

CITY OF STEVENS POINT
POLICE AND FIRE COMMISSION
TUESDAY, JANUARY 9, 2018 - 4:00 P.M.
Stevens Point Police Department
933 Michigan Avenue

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

Also Present: Police Chief Skibba, Fire Chief Finn, City Attorney Beveridge, Alderperson Shaun Morrow, Mayor Mike Wiza, Alderperson Meleesa Johnson, Alderperson Mary Kneebone, Assistant Chief Joe Gemza, Assistant Chief Mike Rottier, Sergeant Bob Kussow, Dalton Koback, Brandi Makuski - Point/Plover Metro Wire, Joe Bachman - Stevens Point City Times

2. **People to be heard an announcements**

None.

3. **Response letter from Portage County dated December 11, 2017 regarding its investigation of Emergency Management Director Joe Brandt 's conduct**

The commission has had time to review the response letter from Portage County Executive Patty Dreier regarding the PFC's investigation into matters detailed in a letter addressed to Patty Dreier dated November 11, 2017. It was Commissioner Wescott's intent at some point to have a detailed review of Portage County's response in comparison to the findings of the city's investigators.

However, the commission believes that in light of the recent development of the resignation of Portage County Emergency Management director Joe Brandt, a line by line item review of Portage County's response becomes a moot point.

A discussion followed and President Wescott afforded the commissioners an opportunity to voice any thoughts or concerns. Several commissioners noted that no one from the city's fire service, attorney's office, mayor's office or police and fire commission were interviewed by the county during the county's investigation. The commission reserves the right to revisit this matter at greater length. President Wescott thanked County Executive Patty Dreier for implementing a plan to investigate the city's concerns.

Commissioner Wescott moved, seconded by Commissioner Kirschling, to acknowledge receipt of the county's response (dated December 11, 2017) to the city's November 8, 2017 letter and place the letter on file. The Commission additionally stipulates that by placing the letter on file the commission is also going on record stating they do not necessarily concur with all the findings contained in the county's response. There may be an element or two in the county's report the commission can find agreement on, but there are also elements within the county's conclusion the commission does not agree with.

Ayes, all; nays, none. Motion carried.

4. **Approval of Minutes**

Commissioner Carlson moved, seconded by Commissioner Ostrowski, to approve the minutes of the December 5th and 11th meetings.

Ayes, all; nays, none. Motion carried.

5. Confirmation of Bills

Commissioner Ostrowski moved, seconded by Commissioner Moore, to approve the confirmation of the December 2017 bills.

Ayes, all; nays, none. Motion carried.

6. Fire Chief's Report/EMS Report

Chief Finn reported:

- Vehicle committee travel to Pierce (Appleton) and Seagrave (Clintonville)
- Ice/water rescue training
- Metro Fire calls (3)
- Structure fires (2)
- Vehicle fires (2)
- Brush, grass, wildland fires (0)
- Other fires (0)
- Rescue/EMS calls (49)
- False alarm responses (11)
- Hazardous materials responses (5)
- Other responses (15)
- Total responses: (84)
- Training: Ice/water rescue; building construction; firefighter rescue drills Total training hours: 58
- Fire inspections: Certificate of occupancy (1); general fire inspection (4); re-inspection (11); sprinkler system (0); tent inspection (0). Total inspections: 16

Commissioner Wescott moved, seconded by Commissioner Kirschling to accept the Fire Chief's Report for December 2017.

Ayes, all; nays, none. Motion carried.

7. Donation approvals for fitness equipment made by employees to PD fitness room

The Chief will report to the commission each donation accepted and the value of the donation.

8. Police Chief's Report

Chief Skibba reported:

Auxiliary Unit:

- 100 events, 1,177 volunteer hours in 2017

December:

- 7 weapon involved incidents (1 gun related)

- 73 mental health related incidents (6 emergency detentions)

Projects:

- Relocation to 933 Michigan Avenue (ongoing meetings with Bray Architect Firm)
- Officer Gerndt successfully completed Step #3 of Field Training and has advanced to Step #4.
- K9 (officer selection, fundraising)
- Special Olympics Polar Plunge February 3rd (officers jumping/fundraising for a great cause)

December:

Events:

- Auxiliary assisting at a total of 9 college and high school sporting events
- Crime Stoppers: Theft of U Haul trailer and Tobacco Outlet burglary
- 1st - AODA "Your Choice" presentation at Sentry Theatre
- 2nd - Frostbite Run, assisted by Auxiliary
- 7th - Active Shooter presentation to UWSP Greek Leadership (UW, SPPD, SPFD assisted)
- 15th - Chaplain presentation of appreciation

January:

Events:

- Auxiliary assisting at college and high school sporting events
- 15th - Sergeant Retzki's anticipated retirement

Commissioner Wescott moved, seconded by Commissioner Moore, to accept the Police Chief's report for December 2017.

Ayes, all; nays, none. Motion carried.

9. **Adjourn into closed session (approximately 4:45 p.m.) pursuant to Wisconsin Statute 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] pertaining to items a - c, and 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] pertaining to items d - e, for the following:**
- Probationary Police Officer Interview**
 - Probationary Police Sergeant interview**
 - Probationary Police Corporal interview**
 - Discussion of strategy and planning for impacts the creation of Village of Plover's EMS service will have on administration of the City's EMS contract with Portage County.**
 - Discussion on potential renegotiation of operational aspects of the ladder truck agreement with the Village of Plover.**

Commissioner Moore moved, seconded by Commissioner Carlson, to adjourn into closed session.

Ayes, all; nays, none. Motion carried.

Commissioner Kirschling left the meeting at 5:50 p.m.

10. **Reconvene into open session for possible action**

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

Ayes, all; nays, none. Motion carried.

Commissioner Wescott moved, seconded by Commissioner Carlson, to make a conditional offer of employment to Dalton Koback upon the successful completion of all hiring protocols and testing.

Ayes, all; nays, none. Motion carried.

Commissioner Wescott moved, seconded by Commissioner Moore, to approve Steven Spath to the position of probationary Police Sergeant effective January 16, 2018.

Ayes, all; nays, none. Motion carried.

Commissioner Wescott moved, seconded by Commissioner Carlson, to approve Brian Brooks to the position of probationary police corporal effective January 16, 2018.

Ayes, all; nays, none. Motion carried.

11. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 6:15 p.m.