



City of West Allis

7332 W. National Ave.
West Allis, WI 53214

Meeting Minutes

Board of Police and Fire Commissioners

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

Wednesday, August 20, 2014

6:00 PM

West Allis Fire Administration

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, Deputy Chief Jay Scharfenberg, Lieutenant Dave Bandomir, Firefighter Nick Palasz, Firefighter Mallory Sura, Firefighter Tim Kersten, Acting Battalion Chief Brian Potkay – Fire Department; Chief Chuck Padgett, Deputy Chief Chris Botsch, Deputy Chief Bob Fletcher, Captain Steve Beyer

C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Commissioner Nehmer and seconded by Commissioner Heron to approve , the July 14-15, 2014 Special Meeting Minutes, the July 17, 2014 Regular Meeting Minutes and the July 28, 2014 Special Meeting Minutes.

D. POLICE DEPARTMENT

1. Overtime Comparison

Chief Padgett submitted the Overtime Comparison report

Chief Padgett stated that the department will be expecting some reimbursement for OT from DOT as it relates to the Zoo Interchange construction project. He also noted that his command staff continues to work with new police officers regarding report writing as this area still continues to incur OT hours.

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

2. Police Department Financial Report

Chief Padgett submitted the Police Department Financial Report

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

3. Statistics

Chief Padgett submitted statistical information of various crime categories thru August 2013 and 2014.

Chief Padgett stated that he included some charts on the increase of heroin overdoses and other stats regarding this drug comparing 2013 vs 2014. He stated that the number of deaths attributed to heroin overdoses continue to increase, and to date there have been a total of 8 compared to 4 in 2013.

Chief Padgett noted that the drug issues are still rampant, however, the use of heroin has definitely increased and focusing on ways to combat this drug is a priority.

Commissioner Nehmer noted that car thefts have increased and he asked how the department is combating this issue. Deputy Chief Fletcher stated that the department works closely with Milwaukee police regarding these issues and stated that car thefts have increased everywhere and that it is more of a Milwaukee County problem vs. just a Milwaukee area problem.

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

4. 2014 YTD Crime Category Overview

Chief Padgett submitted the 2014 YTD Crime Category Overview.

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

5. State Fair 2014 Review

Deputy Chief Robert Fletcher reviewed the 2014 State Fair with the Commissioners. He stated that the police department increased their presence at the fair during the evening hours and on the weekends, the same amount as in 2013. DC Fletcher also stated that those officers on regular duty during the fair were also assigned to patrol the surrounding areas around the fair park. DC Fletcher discussed only one incident of note, but stated that the situation was brought under control quickly and the offenders were escorted off the fair premises. Many people were ejected throughout the course of the fair and many issues were averted due to the presence of officers in the area.

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

6. 1st Shift Activity Report

Deputy Chief Fletcher submitted the 1st Shift Activity Report prepared by Captain Robert Navarrette.

DC Fletcher stated that after responding to a call about a suspicious person walking thru yards and obtaining a description of the suspect, officers made contact with the suspect and located numerous stolen items in his possession. DC Fletcher stated that after obtaining a search warrant, a large amount of additional stolen property was recovered as well. DC Fletcher stated that five other burglary cases were cleared as a result of this arrest. DC Fletcher noted that the July initiative for 1st shift officers was to look for open garage doors while out on patrol.

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

7. 2nd Shift Activity Report

Deputy Chief Fletcher submitted the 2nd Shift Activity Report prepared by Captain Chad Evenson and Lieutenant Nick Pye.

DC Fletcher discussed a bomb threat that was called into the local Kmart store. DC Fletcher stated that after evacuating the building and a search was conducted, no explosives or suspicious items were located. DC Fletcher also stated that officers worked in conjunction with the Milwaukee Hope House and made contact with several homeless individuals in West Allis and discussed resources available to fit their specific needs.

