

Police and Fire Commission  
Regular Meeting Minutes  
November 1, 2022

Attendance: Tim Boldt, Deborah Rice, Vikki Peterson, Will LeSuer, Council Liaison Kathy Kopp, Fire Chief Ryan Simmons, Chief of Police Doug McKinley, Absent-Jason Thompson

- The meeting was called to order at 5:07 p.m. by President Boldt
- The meeting minutes from the September 6, 2022 were unanimously approved. (motion by Peterson, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Rice)
- Citizen Comments and Observations: Rice noted that someone set off fireworks in Hillside Cemetery on Halloween night; various members noted friction between neighbors in the area of Westview School and people dropping off students on school days; Kopp thanked Emergency Services for providing assistance for trick or treaters on Halloween
- Fire Department Update:

**I. Membership Update**

- We are currently at 53 volunteer firefighters with 1 additional applicant going through the interview process.
- We currently have 4 new members who start their firefighter training this month. The training will take approximately 6 months to complete and are scheduled to their completion date in late April or early May. Although they are unable to perform active firefighting, they can assist with many other tasks at calls.

**II. Reports of Significant Service Calls**

- The fire department responded to 12 incidents in September. FD response summary is as follows:

Fires.....	3
Vehicle Crashes .....	2
Gas Odor/CO Alarms.....	3
Alarm System Activation.....	0
EMS Lift Assist .....	1
Other .....	3

- The fire department responded to 25 incidents in October. FD response summary is as follows:

Fires.....	7
Vehicle Crashes .....	1
Gas Odor/CO Alarms.....	3
Alarm System Activation.....	6
EMS Lift Assist .....	2
Other .....	6

### III. Information Updates

- Fire Station Project Update – Fire department leadership, City Staff, and Council Leadership have been working with Wendel/Five Bugles Design on a Concept Design for the new fire station. We believe we have a Concept Design finalized and the architects will be working on site layout and preparing for the next phase which is schematic design which will start the actual design of the building.

A survey of the property was completed the week of October 17<sup>th</sup> with a final survey report due the first week of November. Wendel/Five Bugles Design are scheduled to give a presentation/update on the project at the November 8, 2022 Common Council meeting. They will also be going over the Concept Design during the presentation.

Bids have also been received for the Geotechnical Engineering of the property. Geotechnical engineering of the property is part of the USDA report that is required prior to the City receiving the \$7 million appropriation funds.

The next phases will be to begin working on additional grants for funding as well as begin creating a fundraising campaign to support the project.

- Mobile Radio CIP Update – The radios have been ordered for some time. We have been given an ETA of mid-November for the radios to arrive. We have begun working with the vendor on steps to have any prework completed so once the radios are received, we can have them programmed and ready for installation in a short timeframe.
- Radio Repeater Update – We have been working with Grant County Sheriff Dept. to secure space on the new communications tower that will be going up in 2023 just outside of Platteville. This will be a great asset to us and will help improve communications for us. We have been advised that they have allocated space for us and will be at no cost to the City. We have a new repeater, antenna, and all other accessories needed to install an updated repeater and tie it into the Platteville & Grant Co. Dispatch centers as a 2023 Capital Improvement Plan item in the 2023 budget. This will allow for seamless integration into the new county communications tower.
- Dispatch Discussions – We have been working with Platteville PD and Grant County Sheriff on streamlining some of our dispatch processes. We have been able to work out many details and procedure updates that will allow both dispatch centers to be more efficient as well as allow us to directly communicate with whichever dispatch center covers the area we are responding to. If we are in the city, we will use Platteville PD. If we are responding outside the City into the County, we will communicate directly with Grant County Dispatch instead of calling Platteville PD and having them relay the information for us. We have plans to have policies and procedures in place and for the changes to take effect in early 2023.
- Fire Prevention – October is fire prevention month for us. We kicked off our fire prevention activities with an open house at the fire station on October 10<sup>th</sup> which was well attended by our community. The open house gives us the opportunity to interact with community members and families to promote fire safety while giving kids and community members to walk through the

fire station and checkout the apparatus and equipment that we have. We also participated in several tours and class presentations at our schools, daycares, and any group that requested some fire safety education.

#### **IV. Personnel Issues/Concerns/Updates**

- Nothing at this time.
- Police Department Update:
  - Larissa Klemm has approximately 3 weeks of training remaining at the SWTC LE Academy. After graduation she'll begin 16 weeks of on the road field training.
  - The High School homecoming parade, the UW-P homecoming parade, Sweet Treats on Main and Halloween Trick or Treating all went well
  - Officers took part in firearms training at the Vortex facility to get acquainted with our new red-dot sights
  - The PD hosted a community event at the HS parking lot in late September. Emergency equipment and other exhibitors were on hand for show and tell and to interact with the public
  - The PD CIP and Operational budget have been submitted and appear on track to be approved by the Common Council
  - Both new part-time Telecommunicators are nearing the end of their on the job training
  - Crisis Response Team members from the PD took part in a large training scenario
  - Sgt. Matt Froiseth is attending a 3 week FBI sponsored Leadership Academy. This will fulfill our self-imposed requirement to provide management training for new supervisors
  - We anticipate a mid-November arrival date for equipment related to phase I of the city's camera project
  - 2023's PD Budget includes funding for a major upgrade of the PD radio system which will position us well moving into the future and provide redundancy between the Grant County Sheriff's Department and the Platteville PD
- The meeting adjourned at 5:47 p.m. (motion by Rice, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Peterson)

Respectfully Submitted,

Doug McKinley  
Chief of Police