



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 Kevin Haass, Vice-President,
Commissioner Wayne Clark, Secretary
Commissioners Harold Mester, Donald Nehmer*

Thursday, February 21, 2013

6:00 PM

West Allis Fire Administration

REGULAR MEETING AND CLOSED SESSION

A. CALL TO ORDER

Commissioner Kempen called the meeting to order at 6:03 pm

B. ROLL CALL

Present: Commissioners Joseph Kempen, Wayne Clark, Kevin Haass, Harold Mester and Don Nehmer

Also Present: Fire Chief Steven Hook, Assistant Chief Gary Streicher, Assistant Chief Steve Bane, Assistant Chief Marty King, Captain Mike Bailey, Acting Battalion Chief Don Strickler – Fire Department; Deputy Chief Robert Fletcher – Police Department; Paul Ziehler, Chief Administrative Office – City of West Allis; Alderpersons Michael May, Dan Roadt, Marty Weigel and Vincent Vitale – City of West Allis; Bridget Kennedy – Recording Secretary

C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Commissioner Haass and seconded by Commissioner Nehmer and unanimously passed to approve the minutes of the January 17, 2013 Regular and Closed Session meeting minutes, the January 30, 2013 Special Meeting and Closed Session meeting minutes, the February 5, 2013 Special Meeting and Supplemental Meeting and Closed Session meeting minutes and the February 12, 2013 Special Meeting and Closed Session meeting minutes.

D. POLICE DEPARTMENT

1. 1st Shift Activity Report

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

DC Fletcher stated that recently there have been complaints and incidents involving improper conduct and loitering in the West Allis Public Library. Officers conducted numerous walk thrus of the library and made several on-site investigations which included: loitering, possible drinking on property and suspicious activity in a vehicle.

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

2. 2nd Shift Activity Report

Deputy Chief Fletcher submitted the 2nd Shift Activity Report prepared by Captain Christopher Marks and Lieutenant Jeff Nohelty

DC Fletcher stated that due to the construction on Greenfield Avenue, there has been an increased concern with residents in this area due to the dramatic increase in vehicular traffic. DC Fletcher stated that officers have been assigned to patrol these neighborhoods more frequently and take enforcement action for traffic violations. DC Fletcher noted some additional costs accrued during this construction phase will be reimbursable via the Department of Transportation.

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

3. 3rd Shift Activity Report

Deputy Chief Fletcher submitted the 3rd Shift Activity Report submitted by Captain Ron Versnik and Lieutenant Anthony Spath

DC Fletcher stated that a significant arrest took place on January 30th on the 900 block of south 58th street. DC Fletcher stated that after report of possible gunfire in the area, officers observed 2 males running toward this address and immediately set up a perimeter around the house and area. Officers made contact with the residents inside and were given consent to search the residence. This search produced a number of ammunition as well as an assortment of guns in and around the house area. DC Fletcher stated that 5 individuals were transported to the WAPD for further investigation; three additional people were arrested, 2 on felony gun charges and 1 for obstructing; and 1 female was arrested for child neglect.

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

4. Crime Prevention Activity Report

Deputy Chief Fletcher submitted the Crime Prevention Activity Report prepared by Lieutenant Chad Evenson

DC Fletcher stated that school liaison officers continue to work with schools regarding various parking and traffic issues throughout certain times of the day.

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

5. Sensitive Crimes Activity Report

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

DC Fletcher recognized Detectives Jessica Wink for her excellent investigation in a sexual assault, which resulted in a felony exposing a child to harmful material charge against the offender. DC Fletcher also recognized Detective Christina Porter for investigation into a sexual assault, which resulted in two (2) charges of first degree sexual assault of a child and one (1) charge of second degree sexual assault of a child. DC Fletcher also recognized dispatcher Eric Jansen, who is a trained Emergency Medical Dispatcher, for his guidance and instruction in CPR to a 911 call from a caregiver regarding an infant who was having trouble breathing. DC Fletcher stated that the caregiver was performing CPR on the infant when West Allis paramedics arrived on scene and transported the infant to Children's Hospital.

