of the event.

Motion made by Bahr, to accept the report given by Chief Hardel, second by Graef. Motion carried 4 -0.

(3) Fire Department Operations

The fire report was given by Fire Chief Buchberger

The old contract for Hazmat has expired on June 30, 2013. Legislatures have filed official complaints, so there is currently no new contract.

The past weekend had many special events occurring throughout the city, the department was really stretched for coverage. Crowds at the Rib Fest were not accommodating to allow the needed fire vehicles to move through to get to where they were needed. Chief Buchberger is concerned that without proper planning, something could happen if they are not able to move through the crowds better.

Travis Krueger and Matt Brockman have both completed their probationary periods.

The ESCI study was sent back for more review after the phase I draft had statistical errors.

Motion made by Bahr, to accept the report given by Chief Buchberger, second by Patterson. Motion carried 4-0.

(4) Police and Fire Commission Liability Webinar July 23, 2013

Commissioners were reminded of the webinar to be held at City Hall on July 23, 2013.

(5) Adjourn

The next Police and Fire Commission meeting will be on August 20, 2013.

With no further business, motion by Bahr to adjourn, second by Patterson. Motion carried 4-0.
Adjourned at 10:45 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dennis Huntimer, Chair
Police and Fire Commission