



City of West Allis

Meeting Minutes

11301 W. Lincoln Ave.
West Allis, WI 53227

Board of Police and Fire Commissioners

*Commissioner Joseph Kempen, President,
Commissioner Donald Nehmer, Vice-President,
Commissioner Amy Heron, Secretary
Commissioner Fred Mikolajewski*

Thursday, July 17, 2014

6:00 PM

Police Court Center

REGULAR MEETING

A. CALL TO ORDER

Commissioner Kempen called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm

B. ROLL CALL

Present: Commissioners Joseph Kempen, Fred Mikolajewski, Amy Heron and Don Nehmer

Also Present: Fire Chief Steve Bane, Assistant Chief Martin King – Fire Department; Police Chief Chuck Padgett, Deputy Chief Chris Botsch, Captain Steve Beyer – Police Department; Audrey Key, HR Director – City of West Allis; Bridget Kennedy, Recording Secretary

C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Commissioner Nehmer and seconded by Commissioner Heron to approve the June 19, 2014 Regular Meeting Minutes.

D. FIRE DEPARTMENT

1. Firefighting Activity Report

Assistant Chief King submitted the Firefighting Activity Report prepared by Assistant Chief Gary Streicher as well as the corresponding quadrant maps.

AC King reviewed the property loss numbers for June 2013 vs June 2014 as well as the YTD property loss total. AC King then reviewed the significant fires as reported in AC Streicher's firefighting activity report and noted that there were two (2) garage fires during the month that contributed to the increased June 2014 property loss number. AC King also addressed the increased number of false alarms in June and stated that steps are being made to hold businesses accountable for these incidents.

The Commissioners had not additional questions or comments and the report was placed on file.

2. Fire Department Financial Report

Chief Bane submitted the Fire Department Financial Report

Chief Bane stated that the budget continues to be on target, and even a bit under budget in some areas. Chief Bane stated that he expects the budget to continue on track throughout the

year, but reminded the Commissioners that December will include a number of high payouts to include Holiday and Compensation pay.

The Commissioners had no other questions or comments and the report was placed on file.

3. Training Activity Report

Assistant Chief Martin King submitted the Training Activity Report prepared by Deputy Chief Jay Scharfenberg

AC King stated that the first and third weeks of June were dedicated to firefighters/paramedics attending a series of EMS continuing education sessions. He noted that this is a mandatory block of ALS continuing education and was attended by 100% of the department's paramedics.

Additionally, AC King stated that the last week of June was devoted to the annual Self Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) Confidence Course. He stated that for this training, personnel navigated this course in full PPE and breathing from SCBA, demonstrating their ability to overcome obstacles without compromising respiratory protection.

AC King also stated that in early June, PFF's Acker, Emery, Williams and Livingston were assigned to 24 hour duty and continue to do well in their training.

The Commissioners had no other questions or comments and the report was placed on file.

4. Fire Prevention Activity Report

Assistant Chief King submitted the Fire Prevention Activity Report.

AC King stated construction is expected to begin on the new hotel located across from State Fair very soon and estimated construction totals should increase starting in July. AC King also stated that Johnson Controls is leasing space at 801 S. 60th St., and has committed to a large remodel and it is expected that they will bring in approximately 350 jobs to the city.

The Commissioners had no other questions or comments and the report was placed on file.

5. Emergency Medical Services Activity Report

Chief Bane submitted the EMS Activity report as well as the corresponding June Highlighted Call Report prepared by Interim Deputy Chief Kurt Zellmann

Chief Bane noted that year-to-date, call volume is down approximately 3% and approximately down 2% comparing June 2013 to June 2014.

Chief Bane then reviewed a number of the June calls as reported on the submitted call report. He noted that the amount of expertise and personal interaction devoted on these calls continues to amaze him and it is rewarding to read these calls and be reminded of what the department does on a daily basis.

The Commissioners had no other questions or comments and the report was placed on file.

6. Emergency Medical Services Revenue Report

Chief Bane submitted the EMS Revenue Report prepared by Interim Deputy Chief Kurt Zellmann

Chief Bane stated that to-date, the EMS revenue is down slightly and the department still has not received the accurate funding from Milwaukee County EMS.

The Commissioners had no other questions or comments and the report was placed on file.

7. Sick and Injured Report

Chief Bane submitted the Sick & Injured report for June.