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

6. Criminal Investigations Unit Activity Report

Deputy Fletcher submitted the Criminal Investigations Unit Activity Report prepared by Captain Christopher Botsch

DC Fletcher stated that beginning in October of 2012 there has been a series of business robberies throughout Milwaukee County, including West Allis. DC Fletcher Crime Analyst Hunter provided information that attributed 12 of the robberies to the same group of offenders. A meeting was conducted with several agencies to share information regarding these robberies and after another robbery in January in West Milwaukee, a subsequent investigation led to the arrest of 7 individuals and 4 were charged in relation to these robberies and federal charges have been issued in this case. DC Fletcher stated that this was an excellent example of combined police department services and utilization of crime analysis information gathering to solve this case.

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

7. Crime Analyst Activity Report

Deputy Chief Fletcher submitted the Crime Analyst Activity Report prepared by Crime Analyst Chrisie Hunter.

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

8. Traffic Bureau Activity Report

Deputy Chief Fletcher submitted the Traffic Bureau Activity Report prepared by Lieutenant Brian Saftig

DC Fletcher stated that during the month of January, officers arrested a total of 43 individuals for Operating While Under the Influence. DC Fletcher stated that officers continue to enforce the following initiatives: alcohol safety enforcement, seat belt enforcement and speed enforcement.

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

9. 2012 Year End Traffic Bureau

Deputy Chief Fletcher submitted the 2012 Year End Traffic Bureau report prepared by Lieutenant Brian Saftig

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

10. 2012 Year End OWI

Deputy Chief Fletcher submitted the 2012 Year End OWI report prepared by Lieutenant Brian Saftig

DC Fletcher noted that West Allis Police Officers made a total of 548 OWI arrests in 2012. DC Fletcher stated that was an increase of 7 arrests from 2011.

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

11. Training Report

Deputy Chief Fletcher submitted the Training Report prepared by Captain Barry Waddell and Sergeant David Madden

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

12. Tavern Violations

Deputy Chief Fletcher submitted the Tavern Violations report prepared by Lieutenant Jessica Johnson.

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

13. Overtime Report

Deputy Chief Fletcher submitted the Overtime Report

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

14. Sick & Injured Report

Deputy Chief Fletcher submitted the Sick & Injured report

DC Fletcher noted that the year is off to a good start, stating that January 2013 numbers are lower than 2012.

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

15. Communication: Officer Retirements

Deputy Chief Fletcher submitted a list of February retirements from the Police Department:

Patrol Officer James Schumitsch	2.27
Specialist I Thomas Buerger	2.27
Sergeant Mark Sura	2.27
Specialist II Mark Sopa	2.27
Patrol Officer Brian Duerr	2.27
Patrol Officer Michael Gyurina	2.27
Patrol officer Paul Rosen	2.27
Patrol Officer Jeffrey Shook	2.27
Detective Steven Fabry	2.27

The Commissioners thanked them for their service and wished them well in their retirement.

16. Request for Approval: Purchase of Vehicles for Special Investigation Unit

Deputy Chief Fletcher submitted a request to purchase two (2) vehicles for the Special Investigation Unit. DC Fletcher stated that WAPD administration worked with Classic Motors of West Allis to locate vehicles to fit the operational needs of the SIU. The department is requesting the approval to purchase two (2) vehicles for the total cost of \$16,000. The purchase will utilize funds from the Department's Equitable Sharing account and the State Forfeiture account.

A motion was made by Commissioner Clark and seconded by Commissioner Mester to approve this vehicle purchase. The motion carried by the following vote:

Votes: Aye – 5, Commissioners Kempen, Clark, Haass, Mester and Nehmer
 No – 0

17. Request for Approval: Purchase of Digital Safety Technologies DP3 In-Squad Camera System

Deputy Chief Fletcher submitted for approval a purchase of Digital Safety Technologies DP3 In-Squad Camera System. DC Fletcher stated that the company that supported the current in-squad camera system was purchased by Digital Safety Technologies and they have developed its own in-squad camera system, the Digital Patroller 3 (DP3) and will not support the DP2 system currently being used. The department is requesting to purchase six (6) DP3 system upgrades for a total of \$25,549.00. The purchase will be funded through the Wisconsin Department of Transportation grant funding and the equitable sharing account.

A motion was made by Commissioner Clark and seconded by Commissioner Mester to approve this vehicle purchase. The motion carried by the following vote:

Votes: Aye – 5, Commissioners Kempen, Clark, Haass, Mester and Nehmer
 No – 0

18. Other related items

Deputy Chief Fletcher distributed the Financial summary for the month for the Commissioners review.

