

DRAFT

POLICE AND FIRE COMMISSION

Date/Time: Tuesday, August 19, 2014 at 8:30 a.m.
Location: Conference Room – Public Safety Building, 515 Grand Avenue, Wausau, WI
Members Present: C. Bahr (C), D. Huntimer, W. Graef, L. Jorstad, T. Patterson
Member Absent:
Others Present: J. Hardel, T. Kujawa, M. Hite, K. Groeschel

In accordance with Chapter 19, Wisconsin State Statutes, notice of this meeting was posted at Wausau City Hall and the Public Safety Building, and emailed to the Wausau Daily Herald and City Pages in the proper manner.

Call to Order/Roll Call.

The Police and Fire Commission meeting was called to order at 8:30 a.m. Roll call was taken of present Police and Fire Commission members to include a full quorum of all members.

Approval of the minutes of 07/15/2014 meeting.

Motion made by Patterson to approve the minutes of the 07/15/2014 meeting. Second by Graef. Motion passes 5-0.

Police Department Operations.

- Chief Hardel presented an update of Police activity between July 15 and August 19, 2014 to the committee.
- An update was given regarding three recent burglaries and the Stephanie Low case. The state attorney's office will prosecute this case and the timeline is very soon.
- Chief Hardel provided the members with an update on new legislation which speaks to the issue of "Officer Involved Shootings" (OIS). The law states that all Officer Involved Shootings must have a lead investigator by an outside agency. Marathon County Sheriff's Department and surrounding municipality Police Departments are forming a team of the BEST Investigators to do the investigating in Marathon County.
- Chief Hardel distributed the Powerpoint presentation that will be provided to the Wausau School District. The proposal is to have three school Resources Officers, one full-time at East and one full-time at West with one split position between Mann and Muir. WPD is asking the School District to share the cost of these Resource Officers. Chief wants to get a financial commitment first before he takes this to the Finance Committee and City Council.
- An update was given regarding Council Communication. Council President Wagner is working on conducting a Council Retreat.
- Chief Hardel spoke about the command structure and indicated that they are going to promote the captain position at the end of the year. And lastly, the PD is partnering with the FD to do the ALC Cold Bucket Challenge.

Motion made by Huntimer to approve the Police Department Operations report. Second by Jorstad. Motion passes 5-0.

Fire Department Operations.

- Chief Kujawa provided an update on the recruit and promotional process. The recruiting process has changed briefly and they don't require a college education for new recruits. Thirty-four are moving forward for a written exam, an interview process will then take place. Many are extremely qualified. They currently have 5 openings- three on December 31st due to retirements,

1 in the first quarter of year 2015 and 1 the 2nd quarter of 2015. The last 4 hires are doing great. With regard to the promotional process, they are tweaking it as there isn't much structure to it at this point.

- The structural live fire training at 629 Hamilton went very well. The next one will take place on Merrill Ave on September 7th and the media will be made aware of this. These live burns serve two purposes – 1) It cleans up the neighborhood of blight with these older, unkept homes, and 2) the training the FD receives is unlike anything they pay to receive.
- We have a level II Hazmat Team and the FD found they are behind in the training and the equipment they currently have is outdated. They are going to utilize their \$6,000 state grant money for upcoming training.
- An update was provided on the mass casualty incident on Hwy 52.

Motion made by Patterson to approve the Fire Department Operations report. Second by Graef. Motion passes 5-0.

New Business

a) Discussion took place regarding the commission liaison. Chief Hardel brought this up many years ago and would love to have this in place. Any time communication can be improved is a goal they seek. Commissioners are noticed in a positive way when they are present at the Fire or Police Department and a liaison would be welcome. The Commissions appointed Tony Patterson as the Liaison for the Police Department and Dennis Huntimer for the Fire Department.

b) Pursuit to Section 19.85 (1) of the Wisconsin State Statutes, a motion was made by Huntimer to go into Closed Session for the purpose of acting upon consideration of applicant for appointment as Police Detective and SRO position. Graef seconded. Motion passes 5-0.

c) Commissioners came out of Closed Session

New Business for Placement on the next Agenda.

The Commissioners would like to hold their next month's meeting at Fire Station #3 on Bridge Street and have a tour of the firehouse. HR Director Hite will provide a draft agenda for the liaisons at the next month's meeting. Other items to be placed on the agenda should include Contract Negotiations Overview.

Next Regularly Scheduled Meeting – September 16, 2014, 8:30 a.m. – Fire Station #3

Adjourn. Motion made by Patterson to adjourn. Seconded by Graef. Motion passes 5-0.