

Police and Fire Commission
Special Meeting Minutes
Thursday, Sept. 30, 2021

Attendance: Tim Boldt, Frank King, Vikki Peterson, Mike Dalecki, Deborah Rice, Council Liaison Kathy Kopp, City Manager Adam Ruechels, Fire Chief Ryan Simmons, Police Lieutenant Andrea Droessler, Police Lieutenant Josh Grabandt, Chief of Police Doug McKinley

- The meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m. by President Dalecki
- The meeting minutes from the Sept. 7, 2021 meeting were unanimously approved (motion by Boldt, 2nd by Peterson).
- There were no citizen comments or observations.
- Fire Department Update:

I. Membership Update

- No changes from last month.

II. Reports of Significant Service Calls

- We have had 196 calls to date for the year compared to 171 for the same time in 2020 which puts us currently at 25 more calls over 2020 volume YTD. This is the same up tick of calls as last month.

III. Information Updates

- Chapter 24 Fire Prevention Ordinance – Goes to Planning Commission for final feedback on Monday, October 4th. Currently planned to provide a copy for PFC members prior to November meeting so questions/comments can be discussed during the November meeting. The ordinance is likely to go to the City Council on October 12th as an informational item for their first viewing.
- Fire Service Agreements - City Manager Ruechel and Fire Chief Simmons have met with 5 of the 7 townships that contract fire protection services from the City of Platteville. We are scheduled to meet with the last 2 townships in October. All 5 townships we have met with have approved the new agreements. New agreements are scheduled to go into effect January 1, 2022.
- Radio System Update – The City decided to have Racom, a radio vendor who is not our current radio vendor, to do a preventative maintenance/overview check of all the City's radio systems. It was felt they would give a more thorough report on the current equipment/system as they did not install or maintain any of the current radio system equipment we are using. We are scheduled to have an internal department meeting next week to begin reviewing their report to determine what the next steps are to ensure critical radio communications for public safety are no longer insufficient leaving responder safety in question due to an insufficient radio system.
- Fire Prevention Week – The first week of October is fire prevention week. The fire department will have an open house on Monday, October 4th from 6pm-8pm at the fire station.

IV. Personnel Issues/Concerns/Updates

- Nothing at this time.
- Police Department Update:

- Tina Davies has started as a part-time Telecommunicator; the PD will be going through its accreditation audit on Oct. 5-7; a department meeting will be held on Oct. 13th-awards will be presented to Dept. Staff; CRO Josh Stowe was featured in an article in the Telegraph Herald and he has become a local “celebrity” due to the viral Tik Tok video ‘Dance with Your CRO”; We are continuing to address radio issues with the FD and other city departments; negotiations with the WPPA Union on behalf of the Police Officers are underway; We are getting closer to hiring Jeremy Tyler as a Police Officer
- The Commission went into closed session at 5:24 p.m. on a unanimous vote per Wisconsin Statute 19.85(1)(c)-Considering employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility. (motion by Peterson, 2nd by Rice)
- Police Officer new hire interviews were conducted with 4 applicants
- The Commission returned to open session at 7:45 p.m.
- An eligibility pool of 3 applicants was established on a unanimous vote (motion by Boldt, 2nd by King). The hiring pool consists of Bryce Beauchaine, Dave Gushulak, and Larissa Klemm.
- The October 5th meeting of the PFC has been canceled.
- The meeting adjourned at 7:46 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Doug McKinley
Chief of Police