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

8. 3rd Shift Activity Report

Deputy Chief Fletcher submitted the 3rd Shift Activity Report prepared by Captain Christopher Marks

DC Fletcher recognized Officers Agor and Gold for their investigative work as it related to a missing elderly female. DC Fletcher noted that after it was determined that an elderly female patient was missing from an assisted living facility, the Officers located her at her last known address in Milwaukee. Once obtaining entrance to the apartment, the patient was found to be in distress and in need of immediate medical assistance.

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

9. Criminal Investigations Unit Activity Report

Deputy Chief Fletcher submitted the Criminal Investigations Unit Activity Report prepared by Captain Barry Waddell.

DC Fletcher stated that this division is handling the reopening/investigation of cold cases. DC Fletcher noted that WAPD was contacted by Portage County Sheriff's office regarding a homicide from 1998 of a missing West Allis female. The office had received a "hit" on the cold case and it has been reopened for additional investigation.

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

10. Sensitive Crimes Activity Report

Deputy Chief Fletcher submitted the Sensitive Crimes Activity Report prepared by Lieutenant Jessica Johnson

DC Fletcher reviewed a number of the cases that this department is currently investigating.

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

11. Tavern Violation Report

Deputy Chief Fletcher submitted the Tavern Violation Report prepared by Lieutenant Jessica Johnson.

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

12. Communications Activity Report

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

DC Botsch stated that discussion continues on the purchase of the new county radio system, but to-date there has been no solutions or resolutions to the cost and effectiveness of replacement.

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

13. Crime Prevention Activity Report

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

DC Botsch stated that approximately 3000 people attended the 2014 National Night Out event. He stated that it was a success, but the department is looking for other ideas to enhance this event and DC Botsch stated that visits were made to a few of the surrounding areas National Night Out events to gather information and ideas. DC Botsch announced that on September 13, there will be an open house event celebrating the official move of this division to the Police Satellite Station and will be renamed the Community Service Bureau. The open house will consist of tours of the building, information available about the services provided and light refreshments will be served.

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

14. Crime Analyst Report

Deputy Chief Botsch submitted the Crime Analysis report as well as the corresponding police bulletins as prepared by Crime Analyst Chrisie Hunter

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

15. Traffic Report

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

DC Botsch stated that one of the recently hired parking control officers had resigned and the department will review the current eligibility list created from the previous recruitment process to fill the position. DC Botsch also reviewed with the Commissioners the collection process currently in place to attempt to collect outstanding parking citation monies.

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

16. Training Report

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

DC Botsch stated that the training department is currently preparing for new officer training anticipated to begin on September 8th. DC Botsch also stated that Fall in-service training will begin on September 15th and will cover a number of training topics over the two-month timeframe.

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

17. Request for Approval: Completion of Police Officer Probationary Periods and placement on Police Department Roster

Deputy Chief Botsch submitted letters of probationary completion of new police officers and requested approval to place them on the police roster.

Commissioner Nehmer stated that receiving the probationary completion letters after their probationary periods have officially ended and they are already working in the field as Officers does not make sense. Commissioner Nehmer requested that going forward, approvals of probationary officers be provided to the Commissioners at least one (1) month prior to the end of their 18 month probationary period, and are approved on the condition that the probationary officers have completed all their training at a satisfactory level by the end of that time.

The Commissioners than voted on the approval of the submitted probationary letters and on a motion made and seconded, the request was unanimously passed. The motion passed by the following votes:

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

18. Request for Approval: Replacement of damaged squad cars

Deputy Chief Botsch submitted a request for approval regarding the replacement of two (2) damaged squad cars

DC Botsch reviewed the recent motor vehicle accidents that resulted in the total loss of two of the department's squad cars. DC Botsch stated that the City Attorney's Office is working with the insurance companies regarding these incidents, but final resolution is unknown at this time. DC Botsch stated that the department has been working with Finance Director, Mark Wyss to secure the replacement funds for these cars via the City's contingency fund and any reimbursement made by the insurance companies will be refunded to that account.

On a motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the Commissioners approved this request as noted above. The motion passed by the following votes:

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

19. Sick & Injured Report

Deputy Chief Botsch submitted the Sick & Injured report.

