



Police and Fire Commission

City of Stevens Point
1515 Strongs Avenue
Stevens Point WI 54481

Gary Wescott
President
(715) 346-1508

September 6, 2016
4:00 p.m.

- 1. Roll Call:** Commissioners Carlson, Kirschling, Moore, Ostrowski and Wescott

Also Present: Police Chief Skibba, Fire Chief Finn, Mayor Mike Wiza, Assistant Chief Joe Gemza, Comptroller Corey Ladick, City Attorney Logan Beveridge, Assistant Chief Tony Babl, Ken Horner, CVMIC, Gregg Gunta, CVMIC, Alderperson Mike Phillips, Alderperson Shaun Morrow, Alderperson Cathy Dugan, Alderperson Mary McComb, Alderperson Mary Kneebone, Brandi – Stevens Point City Times, John Quirk, Lee Ann Spoon – Records Bureau Supervisor

- 2. People to be heard and announcements**

None.

Hearing no objection, President Wescott suspended agenda items 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 and 9. The Commission will meet on Thursday, September 8, at 4:00 p.m. to hear the suspended agenda items. The meeting will be at the Fire Department, 1701 Franklin Street.

- 3. Informational presentation by Attorney Gregg Gunta on the roles and responsibilities of Police and Fire Commissions, related statutes and legal liabilities.**

In the beginning of 2016 the City changed insurance companies to Cities and Villages Mutual Insurance Company (CVMIC), which insure only Wisconsin Municipalities. Unlike the city's previous insurance company, CVMIC is much more proactive with training and loss control. Their philosophy is that it is much cheaper to pay for loss control activities than to pay insurance claims.

CVMIC has already provided two days of onsite employment law training for managers and supervisors. This presentation/training is being provided to the PFC since they perform management functions related to personnel.

Attorney Gregg Gunta is the primary attorney for CVMIC. Attorney Gunta provided a handout on Police and Fire Commission liability and spent approximately an hour and a half explaining the Police and Fire Commission's authority as an optional powers police and fire commission.

The following topics were presented and discussed by Mr. Gunta during his presentation:

- Stevens Point, Wisconsin Code of Ordinances, Chapter 3, Officials, Boards, Employees
- Historical Evolutions of Wisconsin's Police and Fire Commissions
- Statutory Authority and Your Police & Fire Commission
- "Just Cause" for Discipline 62.13(5)(em), Wisconsin Statutes
- Special Hiring concerns for Police & Fire Personnel
- Discrimination Laws Affecting Police & Fire Commissions
- Case Law of note from the Wisconsin Court of Appeals and the Supreme Court

Mr. Gunta has represented municipal clients in hundreds of cases involving general liability claims, public official claims and police professional claims. He has defended numerous law enforcement officers and has litigated matters in both state and federal courts arising out of the alleged negligence or intentional conduct of city employees.

On behalf of the Police and Fire Commission, President Wescott thanked Mr. Gunta for his informational presentation.

4. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 5:40 p.m.