Chief Bane stated that short-term sick has not increased but the same cannot be said about long-term sick. Chief Bane noted that there are three (3) fire personnel on long-term sick, although one is currently on light duty. Chief Bane also noted that the department will be revisiting and discussing a wellness/fitness program for the department.

The Commissioners had no other questions or comments and the report was placed on file.

8. Master Plan Performance Snapshot

Chief Bane submitted the Master Plan Performance Snapshot report.

The Commissioners had no other questions or comments and the report was placed on file.

E. POLICE DEPARTMENT

9. Overtime Comparison

Chief Padgett submitted the Overtime Comparison report.

Chief Padgett stated that although better than last month, the numbers are still running high especially in the report writing area and the command staff continues to work with officers on this issue. Chief Padgett also stated that OT should be expected to increase during the month of August as the 11-day run of State Fair requires extra staffing personnel for safety and control issues.

The Commissioners had no other questions or comments and the report was placed on file.

10. Police Department Financial Report

Chief Padgett submitted the Police Department Financial report.

The Commissioners had no other questions or comments and the report was placed on file.

11. Statistics

Chief Padgett submitted the comparison statistic numbers of various crime stats between 2013 and 2014, to date.

The Commissioners had no other questions or comments and the report was placed on file.

12. 2014 YTD Crime Category Overview

Chief Padgett submitted the 2014 YTD Crime Category Overview chart. Chief Padgett stated that overall, the 2014 numbers continue to run static with 2013.

The Commissioners had no other questions or comments and the report was placed on file.

13. Staffing Update

Chief Padgett stated that he would like to begin background investigations on candidates who were interviewed on July 14th & 15th in order to keep the process moving. He stated that the last interviews scheduled for July 28th will consist of 2-4 candidates.

Commissioners agreed that background investigations should begin and on a motion made and seconded, approved Chief Padgett's request.

The Commissioners had no other questions or comments and the report was placed on file.

14. 1st Shift Activity Report

Captain Steve Beyer submitted the First Shift Activity Report prepared by Captain Robert Navarrette

Captain Beyer reviewed an investigation that took place after police were called to break up a fight that included one of the offenders being armed with a handgun. Ct. Beyer stated that after a 7-day investigation, three people were arrested and charged with numerous offenses. Ct. Beyer stated that officers also worked with the property owner to evict said offenders from the property.

The Commissioners had no other questions or comments and the report was placed on file.

15. 2nd Shift Activity Report

Captain Steve Beyer submitted the 2nd Shift Activity Report prepared by Captain Chad Evenson and Lieutenant Nick Pye.

Captain Beyer discussed the number of DUI arrests that happen in the early to mid-afternoon timeframes. He noted that while there is a large number of DUI arrests made during the late evening hours, the number of DUI's during 2nd shift continues to increase. Ct. Beyer stated that one such incident in June occurred at approximately 8 pm and the offender was arrested and charged with his 6th OWI.

Captain Beyer also discussed a very disturbing child abuse case and stated that the offender in the case has been arrested and faces many felony criminal charges.

The Commissioners had no other questions or comments and the report was placed on file.

16. 3rd Shift Activity Report

Captain Steve Beyer submitted the 3rd Shift Activity Report as prepared by Captain Christopher Marks.

Ct. Beyer discussed the officer bike patrol initiative on 3rd Shift and stated that this initiative affords officers the ability to easily patrol difficult areas and locations such as alleyways, for illegal type behavior.

The Commissioners had no other questions or comments and the report was placed on file.

17. Criminal Investigations Unit Activity Report

Captain Steve Beyer submitted the Criminal Investigations Unit Activity Report prepared by Captain Barry Waddell.

Ct. Beyer discussed a rash of daytime burglaries and stated that the department has a strong lead on a suspect. Ct. Beyer stated this particular suspect had recently been released from jail for burglary, and the current string of burglaries began occurring shortly after his release. Captain Beyer noted that this suspect has been brought in several times for questioning but is not cooperative and officers continue to work to connect him to these incidents.

The Commissioners had no other questions or comments and the report was placed on file.

18. Sensitive Crimes Activity Report

Captain Steve Beyer submitted the Sensitive Crimes Activity Report prepared by Lieutenant Jessica Johnson.

