



## Police and Fire Commission

City of Stevens Point  
1515 Strongs Avenue  
Stevens Point WI 54481

March 2, 2010  
4:31 p.m.

- 1. Roll Call:** Commissioners Nuck, Rice, Schleihs, Taylor and Wescott

**Also**

**Present:** Administrative Director Jeff Morris; Fire Chief John Zinda, Police Chief Kevin Ruder

- 2. People to be heard and announcements**

None.

- 3. Consent Agenda**

Commissioner Wescott moved, seconded by Commissioner Taylor, to accept Consent Agenda Items, A, B, C, D and E.

Ayes, all; nays, none. Motion carried.

- 4. Discussion, with possible action, PFC strategic vision for Commission, Fire Department and new Fire Chief**

Mayor Halverson was unable to attend the meeting but submitted in writing his vision of where he feels the Departments should move in the future. He feels the city should not do anything that would move us backward given the intense progress we have made over the last three years.

The Mayor has worked very hard since taking office to ensure that there is a strong cooperative environment in which to work, which was recently highlighted as one of the greatest successes of the last three years by the Portage County Business Council. To that end, he feels it is vital that the next Fire Chief shares these ideals. It is with that philosophy as a guide that he fully supports the use of an ala carte approach to a consultant.

Administrative Director Morris reiterated Alderperson Randy Stroik's comments from the Special Meeting on February 16<sup>th</sup> that he supports the Commission's hiring of a consultant to assist in the recruitment and selection of a new Fire Chief if the Commission is intent on moving forward its vision for public safety in Stevens Point rather than achieving status quo.

All Commissioners agreed they wanted to actualize the Commission's Strategic Direction Plan and saw the need to select a person to be the next Fire Chief who is a proven leader, initiator of change, and a builder of collaborative relationships that support coordination/consolidation of

intercommunity efforts to maintain a safe city and county. President Schleihs suggested, and the Commission agreed, that the word collaboration needs to appear with the word consolidated in the March 2, 2010 Strategic Planning documents for 2008/2009 and 2010 – 2011, long term objective #5 and #4 and #5 respectively. The Commission's vision is for progressive collaboration with public safety services, and includes the possibility for consolidation of public safety services.

Commissioner Rice moved, seconded by Commissioner Wescott that the Commission goes on record in support of actualizing the Strategic Plan for the Fire Department.

Ayes, all; nays, none. Motion carried.

**5. Discussion, with possible action, consideration of hiring one of the three consulting firms interviewed on February 16 to assist in recruitment and selection of new Fire Chief**

President Schleihs said the three things to discuss at this time include the recruitment process, whether or not to hire a consultant and which consulting firm to hire if the decision is made to hire a consulting firm.

The Commissioners feel they are capable of handling some of the recruitment process in order to save the city money. Director Morris will assist in the Pre-Planning, Recruitment Literature Development and Applicant packet stages of the recruitment process.

Commissioner Wescott moved, seconded by Commissioner Taylor, to retain McGrath & Associates to assist in the recruitment and selection of a new Fire Chief.

Ayes: Rice, Schlice, Taylor and Wescott  
Nays: Nuck

There was a discussion regarding potential funding to pay for McGrath Consulting Group's fee. Director Morris informed the commission of a discussion he had with Sandie Curtis in which she feels it would be appropriate to utilize the reserve fund to pay for half of the consultant's fee. The city would fund the other half either through its operating budget or a reserve account.

Director Morris informed the Commission that McGrath Consulting Group sent a revised quote of \$15,000.00 to handle the restructured recruitment and selection process.

President Schleihs moved, seconded by Commissioner Taylor, to approve Director Morris to negotiate a contract with McGrath Consulting Group not to exceed \$15,000.00. The contract will specifically state the scope of services requested and will establish a time line for providing these services.

Ayes, all; nays, none. Motion carried.

**6. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 6:27 p.m.



## **Stevens Point Police Department**

1515 Strongs Avenue  
Stevens Point, WI 54481  
Phone 715-346-1500  
Fax 715-346-1509

*"Innovative Policing  
through Partnerships  
with the Community"*



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*Kevin K. Ruder, Chief of Police*

February 24, 2010

Police and Fire Commission  
City of Stevens Point

Re: March Police Chief Report

Commissioners:

The Department would like to make you aware of the following project(s) status updates from the month of February:

- Police School Liaison Update
  - The Department did not receive a response from the school board reference the request to have the action to reduce a police school liaison position brought back for consideration as an agenda line item. Therefore, the Department is developing a resource allocation study to determine the best placement of the remaining two police school liaison officers.
- Citizen Police Academy
  - The second Citizen Academy will begin Tuesday, March 30, 2010. We will be incorporating Fire and EMS Services making it more of a Citizen Public Safety Academy. Interest in the academy is definitely growing within the Community.

Respectfully Submitted:

Kevin K. Ruder  
Chief of Police

# **Police & Fire Commission**

## **Fire Chiefs Report – March 2, 2010**

**John J. Zinda - Chief**



### **1. March Overview:**

I will be attending the Fire Chiefs Educational Conference March 3 – 5. It is being held in the Wisconsin Dells and will cover a wide range of topics that are pertinent to ongoing initiatives in our Department.

I have been working with Administrative Director Morris on issues and agreements that need to be finalized or completed by the end of the summer.

### **2. Capital Projects:**

We are obtaining quotes to move ahead on the two capital projects that are in our 2010 budget. The first is installation of a new fire alarm system at Headquarters Fire Station. The second is a storage garage at Fire Station 2.

## MEMO

To: Police and Fire Commission

From: Jeff Morris  
Administrative Director

Date: February 25, 2010

Ref: March 2010 Director's Report

The Fire Department collective bargaining agreement, plus several outstanding Fire Department grievances brought by the Union remain open. NO further action since the last report, we are awaiting a response from the Union's Attorney.

The interviews with the three consulting firms submitting proposals for assisting with the Fire Chief recruiting process were completed. Discussion with possible action is scheduled as an item on the Commission's March 2<sup>nd</sup> agenda.

The Mayor elected to defer action on the Division/Franklin intersection changes until after a review is made by a traffic engineering firm of various alternatives to improve safety and reduce risk to pedestrians, bicyclists, and motorists.

I anticipate significant upgrades to the CAD system coming on-line in mid-April. These will include having hydrant, layers street maps and pre-plans available on-line and in the hard drives of all Fire Department vehicles. The Commission will be given a demonstration of the system once it is operational.

If you have any questions about this report please feel free to contact me for further explanation.

Thank you.