



Police and Fire Commission

City of Stevens Point
1515 Strongs Avenue
Stevens Point WI 54481

Gary Wescott
President
(715) 346-1508

September 8, 2016
4:00 p.m.

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

Also Present: Police Chief Skibba, Fire Chief Finn, Mayor Mike Wiza, Assistant Chief Joe Gemza, Alderperson Mary Kneebone, Brandi – Stevens Point City Times, Lee Ann Spoon – Records Bureau Supervisor

- 2. People to be heard and announcements**

Alderperson Mary Kneebone announced Monday, September 12th at the Public Protection Committee meeting there is an agenda item "discussion of a proposal to amend the marijuana possession ordinance and creation of ascending citation structure."

Hearing no objection President Wescott rearranged the agenda to hear agenda item number 9.

- 3. Discussion of the Portage County EMS Oversight/Public Safety Board meeting agenda item regarding EMS system analysis with comparables and recommendations.**

Chief Finn informed the commission there is an agenda item on the Portage County EMS Oversight Board meeting on September 15th that states: "EMS System Analysis with Comparisons and Recommendations."

The Chief will receive supporting documents on this topic on September 9th and will forward the information to the Commission for their review.

- 4. Request to hire up to two officers on about November 1, 2016, contingent upon the PD receiving letters of retirement from currently employed officers.**

Chief Skibba is asking the Commission to approve hiring up to two police officers in advance of expected retirements within the Police Department. Currently four officers are projecting a retirement date on or about January 2017. The immediate shortfall of personnel will have the greatest impact on patrol.

The field training process takes 14 weeks, using a minimum of three field instructors. By hiring police officers several months in advance, the burden to the field training program is reduced, the manpower shortage to patrol is mitigated and the ability to offer employment to the most qualified candidates is ensured.

After assessing the 2016 operating budget, the Chief believes the budget can absorb the salary of two new officers for the months of November and December. Additionally the hires would be contingent on receiving letters of retirement by two of the officers expecting to retire on or about January 2017.

Commissioner Wescott moved, seconded by Commissioner Carlson, to approve the request as outlined by the Chief of Police.

Ayes, all; nays, none. Motion carried.

5. PD staffing needs discussion (IB, School Liaison, and Patrol)

It is Chief Skibba's goal to start a public conversation regarding sworn police officer manpower at the PD. The primary growth in police officers has been through the hiring of the three police school liaison officers. The department has consistently employed between 42 and 44 sworn police officers.

The chief is studying manpower issues so in the future he is able to make appropriate staffing recommendations.

6. Police Chief's Report

Chief Skibba reported:

August:

- Complete initial interview portion of testing process for new hire eligibility list
- Work with Mayor and Treasurer on police capital requests
- Patrol saturated university area with "good neighbor" information
- Patrol stepped up traffic enforcement/awareness in school zones leading up to the start of the school year
- August 6, Auxiliary and contractual with related events: Aim for a Cure 5K run/walk (Bucks and Bulls Archery on Church Street); Boys and Girls Club Bike Rides (AIG); Midwest Recumbent Bike Rally (Hostel Shoppe); Corn on the Curb (Downtown Bar Owners on the Square)
- August 13, Project Fresh Start (Ben Franklin)
- August 19, YMCA Kids Duathlon (Lot Q area by UWSP)
- August 20, YMCA Duathlon (Lot Q area and north of town)
- August 25, Moose Club Back to School night
- August 27, Guns and Hoses (Bukolt Park)
- August 29, Crime Stoppers Concert Fundraiser (Sentry Theater)

September:

- SPASH and Pacelli football games, assisted by Auxiliary
- September 1, First day of school and move in day for UWSP freshmen
- September 3, Justice Works ½ Marathon
- September 4, Jazz Fest at Pfiffner
- September 4, Move in for the rest of UWSP
- September 7, Citizens Academy starts
- September 7, Homicide Investigators Conference, Holiday Inn
- September 9 – 11, Pacelli Panacea

- September 10, Walk for Hope, Spud Bowl and associated 5K, assisted by Auxiliary
- September 10 – 11, Gus Macker, assisted by Auxiliary
- September 17, Harvest Fest, Art in the Park, Pointober Fest and associated 5K, assisted by Auxiliary and contracted officers
- September 17 – 18, Dozynki at the Moose
- September 24, Run from the Cops and the Alzheimer's Walk

Commissioner Wescott moved, seconded by Commissioner Moore to approve the Police Chief's report for August 2016.

Ayes, all; nays, none. Motion carried.

7. **Fire Chief's report/EMS report**

Chief Finn reported:

- Hosted State MABAS convention and provided dinner to 150 attendees at Fire Station 2.
- Prep work continues for our ISO evaluation on October 11th. We have met with the Water Department and Communications Center for statistics and maintenance reports. We are close to completing our PIP's, ladder pump test data, and vehicle inventories.
- Replacement of energy efficient LED lights in the basement at Station 1 is complete, and we received the Focus on Energy rebate check to offset costs.
- C crew assisted with Movies in the Park, popped popcorn, entertained kids, and distributed Pub Ed supplies.
- Pre work also continues on controlled burn structure at 1917 Cypress. DNR permit obtained, asbestos abatement completed, instructors working on burn plan, WPS contacted for gas and electrical shutoffs. Two neighboring houses will have power shut off during the burn because of the proximity of the overhead supply line. September 28th is the scheduled burn date.
- Explorer scout meeting took place at the 1917 Cypress Street structure. They practiced donning SCBA, search and rescue drills, advancing hose lines, and fire attack.
- Guns and Hoses 3rd annual charity softball game took place Saturday, August 27th. The hoses were successful in beating the guns for the third year in a row. The final score was 23 – 10. The event raised \$40,000.00 for veterans and was highlighted with a flyover of five planes from the Stevens Point Pilots Association and Color Guard by Portage County Veterans.
- MDA boot drive was a success. \$16,000.00 was raised for the two day event at the intersections of Main and Division Streets.
- Metro fire calls, 2. Total fire calls, 90.
- Training: Relay pumping, master stream ops, standpipe drills, high and low angle rope rescue, high rise drills.
- Metro training: 325 Hoover Avenue, Aerial Ops, Denver Drills, Wall Breaches and roof ventilation. Total training hours: 71.

EMS Activities Report:

- Girls on Fire: An Explorer based group sponsored by Chippewa Valley Technical College "Girls on Fire" Camp came to SPFD Station 1 for EMS skills. They covered skills such as IV access, intubation, CPR, defibrillation and culminated with a code worked by the Explorers.
- Boys and Girls Club: We provided an ambulance at the "Bike for Boys and Girls Club" event to interact with the event participants.

- EMS training: SPFD conducted CPR training for the entire department. This was done at different times during August to ensure all personnel were able to complete the refresher.
- Joint Training: C platoon trained with the UWSP new Athletic Trainer students on different types of athletic injuries and how to work as one team.

Commissioner Moore moved, seconded by Commissioner Ostrowski, to approve the Fire Chief's report for August 2016.

Ayes, all; nays, none. Motion carried.

8. Approval of Minutes

Commissioner Moore moved, seconded by Commissioner Ostrowski, to approve the minutes of the August 2, 2016 meeting.

Ayes, all; nays, none. Motion carried.

9. Confirmation of Bills

Commissioner Ostrowski moved, seconded by Commissioner Carlson, to approve the confirmation of the August 2016 bills.

Ayes, all; nays, none. Motion carried.

10. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 5:21 p.m.