



## Police and Fire Commission

City of Stevens Point  
1515 Strong's Avenue  
Stevens Point WI 54481

David Schlehs, President  
(715) 346-1508

May 5, 2015  
3:32 p.m.

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

**Also**

**Present:**

Chief Martin Skibba, Assistant Chief Tom Zenner, Chief Bob Finn, Alderperson Tony Patton, Mayor Mike Wiza, City Attorney Logan Beveridge, Officer Brian Brooks, Austin Lee, Kris Marchel, Brandi – Stevens Point City Times, Lee Ann Spoon, RB Supervisor

- 2. People to be heard and announcements**

Reminder: Changes to PFC Policy 3.01 should be forwarded to Lee Ann.

- 3. Adjourn into closed session (approximately 3:30 p.m.) pursuant to Wisconsin Statutes Section 19.85 (1) (c) [considering employment, promotion, compensation, or performance evaluation data of any public employee of which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility] for police officer applicant interviews and Wisconsin Statutes Section 19.85 (1) (e) [deliberating or negotiating the purchasing of public properties, the investing of public funds, or conducting other specified public business, whenever competitive or bargaining reasons require a closed session] for discussion of the ESCI report as it relates to EMS contract negotiations with Portage County.**

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

Ayes, all; nays, none. Motion carried.

- 4. Reconvene into open session for possible action**

Commissioner Ostrowski moved, seconded by Commissioner Schlehs, to reconvene into open session.

Ayes, all; nays, none. Motion carried.

Commissioner Schlehs moved, seconded by Commissioner Ostrowski, to extend a conditional offer of employment to Austin Lee upon the successful completion of all hiring protocols and testing.

Ayes, all; nays, none. Motion carried.

Commissioner Schleihs moved, seconded by Commissioner Carlson, to extend a conditional offer of employment to Kris Marchel upon the successful completion of all hiring protocols and testing.

Ayes, all; nays, none. Motion carried.

**5. Election of Commission President, Secretary and appointment of liaisons**

Commissioner Wescott moved, seconded by Commissioner Kirschling, to re-elect David Schleihs as President.

Ayes, all; nays, none. Motion carried.

Commissioner Schleihs moved, seconded by Commissioner Wescott, to re-elect Bob Ostrowski as Secretary.

Ayes, all; nays, none. Motion carried.

The following liaison appointments are effective immediately:

Ron Carlson is appointed as liaison to the Fire Department  
Gary Wescott is appointed as liaison to the Police Department  
Joe Kirschling will oversee the police chief hiring process

**6. Retirement letter of Kevin Ruder**

Commissioner Wescott moved, seconded by Commissioner Carlson, to accept Kevin Ruder's retirement resignation effective July 7, 2015.

Ayes, all; nays, none. Motion carried.

**7. Consent Agenda:**

a. Minutes

b. Monthly bills

c. Fire Chief Finn Reported:

**Home Fire Safety Initiative:** In conjunction with the American Red Cross, the Stevens Point Fire Department conducted home visits to perform home safety checks and install smoke detectors as needed to homeowners that were willing to participate. The American Red Cross did a leaflet drop to announce the program prior to the home fire safety initiative date. The Stevens Point Fire Department, American Red Cross, and Explorer Post 242 installed 70 smoke detectors.

**Pipeline Safety Training:** The on-duty crew, along with the two Assistant Chiefs, attended a Pipeline Safety Awareness and Emergency Response Presentation held at the Holiday Inn in Stevens Point. The program consisted of safety initiatives and emergency response plans for gas and hazardous liquid pipelines and storage tanks.

**Metro Training:** The Stevens Point Fire Department attended METRO fire training that was held at Plover FD Station #1 on crude oil emergencies. Steve Fenske, East Central Region Director of the State of Wisconsin Emergency Management was the instructor. The topics covered in this training were: how to handle crude oil emergencies, crude oil spills, and crude oil firefighter procedures in fixed facilities, railroad tanker cars and truck tanker cars.

**Fire Training:** The 4 gas meters that were a capital expenditure in the budget were purchased and the MSA representative was at the Stevens Point Fire Department to do in-service training on the new 4 gas meters. After the training, the new meters were put into service. Also, fire training has started in the vacant houses on Portage Street that are owned by UWSP. The training consists of search and rescue, ventilation and general truck company operations. This training will continue for a few more months.

**Safe Kids Campaign:** The Stevens Point Fire Department hosted the Safe Kids Campaign sponsored by Stevens Point Child Safety Inc. to dismantle and recycle old child car seats. Explorer Post 242 was involved in this safety program. There were approximately 100 car seats that were dismantled and recycled.

**Newly Elected Alderperson:** The Stevens Point Fire Department has started meetings with the newly elected city alderpersons. These meetings have been very informative in explaining the operations of the SPFD to the newly elected officials.

d. EMS Report

e. Police Chief Skibba reported:

- Chief Ruder's retirement ceremony took place April 10<sup>th</sup> 2015.
- A Stevens Point Police Recognition coin was given to James A. Phillip by Detective Anthony Zblewski for his efforts in waking individuals up at 3417 Minnesota Avenue, preventing individuals from being burnt or killed during the occurring house fire. Phillip will be invited to the annual appreciation banquet held in the fall of this year to be formally recognized with other recipients.
- Sworn personnel completed annual firearms certification.
- Sworn personnel completed EVOC recertification.
- Five officers attended Crisis Intervention training (CIT), five days of training and working with individuals suffering from mental illness. Officer Ahrens, our lead CIT officer, was instrumental in securing funding to pay for these officers to attending training, saving \$1,495.00 in the training budget line.
- The month of May is Mental Health Awareness Month. In recognition of this, green ribbon pins will be worn by all uniformed personnel throughout the month of May.
- Hiring process continues with Administrative interviews of applicants. Kris Marchel and Austin Lee will be recommended for a conditional offer of employment during the May Police and Fire Commission meeting.

- Bi-annual physical and eligibility list test for SWAT team took place.
- Met with UWSP Chancellor and personnel to discuss UW quality-of-life issues and possible solutions.

Commissioner Wescott moved, seconded by Commissioner Kirschling, to accept the consent agenda items.

Ayes, all; nays, none. Motion carried.

**8. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 5:38 p.m.