



MINUTES
CITY OF WAUPUN POLICE & FIRE COMMISSION (PFC)
Waupun Safety Building – 16 E. Main Street, Waupun WI
Thursday, September 21, 2023 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 4:36pm by PFC President in the Waupun Safety Building.

ROLL CALL

Present: John Bett, Bambi Buchholz, Teresa Heidemann, Bobbi Jo Kunz, Tara Rhodes, Mike Thurmer, Waupun Fire Department (WFD) Chief BJ DeMaa, Waupun Police Department (WPD) Chief Scott Loudon

Member(s) absent (excused): N/A

Guests: Assistant Fire Chief Mike Beer

MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

Minutes from the September 13, 2023 meeting were presented for approval. Motion to approve minutes as submitted at 4:37pm by J. Bett, T Heidemann second; all in favor, motion passed.

GENERAL DISCUSSION AND EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION CONCERNING THE NORMAL OPERATIONS OF THE WAUPUN POLICE DEPARTMENT (WPD) AND WAUPUN FIRE DEPARTMENT (WFD)

WPD

Staffing:

- Three conditional offers have been made, 1 of these candidates is certified and 2 are in process.
- Currently staffed at 13
- The City and Union will be meeting to discuss key items which include compensation, benefits and shift schedule for qualified and in-training staff, M. Thurmer noting the importance of addressing in-training staff compensation/benefits to ensure we are competitive with other area departments and able to recruit and retain.

Training:

- Joined the Dodge/Fond du Lac County teams in Child Abduction Response Team training.
- Deputy J. Rasch, D. Greenfield and D Deboer attended sessions focusing on stress management and emotional intelligence.
- Crime Scene training occurred with Dodge County to ensure/reinforce proper protocols are followed.

Police:

- School is back in session and Officer liaison is very busy with related school needs.
- Five children have been removed from unsafe conditions (neglect/drug activity); coordinated with Child Protective Services
- Two sex-offender requests to live in Waupun were denied
- Investigations in-process related to drug overdose and sexual assault cases.
- Domestic Violence Event (Brown Street): Officers responded to this event which resulted in an armed suspect taking his own life. Due to the presence of officers when it occurred, Dodge County was called in to investigate and no concerns were identified. The officer who had a gun aimed at him has received support and the department participated in a debriefing.

The WPD, along with the WFD, will be offering the annual Community Services Open House on 10/9 from 5-8 p.m.

WFD

Staffing:

- Firefighters: Three new hires onboarded this summer; two are working through training program and third is attending Firefighter 1 classes through May 2024. Currently short 1 Firefighter.
- EMRs: Three new hires were onboarded in late spring/early summer; completed final test last evening, with next step being the NREMT test in October/November. The goal is to have them schedule-available by January. Currently short 3 EMRs.
- Chief DeMaa recommends the following fire/EMR promotions:
 - Fire: Cliff Teletzke from Lieutenant to Captain (position vacated by Paul Beder)
 - Fire: Wayne Oppermann from Firefighter to Lieutenant (position vacated by Cliff Teletzke)
 - EMR: Bobbie Vossekul from EMR to EMR Captain – Scheduling

Fire:

- Fire study continuing to progress. A community survey was completed as was a member survey. Call, training, and administrative data was also shared; expecting an initial draft of report in 2-4 weeks.
- Currently have one high school fire intern from the Waupun Area School District (a second individual was interested however has not responded to recent emails).
- Chief DeMaa attended the monthly Mayor's update at the Senior Center to share information on the staffing study and the trends that are driving this discussion.
- Met with all three Waupun Department of Corrections (DOC) facility Wardens to clarify fire response. The WFD had received inquiries from the NY Times (which was WFD's first notification of the fire) and WIS Politics regarding a fire incident that took place at Waupun Correctional Institution (WCI). PFC discussion around regular meetings confirmed this type of conversation occurs at the annual WFD and DOC Work Disturbance meetings.

EMS:

- The EMS Flex Grant will be closing soon; \$20K of funds were reallocated to best meet agency needs
- Strategically, we are looking at what it will take to evolve into a transport-level agency (what we had referred to as phase 2 in previous discussions).
- Monitoring of the contracted EMS service continues and recognized there has been a higher number of misses by our contracted EMS service than normal. Since July 9th, six mutual aid requests (4th time since 8/27) have been made to the City of Beaver Dam. The EMR program has helped support however does not eliminate the risk of a possible emergency need/inability for EMS to respond timely.

Community Risk Reduction (Public Education):

- Met with 2 local youth to go through our Juvenile Firesetter Program.
- Were able to participate in the Downtown Market with our Survive Alive house, the end-of-the-year party with the Rec Department with a giant sprinkler, and a show-and-tell event at First Reformed Church VBS.
- Fire extinguisher training at a local business
- Evacuation chair training with SSM Health – Waupun Memorial Hospital
- Multiple requests from local groups for CPR/AED training
- Fire Prevention Week scheduled for October 8-14. Community Services Open House will take place on 10/9 from 5-8 p.m.

Emergency Management:

- August 16th siren issue caused evening activation of two of the four sirens (both on Madison Street corridor). It is believed that the activation came from a low-power source; no source has been located.
- Training through TEEEX (Texas A&M Engineering Extension Service) on Infrastructure Disaster Management. TEEEX is an internationally recognized leader in emergency response training, workforce training and technical assistance.
 - Disaster Management for Public Services (MGT317)
 - Disaster Preparedness for Hospitals and Healthcare Organizations within the Community Infrastructure (MGT341)
 - Management for Electric Power Systems (MGT345)

- Disaster Management for Water and Wastewater Utilities (MGT343)

Motion to accept recommendation to promote Cliff Teletzke (current Lieutenant) to Captain at 5:23pm made by J. Bett, T. Heidemann second; all in favor, motion passed.

Motion to accept recommendation to promote Wayne Oppermann (current firefighter) to Lieutenant at 5:24pm made by J. Bett, T. Rhodes second; all in favor, motion passed.

Motion to accept recommendation to promote Bobbi Vossekul (current EMR) to EMR Captain (scheduling) at 5:25pm made by J. Bett, B. Buchholz second; all in favor, motion passed.

Chief DeMaa shared an effective date of 10/1/2023 for these promotions.

FUTURE MEETINGS AND GATHERING INVOLVING THE POLICE AND FIRE COMMISSION

Next Commission meeting is scheduled for December 13, 2023 at 4:30pm (the Commission meets quarterly, at minimum).

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

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ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn meeting at 5:27pm made by J. Bett, T. Heidemann second; all in favor, motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,
Tara Rhodes, Secretary