E. FIRE DEPARTMENT

19. Firefighting Activity Report

Chief Hook submitted the Firefighting Activity Report prepared by Assistant Chief Streicher as well as the corresponding maps

Chief Hook noted that the department responded to four (4) mutual aid calls in the month of January with the most extensive mutual aid assist given to the City of Burlington for an 8-alarm fire at a large processing plant. Chief Hook stated that Burlington command requested the task force minus the EMS units, so no EMS units were called out for this response.

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

20. Fire Department Financial Report

Chief Hook submitted the Fire Department Financial Report

Chief Hook stated that budget carryover requests for 2012 have been submitted and cumulative accounts are on target to accommodate purchases anticipated in 2013 such as updated self-contained breathing apparatus equipment.

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

21. Training Activity Report

Chief Hook submitted the Training Activity report prepared by Acting Assistant Chief Scharfenberg

Chief Hook stated that the following training activities took place during the month of January:

- Annual Infection Control training which consisted of exposure protection recommendations for TB, Hepatitis A and B, MRSA, Clostridium Difficile and Influenza;
- Annual fit testing of SCBA face pieces;
- WA Health Department conducted hearing and spirometry health screenings for all department personnel;
- Officer Development Meetings were held 1.29-31.2013;
- Three probationary firefighters took quarterly exams in January (PFF Levenhagen and Dettmering – 6 month exam; PFF Dufek – 3 month exam).

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

22. Fire Prevention Activity Report

Chief Hook submitted the Fire Prevention Activity Report prepared by Assistant Chief King

Chief Hook stated that all current Fire Inspectors were assigned to 8 hour duty during the week of January 7th and AC King and Lt. Zellmann reviewed Fire Inspection daily procedures and code enforcements and expectations of route inspections in order to be in compliance with stated accreditation benchmarks going forward.

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

23. Emergency Medical Services Activity Report

Chief Hook submitted the Emergency Medical Services Activity report prepared by AC Bane

Chief Hook stated that AC Bane is working to introduce a report to the Commissioners that describes some of the work the firefighters do as it relates to EMS calls. However, governed by HIPPA confidentiality laws, the information provided is limited and AC Bane is working with the City Attorney's office to determine if such a report is feasible and what information can actually be shared with the public so as not to breach HIPPA laws.

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

24. Emergency Medical Services Revenue Report

Chief Hook submitted the Emergency Medical Services Revenue report prepared by AC Bane

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

25. Sick and Injured Report

Chief Hook submitted the Sick and Injured report

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

26. Master Plan Performance Snapshot

Chief Hook stated that the department did well on benchmarks through 2012 and expects to continue meeting these set benchmarks throughout 2013.

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

27. Communication: Relocation of Resources/Change in Response Boundaries

Chief Hook submitted a communication by AC Streicher regarding an overview of changes relating to fire department resources and response boundaries in regard to the destruction of the Greenfield Avenue bridge and the zoo interchange project. Chief Hook noted that appropriate, temporary changes were made with station apparatus and restructuring of some station boundaries to accommodate these construction issues thru the end of August. Chief Hook noted that the Department of Transportation will be reimbursing the department for any fuel or other financial impacts experienced by the department and noted that AC Streicher is tracking the necessary items throughout this construction process.

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

28. Communication: Fire Department Retirements

Chief Hook submitted a list of Fire Department personnel who will be retiring in February of 2013:

- Captain Randy Klaybor 2.28
- Captain James Egeland 2.28
- Captain Don Strickler 2.28
- Captain Mike Bailey 2.28
- Battalion Chief Rick Mueller 2.28
- Equipment Operator James Ponzi 2.28

The Commissioners thanked them for their service and wished them well in their retirement.

29. Request for Approval: Promotions to Equipment Operator, Lieutenant, and Captain

Chief Hook submitted to the Commissioners a request to approve the promotions of the following:

Promotion to Equipment Operator:

FF Joseph Gapinski
FF Luke Kowalewski

Promotion to Lieutenant:

EO Joseph Levenhagen
FF Duane Fisher
FF Craig Koller
FF David Bandomir
FF Daniel deSnoo
FF Guy Paider

Promotion to Captain:

Lt. Greg Lenske
Lt. Thomas Shinkle

A motion was made by Commissioner Clark and seconded by Commissioner Haass to approve the promotions as noted above. The motion carried by the following vote:

Votes: Aye – 5, Commissioners Kempen, Clark, Haass, Mester and Nehmer
 No – 0

30. Communication: Request to consider promotion to Assistant Chief

Chief Hook submitted a communication regarding the request to consider the promotion of Lt. Jay Scharfenberg to the position of Assistant Chief of the Bureau of Training and Safety division. Chief Hook stated Lt. Scharfenberg is currently working in this position as the acting Training Officer following the retirement of Assistant Chief Pete Rohde. Additionally, Chief Hook stated that he is providing this information to the Commissioners for their review and will be making a formal request for Lt. Scharfenberg's promotion to Assistant Chief at the March 21, 2013 PFC meeting.

