

Meeting Minutes

Police & Fire Commission

July 15, 2003, 4:31 p.m. Roll Call Commissioners Boylan, Judy, Meyer, Schmidt and Taylor

Also Present Police Chief Carpenter, Fire Chief Barnes, Mayor Gary Wescott, Alderperson Jack Barr, Mayoral Assistant Jami Gebert, Lt. Ed Eggleston, Officer Mike Bink, BreatheFREE representatives: Anne Hoffman, Carol Weston, Deb Knippel, Jim Ramsay, Cathy MacKay, Nancy Prince

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2. People to be heard and announcements

The Police Department presented Officer Mike Bink a commendation plaque recognizing his exemplary service as police school liaison officer at P. J. Jacobs Junior High School from July 31, 1999 to June 10, 2003. Officer Bink served 12 years as a police officer in Colorado and has now served 8 years with the City. Officer Ben Uitenbroek has been assigned as the next PSL at P. J. Jacobs beginning the fall term.

3. Informational Presentation - BreatheFREE Stevens Point

Representatives of BreatheFREE Stevens Point addressed the Commission. BreatheFREE of Stevens Point is a non profit organization dedicated to making all indoor work sites and indoor public places 100% smoke free. The organization's long-term goal is to make Stevens Point a smoke free community.

4. Approval of Minutes

Commissioner Boylan, moved, seconded by Commissioner Schmidt, to approve the minutes of the June 10, 2003 meeting.

Ayes, all; nays, none. Motion carried.

5. Confirmation of Bills

Commissioner Taylor moved, seconded by Commissioner Boylan, to approve the confirmation of the June 2003 bills.

Ayes, all; nays, none. Motion carried.

6. Discussion, with possible action, extension of police officer eligibility list

Commissioner Taylor moved, seconded by Commissioner Schmidt, to extend the eligibility list expiration date to August 13, 2004 and, if there is a need, the Department will start another recruitment.

Ayes, all; nays, none. Motion carried.

7. Police Chief's Report

Chief Carpenter reported:

- June's statistical reports were reviewed.
- Operational and capital budget recaps were reviewed.
- The Chief has been working with a courthouse security committee on a county/city employee personal safety procedure called "code react." Code react is an announcement over the public address system that alerts employees that there is a potential for workplace violence. The procedure will be considered for the county/city building addresses of 1516 Church Street and 1515 Strongs Avenue.
- The Chief discussed a Federal Bureau of Investigation survey and issues regarding Homeland Security.

Commissioner Schmidt moved, seconded by Commissioner Meyer, to approve the Police Chief's report for June, 2003.

Ayes, all; nays, none. Motion carried.

8. Donations - Fire Department

Commissioner Taylor moved, seconded by Commissioner Meyer, to approve the following donations:

- Forward Electronics: Installation of demonstration telephone system in the Smoke House.
- YMCA: Used weight lifting equipment
- Mrs. Loretta Michelkamp: Used clothes washer
- Portage County Child Passenger Safety Association - new car seat for ambulance

Ayes, all; nays, none. Motion carried.

9. Non-disciplinary extension of entry level probation for firefighter/paramedic

Commissioner Meyer moved, seconded by Commissioner Schmidt, to approve the extension of Brian Spence's probationary period to April 1, 2004.

Ayes, all; nays, none. Motion carried.

10. Fire Chief's Report

Chief Barnes reported:

- Monthly statistical reports were reviewed.
- Operational and capital budgets were reviewed.
- Nine more of the 113 public occupancy inspections were done for the month of June. August 13th the state Fire Consultant will be coming in to assist with eight UWSP buildings, Pacelli High School and Stevens Point Area High School.
- To date 63 firefighter/paramedic applications have been sent out to interested candidates. The deadline to receive completed applications is July 25, 2003.
- The current eligibility list has one remaining candidate. This candidate did not complete the national registry written exam as of this date, but will be re-testing. He has also stated that he will be re-applying for the next list.
- The Paramedic on bikes program utilized at Riverfront Rendezvous was a huge success again this year.
- The thermal imaging camera was recently utilized at SPASH to detect a smoldering fire in some concealed cellulose insulation. This fire was not readily visible.

Commissioner Schmidt moved, seconded by Commissioner Taylor, to approve the Fire Chief's report for June, 2003.

Ayes, all; nays, none. Motion Carried.

11. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 5:44 p.m.

The Commission, and other guests, were then taken on a tour of the following projects/items:

- New slide pole door system - In-house effort by on-duty crews
- Clothes washer donation - Private citizen
- Physical fitness equipment - YMCA donation and in-house efforts
- HVAC upgrade - Capital project by City
- Fire Safety Smoke House - In-kind donations and in-house effort
- Quint fire engine upgrades - Manufacturer upgrades/repairs
- Replacement ambulance - City/County project

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