

Police and Fire Commission
Regular Meeting Minutes
August 1, 2023

Attendance: Tim Boldt, Will LeSuer, Jason Thompson, Vikki Peterson, Nathan Manwiller, Council Liaison Kathy Kopp, City Manager Clint Langreck, Fire Chief Ryan Simmons, Chief of Police Doug McKinley

- The meeting was called to order at 5:01 p.m. by President Boldt
- The past meeting minutes from the June 6, 2023 regular meeting of the PFC were unanimously approved (motion by Peterson, 2nd by Manwiller).
- There were no citizen comments or observations.
- Fire Department Update:

I. Membership Update

- We currently have 43 members and have 4 individuals who have shown interest in joining. We are also still working with the City’s communications specialist to create new marketing materials to do a recruitment campaign.

II. Reports of Significant Service Calls

- The fire department responded to 24 incidents in June and 18 incidents in July. We had 3 technical rescue calls in June where we used rope systems to rescue patients who had fallen over large embankments and we had several incidents in July that were weather related. FD response summary for June and July are as follows:

June 2023

Fires.....	6
Vehicle Crashes	7
Gas Odor/CO Alarms.....	5
Alarm System Activation.....	1
EMS Lift Assist	2
Other	3

July 2023

Fires.....	5
Vehicle Crashes	3
Gas Odor/CO Alarms.....	2
Alarm System Activation.....	2
EMS Lift Assist	1
Other	5

III. Information Updates

- Fire Station Project Update – We are still working on concept and schematic design as we had to take a step back and look at a single-story building design due to the initial cost estimate of a 2-story design. City Manager Langreck and Chief Simmons are working on a decision-making matrix which will take all of our options and put them in a chart with common areas of information so all entities

involved in decision making on the project can decide on a course of action to move forward. We are hopeful to have a course of action approved by the Common Council and Townships by the end of September so we can move forward towards a late spring 2024 groundbreaking.

- Radio Repeater Update – We are in the process of getting our FCC licensing updated for the new repeater. The vendor is hopeful to have the new repeater installed and running in the next 2-3 months.
- FEMA AFG Equipment Grant Award - The fire department was awarded a \$388,738.20 federal grant towards the purchase of new SCBA air packs and a new cascading compressor fill station. Our current air packs and compressor are outdated and obsolete and approximately 20 years old. The total project cost will be approximately \$425,000 with the City paying around \$37,000 using funds allocated in the 2023 Capital Improvement Plan.

IV. Personnel Issues/Concerns/Updates

- Nothing at this time.
- Police Department Update:
 - Our newest hire Brendan Overbey is halfway completed with the LE Academy and he is on track to graduate in early Oct.
 - A recent HVAC issue at the PD required Council action to authorize contingency funding for upgrades/repairs and a new vendor to service the HVAC equipment.
 - The City's camera project remains a work in progress.
 - The PD's radio repeater project has been delayed for 9 months to one year due to problems associated with the acquisition of property near Cassville for a site for a radio tower as part of the overall Grant County radio tower project.
 - The PD's radio console project is on hold pending the delivery of equipment.
 - Officer Jarad Bartelt will be assuming the CRO duties just prior to the beginning of the 2023/2024 school year.
 - Two officers are currently off on FMLA until early and mid-September
 - We are working on the PD CIP and operational budgets
 - Southwest Music Fest, the Car Show on Main St. and the 4th of July Events went well.
- PFC By-Laws Update: The Commissioners were asked to review the draft by-laws for content and typos. The by-laws will be discussed again at the September meeting.
- The meeting adjourned at 5:31 pm (motion by Peterson, 2nd by Thompson)