



Police and Fire Commission

City of Stevens Point
1515 Strongs Avenue
Stevens Point WI 54481

David Schleih, President
(715) 346-1508

February 5, 2013
4:31 p.m.

- 1. Roll Call:** Commissioners Hanson, Schleih, and Wescott
Commissioners Kirschling and Taylor, excused

Also

Present: Police Chief Kevin Ruder, Fire Chief Tracey Kujawa,
Director Sally McGinty, Alderperson Mike Wiza

Chief Deputy Dan Kontos – Sheriff's Office; Denise Schultz –
Sheriff's Office

Dayton Budsberg – Fire Department; Victor Kedrowski – Fire
Department

Brian Kowalski – Stevens Point Journal

- 2. People to be heard and announcements**

Chief Ruder reported Officer Mike Bink is assigned as Veterans' Liaison Officer for the Stevens Point Police Department. This position will be performed in conjunction with his assignment on patrol and will be a valuable resource for both the Department and the community. As Veterans' Liaison, Officer Bink will be developing a partnership with the Portage County Veterans Service Officer and be trained on other resources available to veterans.

Chief Kujawa reported *Burn Awareness Week* is February 3 – 9, 2013. One of the focus areas is preventing scald burn injuries. Chief Kujawa did a Public Service Announcement on local radio.

Victor Kedrowski reported the 2012 Boy with the Boot calendar fundraiser raised \$10,319.10.

3. Adjourn into closed session (approximately 4:35 p.m.) pursuant to Wisconsin Statutes 19.85 (1) (c) for the following:

- **Firefighter/Paramedic interview (completion of probation)**

Commissioner Wescott moved, seconded by Commissioner Hanson, to adjourn into closed session.

Ayes, all; nays, none. Motion carried.

4. Reconvene into open session for possible action

Commissioner Schleihs moved, seconded by Commissioner Wescott, to reconvene into open session.

Ayes, all; nays, none. Motion carried.

Commissioner Schleihs moved, seconded by Commissioner Wescott, to approve Firefighter/Paramedic Dayton Budsberg to permanent status upon the successful completion of his probationary period.

Ayes, all; nays, none. Motion carried.

5. Portage County's Offer to Provide Dispatch Service

President Schleihs recapped the county's proposal to provide dispatch service. The City's concerns are primary in the areas of finance, governance and quality assurance.

The proposed Communications Advisory Board by-laws, as drafted, don't seem to meet the comfort level of providing adequate input on decision making. One of President Schleihs's thoughts after reading Patty Dreier's letter from December is looking at intergovernmental cooperation for public safety agencies in Portage County, to do what is best in the long-term. As the details come out, especially on the governance issues, it doesn't appear there is a lot of room for adequate input. It seems like an inadequate model of public safety for the future in Portage County. President Schleihs believes successful models are built upon a structure in which one person doesn't have the ultimate say over whether something happens or does not happen. The decisions aren't made by the one person who happens to hold that office at the time. He feels this falls short of a cooperative model of making decisions. In successful models of county/city dispatch centers, governance is shared.

Director McGinty pointed out that the City is interested in more of a partnership and the county wants to be a service provider. Chief Deputy Dan Kontos affirmed that the County's offer is to be a service provider for City of Stevens Point police and fire dispatching. He also stated that it was a take it or leave it offer, with a deadline of March 1, 2013.

Commissioner Wescott said it is important that the Commission perform due diligence in analyzing the proposal.

The Commission has not yet received the legal opinion requested from the City Attorney.

The County has indicated it plans to sign a new 911 contract with county telephone carriers. The contract cost, which is currently covered by the 36 cents on land line phone bills, will rise significantly. The County plans to pass some of that increased cost onto the City. More details will be forthcoming.

6. PFC Liaisons for Police Department, Fire Department and Emergency Management

This item is tabled.

7. Consent Agenda

- a. Minutes – January 8 and January 22, 2013
- b. Monthly bills – December - Fire Department, Police Department and Emergency Management
- c. Fire Chief's Report/EMS Report
- d. Police Chief's Report
- e. Director of Emergency Management's Report

Commissioner Hanson moved, seconded by Commissioner Wescott, to approve the consent agenda items as outlined above.

Ayes, all; nays, none. Motion carried.

8. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 6:15 p.m.