



POLICE & FIRE COMMISSION

Meeting Minutes

Monday January 11, 2021, 6:00 p.m.

Port Washington Police Dept. Community Room, 365 N. Wisconsin Street

1. Roll call. Present Richard Nelson, Terry Tietzen, Jennifer Clearwater, James Biever, Edward Johnson. Also Present Fire Chief Mark Mitchell, Police Chief Kevin Hingiss, Mayor Martin Becker, Alderperson Dan Benning, City Administrator Anthony Brown, Officer Jason Bergin and Kris Halbig-Ziehm-Ozaukee Press.
2. Public Appearances, Comments, and Correspondence. None.
3. Review of Previous Meeting Minutes. Motion by T. Tietzen second by J. Clearwater to approve the meeting minutes from December 14, 2020. Motion passed.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

1. Review Bills December 2020 Discussion.
2. Review budget-2020 Discussion. Final budget review for year 2020, should be available March/April 2021.
3. Review Municipal Court statement November 2020.
4. Review calls for service December 2020.
5. Discussion on financing of School Resource Officer at the Port Washington-Saukville School District. Officer Jason Bergin explains how he visits each district school daily and is tracking how much time he spends at each school. He has developed relationships with faculty, staff, and students. Many times students will talk with him while they wouldn't confide in others. Chief Hingiss presented a document "School Resource Officer Funding Breakdown" for school districts in Grafton, Cedarburg, Mequon-Thiensville, and Port Washington explains how funding is broken down between individual departments, their municipality, and school district. Chief Hingiss has met with the district's business director and had preliminary discussions regarding SRO funding. Chief Hingiss suggested that the school District pay 75% of the SRO's salary and benefits. Mr. Brown suggested that the district needs to participate in funding of the SRO salary and benefits. Mayor Becker stated that the School District should contribute to the SRO's salary and benefits and that the village of Saukville pay according to the number of Saukville students in the city's schools. The consensus of the commission is that the district contribute to the SRO's salary and benefits and pay for the SRO's training. Meetings between the Police Department and School District will continue.
6. Update on 2020 Protest Arrest. Suspect who threw a water bottle into an occupied auto during this summer's protests was convicted and sentenced to one year jail; sentence stayed.
7. Update on Axon body worn cameras. The hardware has been received and installation and "Train the Trainer" will be conducted by Axon on February 2, 2021.
8. E-Mail received by Administrator Brown commending the actions of Officers Eric Leet, Daniel Wolff, and Ryan Hurda. On Christmas morning 2020, the three officers responded to a fire call in an apartment on Freeman Dr. The officers attempted entry but due to heavy smoke were not able to enter the apartment. The officers alerted other residents of the building and determined that the apartment involved in the fire was occupied. That information was reported to Fire Department personnel on their arrival. **See note under FIRE DEPARTMENT 3. a.** regarding action by fire crew at the apartment fire. The PFC joins Mr. Brown in commending the officers for their action.
9. Wisconsin Crossing Guard Recognition Week is January 11-19, 2021. The Crossing Guard staff does an outstanding job assisting students in their journey to and from school. The department gave each member a small gift and card thanking them for their work in all kinds of weather and during the pandemic. The PFC adds their thanks for keeping our students safe and the work they perform.
10. Other business as permitted by law: Review of meeting schedules and calendar matters; referrals to future meetings. None

AMBULANCE DEPARTMENT

1. Review and discussion - December 2020 Ambulance Invoices
2. Review and discussion - 2020 Ambulance Budget through 12/31/2020. Preliminary only.
3. Review and discussion - December 2020 Ambulance calls, both Transports and Non-Transports
4. Review and discussion - December 2020 Paramedic Intercepts
5. Discussion and possible action to hire Sam Lorge as a part-time EMT-Basic pending pre-employment physical and background check. Mr. Lorge is training for Paramedic certification. Motion by J. Biever second T. Tietyen to hire Mr. Lorge upon completion of pre-employment checks. Motion carried.
6. Update on the full-time position hiring. See discussion item #7 Ambulance Department.
7. Discussion and action to switch the full time employee hiring from a full-time EMT-Paramedic position back to a full-time Firefighter/Paramedic position per the Federal Fair Labor Standards Act dealing with overtime restrictions. Chief Mitchell explains the the FLSA exempts the position of Paramedic/Firefighter from overtime issues but does not include just a paramedic. If a paramedic (not paramedic/firefighter dual certification) is hired that position would be eligible for overtime. Overtime for the paramedic position was not included in the salary account for the paramedic positions for 2021. Discussion: A request to determine the amount of salary involved in the overtime for the year. And a request that the issue of paramedic overtime be referred to the city labor attorney for clarification. Item to be included for the February 2021 PFC meeting.
8. Other business as permitted by law: None

FIRE DEPARTMENT

1. Review and discussion - December 2020 Fire Invoices
2. Review and discussion - 2020 Fire Budget through 12/31/2020. Preliminary only.
3. Review and discussion - December 2020 Fire calls. There were 2 more fire calls in 2020 than in 2019. **3.a.** December 25, 2020 a Fire Crew responded to a fire call at an apartment fire on Freeman Dr. Upon arrival the police officers on scene had information that the apartment was occupied. Fire personal entered the burning apartment conducted a search and found a victim on the living room floor suffering burns and possible smoke inhalation. The victim was taken to an area hospital and then taken by Flight to Columbia St. Mary's Burn Center for treatment. The fire personal who entered the building are commended for their actions in saving the victims life. They are Fire Lieutenant Jason Weis, Engineer Brandon Gregozeski, Firefighter Adam Lanser and Firefighter Kurt Ellmauer. The PFC along with the Fire Department commend the actions of these firefighters.
4. Discussion and possible action to hire Christopher Miotke, as a part-time Probationary Firefighter and Nicholas Castner, as a part-time Probationary Firefighter/EMT-B both pending pre-employment physical exams and background checks. Motion J. Biever second E. Johnson to hire both subject to pre-employment screening. Motion carried.
5. Other business as permitted by law. Review of meeting schedule and calendar matters; referral to future meetings. Next PFC meeting February 8, 2021. Possible meeting January 27, 2021 for performance review Chief Mitchell and Chief Hingiss.

Adjournment; Motion by E. Johnson second J. Biever to adjourn. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned 7:30 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Terry Tietyen, Secretary

PFC Commissioners: Chair Richard Nelson, Terry Tietyen, Jennifer Clearwater, James Biever, Edward Johnson