

Police and Fire Commission  
Regular Meeting Minutes  
November 7, 2023

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

- The meeting was called to order at 5:03 pm
- The meeting minutes from the September 5<sup>th</sup>, 2023 PFC meeting were unanimously approved (motion by Peterson, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Thompson).
- There were no citizen comments or observations.
- Fire Department Update:

**I. Membership Update**

- Our roster is currently 50 volunteers. We have had a few new members join over the past couple of months and still receive inquiries from interested individuals. We have many younger volunteers to get trained and proficient with their skills, but they are eager to participate and learn.

**II. Reports of Significant Service Calls**

- The fire department responded to 18 incidents in September. FD response summary for September is as follows:

September 2023

Fires .....	4
Vehicle Crashes .....	4
Gas Odor/CO Alarms .....	4
Alarm System Activation.....	2
EMS Lift Assist .....	1
Other .....	3

- The fire department responded to 21 incidents in October. FD response summary for October is as follows:

October 2023

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

**III. Information Updates**

- Fire Station Project Update – At the October 10<sup>th</sup> Common Council meeting, Council approved moving forward with a Single-Story Fire Facility with 7 apparatus bays at the OE Gray site and to acquire the 2 parcels of land on the south/west side of the OE Gray property. At the October 17<sup>th</sup> Common Council meeting, the Council approved a *Resolution on Determination of Necessity – Property Condemnation* to begin the process of acquiring parcels of land for the project.

We also met with the Architect to begin moving forward with the Schematic Design of the fire facility, have begun working with the CM on what is needed to prepare for demolition of the old buildings as well as a tentative timeline for the project.

Lastly, we have begun meeting with the fundraising committee to get a capital campaign going for the project.

- Radio Repeater Update – This is still in progress, Grant County recently got insurance on the tower which will now allow for the vendor to schedule installation of antenna equipment on the tower. Once, antenna equipment is installed, they can begin getting our radio repeater ready for installation.
- Fire Prevention – October was a busy month for fire prevention as October is fire prevention month. We promoted fire prevention to hundreds of kids in our schools and daycares, we promoted fire prevention throughout the community, and performed fire drills in our schools.
- 2024-2028 CIP Planning & 2024 Operating Budget – We have been going through the budget process over the past month. Our proposed CIP plans and operating budget has been presented to the Common Council with final approval scheduled for the November 28<sup>th</sup> Common Council meeting.

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

- Nothing at this time.
- Police Department Update:

Chief McKinley extensively discussed a recent call involving a person in crisis and the special circumstances involved due to false information which was posted on social media. McKinley explained the steps taken to counter the false narrative and how the mother of the patient in this incident was dealt with.

  - The Dairy Days parade and other associated events went well
  - The UW-P Homecoming parade went well
  - Sweet Treats on Main and Halloween Trick or Treating went well
  - Two Department training days were held for the Officers. Topics included annual policy reviews mandated by our Accreditation status and updates on revised policies, a classroom DAAT discussion and firearms including low-light shooting
  - Officer Brendan Overbey is progressing well during Phase I of his field training program
  - Our radio console project is nearing completion with training for the Telecommunicators next week
  - Progress is being made on the City's camera project with cameras operational at the Broske Center and the Pool, and they're pending at 3 prominent intersections
  - Common Council approval of the WPPA union contract with the Police Officers is anticipated in November.
- The meeting adjourned at 5:45 pm (motion by Manwiller, 2<sup>nd</sup> by LeSuer)

Respectfully submitted,

Doug McKinley-Chief of Police

