

## **POLICE AND FIRE COMMISSION**

Date/Time: Tuesday, July 18, 2017 at 8:30 a.m.  
Location: Community Room – Public Safety Building – 515 Grand Avenue, Wausau  
Members Present: W. Graef (C), D. Huntimer, T. Patterson, C. Bahr, L. Jorstad  
Member Absent:  
Others Present: Mayor Mielke, HR Vanderboom, B Bliven, T. Kujawa, & Lund.

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 8:35 a.m. Roll call was taken of present Police and Fire Commission members to include Graef, Huntimer, Bahr, Jorstad, and Patterson.

### **Minutes of June 20, 2017 meeting.**

Motion by Commissioner Huntimer to correct and accept the minutes of June 20, 2017, second by Commissioner Patterson.

### **Closed Session Pursuant to Section 19.85(1)(c) of the Wisconsin State Statutes for the purpose of interviewing candidates for Firefighter/Paramedic position, and 2 candidates for police officers.**

Motion by Commissioner Bahr to go into closed session pursuant to section 19.85(1)(c) of the WI State Statutes for the purpose of interviewing candidates for the Firefighter/Paramedic positions, and 2 police officer candidates, second by Commissioner Huntimer.  
Roll call vote 5-0. Commission went into closed session at 8:37.

### **Reconvene meeting into Open Session for the purpose of acting upon consideration of Closed Session item.**

Motion by Commissioner Bahr to reconvene meeting into Open Session for the purpose of acting upon consideration of closed session item, second by Commissioner Patterson.  
Roll call vote 5-0.

Motion by Commissioner Jorstad to approve candidate Tyler Becker for the Firefighter/Paramedic position, and Joshua Bigger and Benjamin Thumann, for the Police Officer positions, second by Commissioner Bahr.  
Motion carried 5-0.

Brady Duke and his family came into the meeting as Brady was awarded a State Award for his kindness to our Police Staff when there was an officer involved shooting in March.

## **Monthly Presentation of Police Department Operations.**

Deputy Chief Bliven gave an update on the major cases.

In March we had a sexual assault that occurred in Wausau, the suspect was identified, the report was sent to the DA, we obtained DNA sample, and this person had two open cases in Chicago so the PD was able to identify and clear those two cases from our investigation.

Deputy Chief Bliven told us about the burglary at the Sprint Store where just over \$30,000 worth of phones were stolen. Eau Claire Police Department had a similar case and got a tip on who the people were. They were able to stop them and found merchandise in their vehicle. They are not charged yet in Wausau.

Another case then discussed was a female at the M&R Station who overdosed, was taken home, and then later died. This case is closed without a criminal charge.

Deputy Chief Bliven stated that our Detective Bureau is down one person as Cord Buckner was promoted to Administrative Lieutenant. Officer Anthony Reince is the next Detective, but that transition hasn't taken place yet. Due to Officer Reince's new position, we are in the process of filling his School Resource Officer position; interviews will take place in the next month. After hiring the two new officers today we will be at full staff, with seven still in training.

An update from Special Investigation Unit, 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter statistics; 15 search warrants were done and 98 arrests. Lt. Melinda Pauls stated that 11 of the 15 have been CRO warrants.

The final meeting with DCI regarding the officer involved shooting in March is today. They will release information to the public soon.

Narcotic Field Testing Procedures were discussed and the Crime Lab has opened up their field hood for our staff to test there, saving us \$12,000. We're encouraging officers to build probable cause for drug arrests without using the field test, and rely more on the observations.

A Lieutenant has indicated he will be retiring and the PD would like to promote a Lieutenant before he leaves so we can have the new Lieutenant trained. Wausau will be hosting Northwestern University Police Staff & Command for Lieutenants and Captains which is a ten-week training program. National presenters come in and speak on police leadership, budgeting, staffing levels and a wide variety of topics. This will be held at the North Central Technical College in January. Deputy Chief Bliven stated he would like to send four Lieutenants and one Captain. Approval still needs to be approved through the Mayor and HR.

Motion by Commissioner Jorstad to promote another Lieutenant, second by Commissioner Patterson.

Motion carried 5-0.

Motion by Commissioner Huntimer to approve the monthly presentation of the Police Department given by Deputy Chief Bliven, second by Commissioner Bahr. Motion carried 5-0.

### **Monthly Presentation of Fire Department Operations.**

Chief Kujawa asked the Commissioners if there were any questions regarding the monthly report; there were no questions.

Chief Kujawa applied for the Assistance to Firefighters Grant on several occasions. This year they have secured a grant for technology in fire trucks for \$35,000, which is great with the new proposed CAD system in the fall/winter.

Shahn Kariger with the Inspection Bureau will spend time pre-planning buildings.

EFI Global which investigates fire took procession of a house and we were able to do nine different sets in that two-story house and educate on the different scenarios.

Chief Kujawa stated they took delivery of a new air boat. The Fire Department will have training on it next week. This will really help with shallow areas, weeded areas, water/ice rescues, and swift water. It goes on land, grass, and snow also.

Commissioner Huntimer discussed the Ponderosa Hotel on Grand Avenue and the need to raise the building.

Motion by Commissioner Jorstad to approve the monthly presentation of the Fire Department given by Chief Kujawa, second by Commissioner Bahr.

Motion carried 5-0.

### **Adjourn.**

Motion made by Commissioner Jorstad to adjourn, second by Commissioner Bahr.

Motion carried 5-0.

Meeting adjourned at 10:49 am.