



MINUTES
CITY OF WAUPUN POLICE & FIRE COMMISSION
Waupun Safety Building – 16 E. Main Street, Waupun WI
Tuesday, June 23, 2020 at 4:30pm

Upon reasonable notice, efforts will be made to accommodate disabled individuals through appropriate aids and services. For additional information, contact the City Clerk at 920-324-7915.

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting convened at 4:30 p.m. by PFC President in the Waupun Safety Building.

ROLL CALL

Members present: John Bett, Carole Cronin, Zak Dickhut, Tara Rhodes, Michael Thurmer, Nancy Vanderkin (City Council Liaison).

Members absent (excused): N/A

Also present: WPD Chief Scott Loudon, WFD Chief BJ DeMaa.

RECOGNITION OF MAYORAL APPOINTMENT AND NOMINATION OF APPOINTMENTS

The following annual Commission Nomination and Appointments were recognized:

- Recognition of Mayoral Appointment of Citizen Zack Dickhut.
- Recognition of Mayoral Appointment of Council Member Liaison N. Vanderkin.
- Nomination and motion by J. Bett and C. Cronin for M. Thurmer for President; all in favor, motion passed.
- Nomination and motion by C. Cronin and T. Rhodes for J. Bett for Vice President; all in favor, motion passed.
- Nomination and motion by J. Bett and C. Cronin for T. Rhodes for Secretary; all in favor, motion passed.

The PFC would like to recognize John Forsythe; in great appreciation of serving on the Commission for many years.

Commission confirmed meetings will be held quarterly and date of next meeting will be set at each meeting. Recognized need to be flexible due to hiring needs of Fire and Police Departments.

MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

Minutes from the March 11, 2020 meetings were presented for approval. Motion to approve by John B. (Carol C. second; all in favor). Minutes approved as presented.

Minutes from the April 15, 2020 meetings were presented for approval. Motion to approve by John B. (Carol C. second; all in favor). Minutes approved as presented. (*Note: Invites to 4/15/2020 meeting were held to quorum minimum due to COVID19 "Safer at Home" order.*)

GENERAL DISCUSSION AND EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION CONCERNING THE NORMAL OPERATIONS OF THE WAUPUN POLICE DEPARTMENT AND WAUPUN FIRE DEPARTMENT

WPD Chief Scott Loudon provided the following update(s):

Staffing

- Alyssa Keller sworn in this morning as an officer. Committed to the department and the Waupun Community. Next: 12-week field training (she has graduated). This brings department to full staff.
- Source of funding for Police School Liaison position is under review/in discussion due to unknowns for 2020-2021 school year (contracted position, decision will be made by School Board).
- Grateful Waupun officers are respected and supported; morale is down and officers are worried. Concern with future hiring needs.
- Training: restarting as much as possible with social distancing guidelines. All officers recently attended sessions at FVTC and WCI.

- New lieutenant on 3rd shift doing well.

Operations

- Lobby plans to open July 6th unless spike in COVID19; still social distancing.
- Governor published new legislation, WPD already complies with it: i.e. no choke-holding, documentation of use-of-force, standardized procedures, training, etc.
- Officers have a body microphone which feeds to the vehicle, which has a camera. Body cameras not in the current budget and are expensive.
- Officers were ready for voluntary deployment to Madison protests; but were called off. Possible protest last week at WCI did not occur but WPD was prepared to assist to ensure nonviolent approach and safety for all involved and for those traveling in the area.
- WPD checking/reviewing policies to ensure they are up-to-date.
- Suggestion for Chief Loudon to connect with Mayor Nickel; consider contacting Legislators proactively regarding changes in related laws (such as what has been enacted recently in Colorado).

Calls/Complaints

- Traffic enforcement is still active as-usual. Not going into residences for complaints; not as involved as in past on EMS calls; due to social distancing guidelines.
- ATV pursuit; charges sent to DA. The laws/ordinances do not align with ATV use/licensure which causes issues. Will be voted upon again in January (was a one-year trial period).

WFD BJ DeMaa provided the following update(s):

Staffing

- Probationary firefighter completed all requirements; will reach one year in a couple of months.
- Six firefighters completed firefighters 2 certification; 2 completed driver-operator training.
- State has made some changes recently related to fire officer training and driver/operator training. Operator training will require a state-approved course through technical college to be able to operate a vehicle in an emergency situation (used to be able to provide internally). As of 10/2018, individuals will need to take an officer's course to qualify for a fire officer position. Both of these changes mean training will need to occur
- For April/May: group divided into smaller groups and did same training multiple times to get everyone through.

Operations

- Small COVID19 outbreak at DCI; 5-6 inmates tested positive as well as an employee. Two firefighters work at DCI; one, who was in contact with a positive, is not working at/for WFD for 14-days.
- City of Waupun is working on EMS contact renewal. Waupun is part of larger district (ten jurisdictions). Lifestar reviewing drafted 3-year contract renewal. Difficult when third 911 call comes in (two ambulances onsite in Waupun are already dispatched). Advisor recommending creating a first-responder group who can fill gap in this situation (while waiting for response from FDL or Beaver Dam). Anticipating contract finalization by end-of-July.
- Two water boats for rescues: one went to Watertown; second to be stored in Waupun and applicable training will occur. USF&W will help with training.
- Grant submitted to AFG (Federal Government) for ~\$40,000 to replace ~9,000ft of suppression hose (ours is 15-20years old which is 5-10 years beyond expected life-span).

Calls/Services

- Practicing social distancing whenever possible when called.
- COVID19 put a hold on fire inspections, however all do need to be made up before end of year. Annually, approximately 700 are completed in 12months; now will be fit into 6-8 months. Prioritizing needs; and have reduced inspector resources. Recommendation to consider a suggestion to City Council that time

spent during class training (two weeks) be paid time (class is reimbursed; there is a two-year on-the-job training to become inspector).

FUTURE MEETINGS AND GATHERING INVOLVING THE POLICE AND FIRE COMMISSION

Next Commission meeting will be held September 16, 2020 at 4:30pm.

If necessary, please send any agenda requests to Chiefs BJ DeMaa or S. Loudon so appropriate preparation(s) can be made.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn meeting at 5:35pm made by T. Rhodes (second by C. Cronin; all in favor).

Respectfully submitted,
Tara Rhodes, Secretary

Cc: Commission members; WFD Chief; WPD Chief, Deputy Chief & Admin./Records; City of Waupun Mayor, Administrator / Director of Economic Development & City Clerk.