

City of Stevens Point Meeting Minutes

Police and Fire Commission

Tuesday, September 1, 2009, 4:32 p.m. Present: Commissioners Rice, Schleihs, Taylor and Wescott

Commissioner Nuck, excused

Also Present: Administrative Director Jeff Morris; Police Chief Kevin Ruder, Fire Chief John Zinda; Mayor Andrew Halverson; Fire department personnel: Art Dahms, Justin Thomson, J.B. Moody, Jason Pettis; Roger Hackler, Reid Rocheleau

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2. People to be heard and announcements
3. Discussion, with possible action, hiring UWSP Community Research Center to conduct public opinion research survey on state of Public Safety in Stevens Point
4. Discussion of Fire Department grievance regarding denial of pay for Moody attendance at mandatory Fire Officer 1 training
5. Adjourn into closed session (approximately 5:15 p.m.) pursuant to Wis. Stats. Sec. 19.85 (1) (c) and (e) for the following: a. Probationary Firefighter/Paramedic interview b. Fire Department grievance - denial of pay for Moody attendance at mandatory Fire Officer 1 training
6. Reconvene into open session (approximately one hour after adjourning into closed session) for possible action
7. Approval of Minutes - August 4, 2009 and August 13, 2009
8. Confirmation of bills
9. Presentation for Special Olympics Fund Raiser
10. Police Chief's Report
11. Fire Chief's Report
12. Administrative Director's Report Discussion of Strategic Planning documents and process Discussion of 2010 Public Safety budgets
13. Adjournment

Hearing no objection President Schleihs moved to change the order of the agenda to hear item no. 9, Presentation for Special Olympics Fund Raiser

Police Officer Tony Zblewski, on behalf of the Teamsters Local 662, requested the Commission's support to participate in the "Fueling the Dreams" fundraiser campaign sponsored by Special Olympics. The fundraiser is scheduled for October 24 or November 7. Riser Oil on Highway 10 East has agreed to donate a percentage of every gallon of gasoline purchased to the local Special Olympics Organization.

Commissioner Wescott moved, seconded by Commissioner Taylor, to support Teamsters Local 662 participating in the Special Olympics fundraiser Fueling the Dreams.

Ayes, all; nays, none. Motion carried.

2. People to be heard and announcements

Reid Rocheleau addressed the commission with a concern regarding enforcement of parked vehicles on streets that do not have sidewalks or curbs. A short discussion was held. Someone from the Police Department will follow-up with Mr. Rocheleau regarding his concern.

Roger Hackler addressed the commission regarding recreational noise and how it affects law enforcement and the fire department's ability to effectively do their jobs.

3. Discussion, with possible action, hiring UWSP Community Research Center to conduct public opinion research survey on state of public safety in Stevens Point

Commissioner Rice moved, seconded by Commissioner Wescott, to table this item.

Ayes, all; nays, none. Motion carried.

4. Discussion of Fire Department grievance regarding denial of pay for Moody attendance at mandatory Fire Officer 1 training

J.B. Moody presented oral explanations for the grievance filed on his behalf by the union regarding denial of pay for his attendance at mandatory Fire Officer 1 training.

Chief Zinda presented information in support of his denial of the grievance.

5. Adjourn into closed session (approximately 5:15 p.m.) pursuant to Wis. Stats. Sec. 19.85 (1) c) and (e) for the following:
  - a. Probationary Firefighter/Paramedic
  - b. Fire Department grievance - denial of pay for Moody attendance at mandatory Fire Officer 1 training

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

Ayes: Rice, Schleihs, Taylor, Wescott

Nays, none. Motion carried

6. Reconvene into open session (approximately 1 hour after adjourning into closed session) for possible action

Commissioner Wescott moved, seconded by Commissioner Rice, to reconvene into open session for possible action.

Ayes: Rice, Schleihs, Taylor, Wescott

Nays, none. Motion carried

President Schleihs moved, seconded by Commissioner Rice, to approve hiring Jason Pettis as probationary Firefighter/Paramedic contingent upon the successful completion of all remaining hiring protocol and testing.

Ayes: Rice, Schleihs, Taylor, Wescott

Nays, none. Motion carried

President Schlehs moved, seconded by Commissioner Taylor, to sustain Fire Chief John Zinda's denial of the grievance regarding denial of pay for Moody attendance at mandatory Fire Officer 1 training.

