



## Police and Fire Commission

City of Stevens Point  
1515 Strongs Avenue  
Stevens Point WI 54481

David Schlehs, President  
(715) 346-1508

November 11, 2014  
4:32 p.m.

- 1. Roll Call:** Commissioners Hanson, Kirschling, Schlehs and Wescott  
  
**Also Present:** Police Chief Kevin Ruder, Fire Chief Bob Finn, Assistant Chief Marty Skibba, Records Bureau Supervisor Lee Ann Spoon, Officer Kristi Ahrens, FF/Paramedic Christopher Norton

### 2. People to be heard and announcements

Chief Ruder thanked veterans in the community for their service.

The Public Protection Committee approved a Chronic Nuisance Ordinance as presented at their meeting on November 10<sup>th</sup> (Section 24.51 of the Revised Municipal Codes) with the following amendments:

- Under the procedure section, change the 30 day period to a 60 day period, and
- Add a sunset clause expiring June 2016.

Officer Kristi Ahrens was introduced as the Crisis Intervention Team Liaison Officer. This position was created to be performed in conjunction with her assignment on patrol and will be a valuable resource for the department and the community.

- 3. Adjourn into closed session (approximately 4:30 p.m.) pursuant to Wisconsin Statutes sec. 19.85 (1) (c) (considering employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility) for a Firefighter/Paramedic interview.**

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

Ayes, all; nays, none. Motion carried.

- 4. Reconvene into open session (approximately 4:50 p.m.) for possible action**

Commissioner Hanson moved, seconded by Commissioner Kirschling, to reconvene into open session.

Ayes, all; nays, none. Motion carried.

Commissioner Schleihs moved, seconded by Commissioner Hanson, to extend an offer of employment to Christopher Norton upon the successful completion of all hiring protocols, with a start date of December 1, 2014.

Ayes, all; nays, none. Motion carried.

**5. Discussion, with possible action, 2014 evaluation process for police and fire chiefs**

The same evaluation process will be followed as last year. Each chief will receive an initial evaluation from their respective liaison and the commission will meet as a whole to finalize evaluations at a meeting date to be determined.

**6. Discussion, with possible action, Public Safety IT position and support for 2015**

It was recommended at the Finance Committee meeting on November 10<sup>th</sup> that the hours of the IT coordinator within the Police Department be reduced to 26 hours per week. The Comptroller stated the proposed budget has \$40,000 for the IT coordinator position for the 2015 budget year. It was motioned and seconded that the number of hours for the IT coordinator be reduced to 26 hours at such time when the city hires an IT consultant full-time under contract.

**7. Discussion, with possible action, 2015 Police Department and Fire Department budget review pursuant to PFC Administrative procedure section 2.01.**

Because there was no financial change at the previous night's Finance Committee meeting, no discussion was warranted.

**8. Donation to Police Department from Sentry Insurance**

Commissioner Schleihs moved, seconded by Commissioner Wescott, to accept a \$50.00 gift card to P.J. Jacobs Restaurant.

Ayes: all; Nays, None. Motion carried.

**9. Consent Agenda**

- a. Minutes – September 2014
- b. Monthly bills
- c. Police Chief's Report
  - The heroin summit on October 16 at the Portage County Business Council was a big success. An outcome of the meeting was the development of a training guide for patient's reference addiction, proper disposal of unused prescriptions and the dangers of heroin.
  - Camera systems in the downtown area are nearing completion. Cameras will be located on Main Street at Strongs, Third, the square and Bukolt Park.
  - On October 31 the Department investigated a number of home invasions, including a sexual assault in the residential college area. Due to the hard work and coordinated efforts of many on the Department, within 12 hours of the perpetration of the first crime a suspect was in custody.

- On November 3, Crime Stoppers did a heroin feature to alert the public of the drugs presence but also hopefully to educate the dangers of trying or continuing using this terrible drug.
  - The Department is proud to announce the assignment of Officer Kristi Ahrens as the newest community outreach liaison for the PD. Mental health issues have been rising within the community and they take a lot of officer's time when investigating such calls for service. This new position is an effort to liaison with specific segments of the community to reduce officer response and provide assistance to those suffering from mental health issues.
  - Bargaining continues with the Stevens Point Police Officers Association.
  - The Department is involved in a number of community initiatives including mental health, Ebola contingencies, traffic studies, neighborhood groups and a myriad of other topics. The Department will continue to be a proactive voice and community advocate.
  - I have been invited to speak to a number of civic groups this month. Upcoming speaking engagements include the Landlord Association Annual Meeting and the UWSP Student Legal Society.
- d. Fire Chief's Report
- Fire Prevention Month: The Stevens Point Fire Department participated in many fire prevention activities in the month of October. Some of those activities included over 20 Public Education events which included station tours, visits to schools or witnessing a fire drill. We attended the Plover Fire Department open house which included Fire & EMS equipment from the METRO departments. We had our pizza party for the winners of the post contest in which we picked up the students from their school, brought them to Station 1 for a pizza lunch and then returned the students to their school in a piece of fire equipment. We also assisted the American Red Cross in installing smoke detectors or replacing smoke detectors in homes throughout the city.
  - Make a Wish Foundation: The Stevens Point Fire Department participated in a request from the Make-A-Wish Foundation to provide our platform truck at Point Diesel in Plover for a child that liked big trucks. Over 50 different kinds of trucks were in attendance, from tow trucks to over the road trucks.
  - Recruitment: Assistant Chief Gemza and I went to Chippewa Valley Tech College and Fox Valley Tech College to discuss the recruitment process for the Stevens Point Fire Department.
  - Information for the PFC: The oral interviews for the promotional exam will be held Tuesday, November 11, 2014. The promotional process should be completed by November 20, 2014 with a posted list for Captain and Lieutenant by December 1, 2014. The budget was approved by the city finance committee and will proceed to the full Common Council. I wrote a letter to Portage County Executive Dreier in reference to the CAD system for the Stevens Point Fire Department and Portage County Ambulance.
- e. EMS Report

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

Ayes, all; nays, none. Motion carried.

**10. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 6:00 p.m.