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

31. Communication: Request to consider promotion to Battalion Chief

Chief Hook submitted a communication regarding the request to consider the promotion of Ct. Dan Machowski to the position of Battalion Chief. Chief Hook stated Ct. Machowski is currently working in this position as the acting Battalion Chief following the retirement of Assistant Chief Rick Mueller. Additionally, Chief Hook stated that he is providing this information to the Commissioners for their review and will be making a formal request for Ct. Machowski's promotion to Battalion Chief at the March 21, 2013 PFC meeting.

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

32. Communication: Retirement of Fire Chief

Chief Hook submitted to the Commissioners his letter of intent to retire from the Fire Department effective Thursday, February 28, 2013.

The Commissioners thanked Chief Hook for his years of service and wished him well in his retirement.

33. Request for Approval: Appointment of Interim Fire Chief

Chief Hook submitted to the Commissioners a request to approve the appointment of Assistant Chief Gary Streicher to Interim Fire Chief effective March 1, 2013. Chief Hook stated that AC Streicher joined the department in 1983 and has held the position of Equipment Operator, Lieutenant, Battalion Chief and since 2002, he has been the Assistant Chief of Operations. Additionally, Chief Hook stated that AC Streicher holds a Bachelor's degree in public administration and an Associate's degree in Fire Science.

A motion was made by Commissioner Clark and seconded by Commissioner Haass to approve the appointment of AC Gary Streicher to Interim Fire Chief. The motion carried by the following vote:

Votes: Aye – 5, Commissioners Kempen, Clark, Haass, Mester and Nehmer
 No – 0

34. Other related items:

F. POLICE AND FIRE COMMISSION

35. Discussion: Retraction of acceptance by West Allis Chief of Police candidate

Commissioner Kempen stated that Police Chief candidate Rick Balistriero had submitted a letter retracting his acceptance of the Police Chief position for the City of West Allis on February 18, 2013.

Commissioner Kempen recognized Alderman May to address the Commission. Alderman May stated that given the retraction of the Police Chief candidate and tonight's announcement of the Fire Chief's retirement, he stated that this might be an unique opportunity for the Commission board to consider a Joint Safety Officer position and more shared services with surrounding communities.

Commissioner Kempen recognized Alderman Weigel to address the Commission. Alderman Weigel asked the Commission Board to consider commencing a Committee of the Whole Joint Meeting with Common Council to discuss Alderman May's suggestions.

Commissioner Kempen thanked the Aldermen for their comments.

36. Discussion: Selection process of the West Allis Chief of Police going forward

This item was discussed in Closed Session

37. Discussion: Candidate Qualifications for Interim Fire Chief

This item was discussed in Closed Session

G. CLOSED SESSION

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Board of Police and Fire Commissioners of the City of West Allis will, upon conclusion of open session, consider and vote on a motion to convene in closed session at said time and place to discuss the selection process of the West Allis Chief of Police and the candidate qualifications for Interim Fire Chief, and to take such further action as may be necessary and appropriate in this matter.

A closed session for the above purpose is authorized pursuant to the provision of Section 19.85(1)(c) of the Wis. Stats. which permits a governmental body upon motion duly made and carried, to convene in closed session for the purpose of considering employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility.

Immediately upon completion of the closed session, the Board of Police and Fire Commission will reconvene in open session at said time and place to consider any other matters on the agenda.

A motion was made by Commissioner Mester and seconded by Commissioner Nehmer to convene into closed session. The motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Kempen called the meeting to closed session at 7:16 pm

Closed session agenda items were discussed

A motion was made by Commissioner Haass and seconded by Commissioner Clark to reconvene into open session at 8:09 pm. The motion carried unanimously.

H. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, on a motion made, seconded and unanimously passed, the meeting adjourned at 8:11 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.