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

E. FIRE DEPARTMENT

20. Firefighting Activity Report

Deputy Chief Jay Scharfenberg submitted the Firefighting Activity Report and corresponding quadrant maps prepared by Assistant Chief Gary Streicher

DC Scharfenberg reviewed the fire noted in AC Streicher's report. He stated that this particular fire afforded the firefighters the ability to utilize a training technique that knocks down a fire quickly from the outside and then move into the building to complete the process. He stated that this process helps to reduce the damage to the residence considerably.

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

21. Fire Department Financial Report

Chief Bane submitted the Fire Department Financial Report

Chief Bane stated that the fire department budgets continue to run accordingly and expects the budgets to continue as such thru the end of the year.

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

22. Training Activity Report

Deputy Chief Scharfenberg submitted the Training Activity Report

DC Scharfenberg reviewed a number of the training topics that took place during the month of August, to include:

- Vertical Ventilation practice/training and utilizing a new tool that has been incorporated into this operation called the Roof Operations Safety (ROS) platform. This ROS platform transfers the weight of operating firefighters to structural components rather than thin roof decking;
- Overview of shared services discussion with Wauwatosa and North shore regarding apparatus purchases and the firefighter hiring process. AC Scharfenberg discussed preliminary ideas to make both of these processes more efficient and beneficial to the departments.

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

23. Fire Prevention Activity Report

Deputy Chief Scharfenberg submitted the Fire Prevention Activity Report prepared by AC Martin King

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

24. Emergency Medical Services Activity Report

Chief Bane submitted the EMS Activity Report as well as the July Highlighted Calls report prepared by Interim Deputy Chief Kurt Zellmann

Chief Bane stated that, compared to July 2013, EMS calls were down approximately 4%. Chief Bane also noted that 90% of EMS alarms in July had the first arriving unit on scene in 5 minutes or less and that effort put in at the dispatch center was crucial to helping the department meet this monthly goal.

Chief Bane also reviewed briefly the July Highlighted Calls report.

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

25. Emergency Medical Services Revenue Report

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

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

26. Sick and Injured Report

Chief Bane submitted the Sick and Injured Report for July

Chief Bane stated that long-term sick continues to rise as there are a number of firefighters out with injuries or recovering from various surgeries.

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

27. Master Plan Performance Snapshot

Chief Bane submitted the Master Plan Performance Snapshot

Chief Bane stated that in general, the department continues to meet the stated benchmarks as required by Accreditation standards.

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

28. Communication: Overview of August 11-12, 2014 MedStar Visit

Chief Bane introduced Lieutenant Dave Bandomir, the fire department's Mobile Integrated Healthcare Coordinator, to present an overview of a recent visit to MedStar located in Fort Worth, Texas.

Lt. Bandomir explained that MedStar was a leader in Mobile Integrated Healthcare (MIH) programs and explained that these programs are an outreach to patients at risk for using the EMS systems and/or readmission to a hospital as their primary medical care. Lt. Bandomir also stated that Aurora West Allis Medical Center is very involved with creating a local MIH program and have an on-site MIH Coordinator as well. Lt. Bandomir then proceeded to review a powerpoint presentation about MedStar and their programs as well show an information video of the program in action.

Lt. Bandomir stated that next steps will be further investigation into studies to show the value as well as funding and other fundamental steps to perhaps get a pilot program in place in the near future.

The Commissioners thanked Lt. Bandomir for his thorough overview of the program and the report was placed on file.

F. POLICE AND FIRE COMMISSION

29. Discussion: Rules of the Board of Police & Fire Commissioners

Commissioner Kempen tasked himself and the other Commissioners to review rules 1-10 of the Rules of the Board of Police & Fire Commissioners and respond to Bridget with their suggested changes. He stated that the suggested changes will then be reviewed at the September meeting. Chief Bane also noted that retired Chief Steve Hook had indicated some changes previously and he would give the packet to Bridget for distribution to the Commissioners for their review.

G. CLOSED SESSION

No Closed Session Business

H. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, on a motion made and seconded, the meeting adjourned at 8:00 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.