Ct. Beyer stated that at this time, a sex offender's potential release into the City of West Allis has been suspended as the Department of Correction continues to re-evaluate his living arrangements with his parents. Ct. Beyer stated that it is hopeful that other arrangements will be made to accommodate this individual.

The Commissioners had no other questions or comments and the report was placed on file.

19. Tavern Violation Report

Captain Steve Beyer submitted the Tavern Violation Report prepared by Lieutenant Jessica Johnson.

The Commissioners had no other questions or comments and the report was placed on file.

20. Special Investigative Unit – 2nd Quarter Report

Captain Steve Buyer submitted the Special Investigation Unit Report prepared by Lieutenant Colin Hughes.

Ct. Beyer reviewed the three significant investigations as reported by Lt. Hughes:

- Significant investigation number one resulted in 2 felony arrests, one misdemeanor arrest as well as the containment of 215.74 grams marijuana, 1.04 grams of cocaine, 4 handguns and money;
- Significant investigation two resulted in 2 felony arrests, as well as the containment of 2.16 grams heroin, 62.04 grams marijuana, 1 stolen firearm and money;
- Significant investigation three resulted in 2 felony arrests as well as the containment of 2.23 grams heroin.

Ct. Beyer stated that heroin usage continues to escalate and he stated that there were 20 heroin related overdoses during the second quarter of 2014, four of which resulted in death.

Ct. Beyer thanked Detective Stachula for his participation and Wisconsin representation at the 2014 Special Olympics held in New Jersey, as the USA Games Final Leg Torch Runner.

The Commissioners had no other questions or comments and the report was placed on file.

21. Communications Activity Report

Deputy Chief Chris Botsch submitted the Communications Activity Report prepared by Lieutenant Christopher Beldin.

DC Botsch stated that they are expecting two of the current dispatchers to be leaving as one is in the current police officer recruitment process and the other has been accepted into the police academy. DC Botsch stated that they spoke with current part-time dispatchers regarding their interest in going full-time and there was no interest. DC Botsch stated that a recruitment process will begin for the anticipated open full-time dispatch positions to hopefully establish an eligibility list in which to fill these positions in a timelier manner.

The Commissioners had no other questions or comments and the report was placed on file.

22. Crime Prevention Activity Report

Deputy Chief Chris Botsch submitted the Crime Prevention Activity Report prepared by Lieutenant Jeff Nohelty.

DC Botsch stated that the move to the police substation continues to progress and it is expected that this division will be operating out of the substation by the end of August. DC Botsch noted that more than likely this division will be renamed the Community Services Bureau as that represents much of what this division does. DC Botsch stated that this division is not only involved in Crime Prevention, but also includes the Community and School liaisons and many community based programs are funneled thru this division.

The Commissioners had no other questions or comments and the report was placed on file.

23. Crime Analyst Report

Deputy Chief Chris Botsch submitted the Crime Analyst Report prepared by Crime Analyst Chrisie Hunter as well as the corresponding crime information bulletins.

DC Botsch stated that Chrisie continues to provide invaluable information to patrol officers as it relates to various suspects and crime patterns taking place within the city. He also noted that Chrisie will be part of the initiative regarding the cold case unit, which will be tasked with reviewing and additional investigation of open cases. DC Botsch noted that new techniques and medical advances over the years, such as DNA matching, will be essential in the success of this initiative.

The Commissioners had no other questions or comments and the report was placed on file.

24. Request for Approval: Crime Analyst Reclassification

Deputy Chief Chris Botsch submitted a proposal for reclassification of the Crime Analyst position.

DC Botsch discussed with the Commissioners the Crime Analyst position held by Chrisie Hunter, stating that this position has evolved since its inception and as such, Chrisie's skill set and knowledge has evolved as well. DC Botsch discussed the reclassification process and method taken to provide an accurate and correct reclassification for this position and asked the Commissioners for their approval for this position reclassification.

A motion was made by Commissioner Nehmer and seconded by Commissioner Mikolajewski to approve the position reclassification and presented by DC Botsch.

The motion carried by the following votes:

Votes: Aye: 4, Commissioners Kempen, Mikolajewski, Heron and Nehmer
No: 0

25. Traffic Report

Deputy Chief Chris Botsch submitted the Traffic Report prepared by Lieutenant Todd Clementi.