Ayes: Rice, Schlehs, Taylor, Wescott  
Nays: none. Motion carried

#### 7. Approval of minutes - August 4 and August 13, 2009

Commissioner Wescott moved, seconded by Commissioner Taylor, to approve the minutes of the August 4 and August 13, 2009 meetings. The August 4th meeting minutes will be changed to reflect that Closed Session Item 4(d) was postponed.

Ayes, all; nays, none. Motion carried.

#### 8. Confirmation of Bills

Commissioner Wescott moved, seconded by President Schlehs, to accept the confirmation of the August 2009 Police Department bills.

Ayes, all; nays, none. Motion carried.

Commissioner Rice moved, seconded by Commissioner Wescott, to accept the confirmation of the August 2009 Fire Department bills. The Commission asked for more information regarding Act 102 Grant on the last page of the FD bills. Chief Zinda will ask Deputy Chief Kujawa to forward information to the Commission regarding this expense.

Ayes, all; nays, none. Motion carried.

#### 10. Police Chief's Report

Chief Ruder reported:

- **Operational and capital budgets for 2010 have been submitted to the Treasurer's Office.** The capital and operating budgets are currently being reviewed by the Mayor and the Treasurer.
  - **The Department is actively problem solving two locations within the city that have seen an increase in criminal and disorderly behaviors:** the Steele Night Club and Municipal Lot 14, the ShopKo Parking lot.
  - **On August 20th Detective John Lawrynk, along with fellow members of the Central Wisconsin Drug Task Force, were honored by the National Narcotics Officers Association** with the award of drug investigation of the year. The investigation involved the seizure of several kilos of cocaine and the arrests of many dealers across the state. The efforts of not only John but all of the members of the MEG Unit are a testament to the value of working collaboratively and developing partnerships outside of the community.
  - **The University is back in session effective September 2nd.** The first two weeks of school the Department will be calling in extra people in off duty time and denying any discretionary time off. Patrols will consist of foot and bicycle patrols in the downtown area in and around the core. Officers will be instructed to identify any "house parties" and to be proactive in their approach of alerting them to the laws of illegal liquor sales.
- Commissioner Wescott moved, seconded by Commissioner Taylor, to approve the Police Chief's Report for August 2009.

Ayes, all; nays, none. Motion carried.

#### 11. Fire Chief's Report

Chief Zinda reported:

- **The preliminary work on the 2010 operational budget is complete and the Fire Department figures are provided in the packets for review.**
- **Chief Zinda received a written resignation from Tim Sinkler.** Tim has accepted a position with the De Pere Fire Department and his last day of work will be August 30th.
- **The Chief is moving to fill the vacancy created by Tim and has made a conditional offer of employment to Jason Pettis.**
- **The new fire apparatus will receive a final inspection by the truck committee and, if everything is satisfactory, they will be delivered on September 2nd.** It will take approximately three weeks for training and equipment installation before they can be put in service.

Commissioner Rice moved, seconded by Commissioner Taylor, to approve the Fire Chief's Report for August 2009.

Ayes, all; nays, none. Motion carried.

#### 12. Administrative Director's Report

Director Morris reported:

- **The focus of this month's activity has been creation and submission of a proposed 2010 budget to the Mayor and Comptroller Treasurer.** The Chiefs, Lee Ann, Lorna and the Director have worked very hard together to review past spending activity, project future needs and discuss revenue sources as the budgets were assembled. The budgets will allow the Department to accomplish the mission the Commission envisions for creating and sustaining a safe community.
- **The Director is currently reviewing and editing a draft contract from the County for a successor agreement to the current Portage County Emergency Medical Services plan.** The Comptroller/Treasurer is working with the new Portage County Finance Director to develop a funding plan for the agreement. All parties are very encouraged that there will soon be a signed plan.
- **Work continued on improving and development of new outcome reports for the Public Safety IT system.**
- **Lt. Kudronowicz and the Director have begun work on a project to complete a review of the parking system in Stevens Point.** This review will include review of the fee and fine structure, the goals of each parking enforcement zone, overnight parking control strategies, methods of collection and the personnel structure required to enforce the parking related ordinances of the city of Stevens Point.
- **The work of the Commission to create a strategic vision for public safety in Stevens Point continues to move forward.** A planning and visioning meeting on August 13th at the Garage was very successful. The information developed along with follow-up ideas submitted to Commissioner Taylor from the rest of the commission and the Chiefs has provided a great source of data that is currently being assembled.

Commissioner Taylor moved, seconded by Commissioner Rice, to approve the Administrative Director's Report for August 2009.

Ayes, all; nays, none. Motion carried.

#### 13. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 7:09 p.m.

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