



Police and Fire Commission

City of Stevens Point
1515 Strongs Avenue
Stevens Point WI 54481

July 7, 2011
4:32 p.m.

- 1. Roll Call:** Commissioners George Hanson, Dave Schleih, Gary Wescott
Commissioners Nook and Taylor, excused

Also

Present: Police Chief Kevin Ruder, Director Sally McGinty, Interim Fire Chief Tracey Kujawa; Alderperson Brian Brooks

- 2. People to be heard and announcements**

None.

- 3. Approval of Minutes**

Commissioner Hanson moved, seconded by Commissioner Wescott, to approve the minutes of the June 2nd and June 7th 2011 meetings.

Ayes, all; nays, none. Motion carried.

- 4. Confirmation of Bills**

Commissioner Wescott moved, seconded by Commissioner Hanson to accept the confirmation of the June Police Department bills.

Ayes, all; nays, none. Motion carried.

Commissioner Wescott moved, seconded by Commissioner Schleih, to accept the confirmation of the June Fire Department bills.

Ayes, all; nays, none. Motion carried.

- 5. Discussion, with possible action, fire chief recruitment process**

This item is tabled and will be discussed at the August Police and Fire Commission meeting.

- 6. Fire Chief's Report**

Interim Chief Kujawa reported:

- The Stevens Point Fire Department hosted a meeting of all fire departments in Portage County who have technical rescue certification or involvement. The goal is to organize resources specific to technical rescue and generate a deployment strategy that is beneficial to the community. Lt. Zvara and MPO Baganz will represent the Fire Department in the series of meetings that will be required to accomplish this initiative.
- The Fire Department applied for a Porta-CAFS (Compressed Air Foam System) through a DNR grant. This piece of equipment has many features that will assist in fighting both structural and wild land fires.
- Fire training has been conducted on positive pressure ventilation for all Fire Department personnel. Acting Chief Finn has managed the training at a house that has been secured for fire training by the Stevens Point Airport. Also included was training in the art of reading smoke which is helpful in determining fire conditions within a structure and location of a fire.
- The Fire Department responded to a fire at New Page Paper Mill on June 25, 2011. The Department performed their tasks efficiently and was able to extinguish the fire in an expedient manner with no loss of life and minimal loss of property.
- A Rapid Deployment Craft was recently purchased for water rescue. This piece of equipment can be easily deployed in areas that are difficult to access with the department's other water rescue apparatus. Lt. Davis was charged with making the purchase and is now looking into improving the department with both swift water rescue and flood water operations.
- Shane Westphal began his career at the department on June 27, 2011.
- Two Stevens Point Firefighter/Paramedics, two Plover Emergency Medical Responders, two Plover Police Officers and a Portage County dispatcher received the "Sudden Cardiac Arrest Pin." The "Sudden Cardiac Arrest Pin" is a reminder to all that wear it that in the event of a witnessed sudden cardiac arrest, immediate CPR along with automatic external defibrillation can be the difference between life and death. These pins will be a symbol to our community that we, as a community, need access to automatic external defibrillators and training in CPR.

Commissioner Schleih's moved, seconded by Commissioner Wescott, to approve the Fire Chief's report for June 2011.

Ayes, all; nays, none. Motion carried.

7. Police Chief's Report

Chief Ruder reported:

- Officer Trina James was selected to be the next Police School Liaison Officer at SPASH starting the 2011/2012 school year. In an effort to enhance career development, the Department rotates specialized officer assignments in cycles of 3 to 5 years dependent on performance

and officer request. Officer Tim Obremski has been the liaison officer since January 22, 2007. Officer Obremski's service at SPASH was commendable and much appreciated.

- This past month Governor Walker signed Act 29 repealing the law mandating the collection of personal data of all occupants of a motor vehicle stopped by a police officer. The original law was enacted to address concerns of racial profiling in law enforcement. The Department will continue to collect the information in an effort to answer any questions reference concerns of racial profiling in the future.
- Governor Walker is expected to sign legislation this month allowing carrying concealed weapons with a permit. The Department will be reviewing the legislation and its impact on the community once it is signed and becomes law. The law is expected to take effect in October or November. The Department has already received a number of inquiries for permits.
- The Department is still researching the various police vehicle platforms to replace the discontinued Ford Crown Victoria in preparation for the 2012 budget cycle. Officers were able to test drive a police package Dodge Charger for a week and give their opinions of the vehicle. Ford's newest police vehicle, Next Generation Police Interceptor, will also be solicited to provide a test vehicle. Equipment transfer costs will be higher than normal due to the change in vehicle configuration.

Commissioner Wescott moved, seconded by Commissioner Hanson, to approve the Police Chief's report for June 2011.

Ayes, all; nays, none. Motion carried.

8. Director of Emergency Management Report

Director McGinty reported:

- We have selected an experienced candidate for the dispatch position. Nicole Schlice is scheduled to begin work the week of July 25th, pending successful completion of the physical and psychological exams.
- The City-County dispatch technical working group continues to meet to examine options for dispatch. A series of six meetings is planned between July 5th and August 4th. The group is developing a decision matrix to be used to evaluate alternatives.
- The Director attended pre-conference training courses at the National Emergency Number Association national convention. Sessions were on writing standard operating procedures and communications center consolidation. Both courses were outstanding and will be very beneficial.
- The Active Shooter exercise at SPASH on June 14th was a success. Objectives were to exercise coordination between the City and County SWAT teams, integration of EMS, public information and establishment of a joint information center. Exercise objectives were met and key observations include communications issues within the building and a

need to continue to exercise law enforcement and EMS integrated operations.

- Records Bureau Secretary Roxanne Jester accepted a position in the City Clerk's office. The Director has submitted a request to the Personnel Committee and Mayor to transfer her position to the Dispatch Center. If approved, this will result in no net gain in personnel, but the Dispatch Center staff will increase to eight (8) and the Records Bureau Staff will decrease to three (3). With increased computerization and more parking tickets being paid on line, the Records Bureau workload has decreased. An additional dispatcher will allow ensuring double coverage during the mission critical times and freeing up police officers from some of the community service tasks they are currently performing. It should also result in less overtime because of greater flexibility in modifying shift to provide necessary coverage.

Commissioner Schleih moved, seconded by Commissioner Hanson, to accept the Emergency Management Director's report for June 2011.

Ayes, all; nays, none. Motion carried.

9. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 5:35 p.m.