The Commissioners had no other questions or comments and the report was placed on file.

26. Training Report

Deputy Chief Chris Botsch submitted the Training Report prepared by Captain Ron Versnik and Sergeant Archie Dunbar.

DC Botsch stated the training department has begun preparing for the new officer recruit class as well as the fall in-service training program. DC Botsch also noted that information regarding the plan and construction of the new training facility is progressing and additional information will be forthcoming regarding the next steps to formally begin the construction.

The Commissioners had no other questions or comments and the report was placed on file.

27. Sick & Injured Report

Deputy Chief Chris Botsch submitted the Sick & Injured Report for July.

The Commissioners had no other questions or comments and the report was placed on file.

28. Request for Approval: Annual Ammunition Purchase

Deputy Chief Chris Botsch submitted the annual ammunition purchase for the Commissioner's approval.

DC Botsch explained to the Commissioners that the bid process for this purchase is coordinated thru the City's purchasing department, and in most cases, the lowest bid (regardless of the vendor) is selected. Commissioner Nehmer requested that going forward, he would like to know exactly what budget line item account all large purchases will be charged to.

A motion made by Commissioner Nehmer and seconded by Commissioner Heron, to approve the annual ammunition purchase as presented by DC Botsch.

The motion carried by the following votes:

Votes: Aye: 4, Commissioners Kempen, Mikolajewski, Heron and Nehmer
 No: 0

F. POLICE AND FIRE COMMISSION

29. Discussion: Scheduling of PFC meetings for August and September

Commissioner Kempen stated that he will be out of town for the August 21st and September 18th PFC meetings and asked if all the Commissioners and both Chiefs would be available to attend the meetings on Wednesday, August 20th and Wednesday, September 17th instead. There were no objections or other conflicts with the suggested dates.

30. Discussion: Common Council Schedule

Commissioner Nehmer stated that time constraints and other responsibilities make it difficult to commit to attend Common Council meetings on a regular basis. Commissioner Nehmer stated that the PFC operates independently from the Common Council and rarely are there items on the agenda that concern the Police and Fire Commission. Commissioner Nehmer suggested that going forward, Commissioners still volunteer to attend Common Council meetings, however, the opportunity is available to not attend if there are no issues on the agenda specific to the PFC. There were no objections to this suggestion. Commissioner Kempen asked that Commissioners will still forward their selected dates to Bridget and she will continue to send out the corresponding agenda for their review and attendance decision.

31. Discussion: Commissioner MedStar Visit

Commissioner Heron stated that Chief Bane had presented an opportunity for her to attend, along with other West Allis employees, a visit to Dallas, TX to tour a facility called MedStar. She stated that MedStar has a Mobile Integrated Health Care program in place and that Chief Bane and others will be visiting this company to better understand how to integrate such a program into the City of West Allis community. Commissioner Heron stated that unfortunately, she will not be able to attend and wanted to share the opportunity with other Commission members to attend if possible. Commissioner Kempen stated that if Commissioner Mikolajewski or Commissioner Nehmer had interest in attending, they should contact Chief Bane directly for more information.

G. CLOSED SESSION

No closed session business scheduled

H. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, on a motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the meeting adjourned at 7:30 pm.

Public Meetings

All meetings of the West Allis Board of Police and Fire Commissioners are public meetings. In order for the general public to make comments at the meetings, an individual should schedule an appearance with the President of the Board, or with the appropriate Chief, otherwise, the meeting is a working session for the Commission itself, and discussion by those in attendance is limited to Board members, the Mayor, alderpersons, staff and others that may be a party to the matter being discussed.

Nondiscrimination Statement

The City of West Allis does not discriminate against individuals on the basis of race, color, religion, age, marital or veterans' status, sex, national origin, disability or any other legally protected status in the admission or access to or treatment or employment in, its services, programs or activities.

American with Disabilities Act Notice

Upon reasonable notice the City will furnish appropriate auxiliary aids and services when necessary to afford individuals with disabilities an equal opportunity to participate in and to enjoy the benefits of a service, program or activity provided by the City.

Limited English Proficiency Statement

It is the policy of the City of West Allis to provide language access services to populations of persons with Limited English Proficiency (LEP) who are eligible to be served or likely to be directly affected by our programs. Such services will be focused on providing meaningful access to our programs, services and/or benefits.