



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, April 18, 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 6:00 pm

B. ROLL CALL

Present: Commissioners Joseph Kempen, Wayne Clark, Harold Mester and Don Nehmer.
Commissioner Kevin Haass arrived at 7:20 pm

Also Present: Interim Fire Chief Gary Streicher, Assistant Chief Steve Bane, Assistant Chief Martin King, Acting Battalion Chief Dan Machowski – Fire Department; Acting Police Chief Chuck Padgett, Deputy Chief Bob Fletcher, Captain Barry Waddell, Captain Steve Beyer, Captain Chris Botsch – Police Department; Paul Ziehler, Chief Administrative Officer, City of West Allis; Bridget Kennedy, Recording Secretary

C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Commissioner Clark, seconded by Commissioner Nehmer and unanimously passed to approve the minutes, as corrected, of the March 21, 2013 Meeting Minutes as well as the March 5, 2013 Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes, the March 25, 2013 Special Meeting Minutes, the April 11, 2013 Special Meeting Minutes and the April 15, 2013 Special Meeting and Closed Session Meeting Minutes.

D. POLICE DEPARTMENT

1. Training Report, FBINA Presentation – Captain Barry Waddell

Captain Barry Waddell stated that the police department had introduced the Explorer Post program again. This program had been disbanded in 2001. The Explorer Post program introduces interested youths to the workings of the West Allis Police Department.

Captain Waddell noted that in-service training for Officers started 2 weeks ago and he has invited the Commissioners to contact him if they would like to attend one of the upcoming training sessions.

Captain Waddell shared with the Commissioners his recent experience at the Federal Bureau of Investigation – National Academy. Captain Waddell explained that the FBI National Academy is a professional course of study for U.S. and international law enforcement leaders that serves to improve the administration of justice in police departments at home and abroad and to raise law enforcement standards, knowledge and cooperation worldwide.

Captain Waddell stated that this academy is a 10-week program and that approximately 250 officers take undergraduate or graduate college courses. Captain Waddell stated that he took three (3) graduate courses; additionally he took a public speaking course and a fitness in Law Enforcement course. Captain Waddell noted each officer has an opportunity to join the FBI National Academy Associates, which helps to keep attendees in touch with each other and to further educational and networking relationships moving forward.

The Commissioners thanked Captain Waddell for his presentation. They had no further questions or comments regarding this report.

2. Gang Procedure Presentation – Captain Steve Beyer

Captain Beyer stated that gang activity in West Allis is not necessarily a major problem, however there are known gang members that live within the City limits and these individuals are on the police radar. Captain Beyer stated that gang activity awareness has become much more of a group effort between the patrol shifts and communication between shifts about gang activity helps all officers to stay abreast of their activities during the day and/or night. Captain Beyer noted that the department is working on creating a central location within the Phoenix system to store important data as it relates to gang activity, allowing more effective monitoring and information gathering processes as it relates to gang activity.

The Commissioners thank Captain Beyer for his presentation. They had no further questions or comments regarding this report.

3. Criminal Investigation Bureau Report & Major Incident updates – Captain Chris Botsch

Captain Botsch reviewed with the Commissioners a number of high-profile cases that have taken place during the month of April. He stated that these cases are labor intensive as it relates to time invested by officers to conduct a full and through investigation into each incident. Captain Botsch noted that both fatal fires on Hicks and South 57th Street were not set intentionally and most likely were electrical shortages that started both fires. Captain Botsch stated that cooperation between the Fire Department, State Department of Criminal Justice and ATF were invaluable investigative resources for both of these incidents.

Commissioners asked Captain Botsch how the additional people in these types of instances are compensated and Captain Botsch stated that the local departments are not billed for these services. He stated that the State is billed and they are responsible for reimbursement of costs to these agencies.

Captain Botsch also stated that a suspect has been arrested and charged accordingly for the March 16 stabbing incident that happened at the Pick & Save on 69th Street as well as the stabbing of a police officer at the State Office Building in Downtown Milwaukee. The suspect is a resident of West Allis and was arrested a day after the Milwaukee stabbing incident.

The Commissioners thanked Captain Botsch for his presentation. They had no further questions or comments regarding this report.

4. 1st Shift Activity Report

Acting Chief Padgett submitted the 1st Shift Activity Report prepared by Captain Robert Navarrette

A/Chief Padgett recognized several officers for significant arrests in March:

Officer Pinter (domestic violence complaint)

Officers Beier and LaSpisa (retail theft)
Officer Kmichik (traffic stop/drug bust)

A/Chief Padgett noted that the construction area around Greenfield Bridge has obviously caused traffic problems around that area, but not as bad as originally anticipated. However A/Chief Padgett stated that patrols will continue to monitor the area and surrounding neighborhoods for any traffic or other construction related issues.

5. 2nd Shift Activity Report

Acting Chief Padgett submitted the 2nd Shift Activity Report prepared by Captain Christopher Marks.

A/Chief Padgett stated that there were a number of significant arrests on 2nd shift including a number of OWI arrests four of which were 5th offense OWI's and one was a 6th offense OWI. A/Chief Padgett stated that going forward, due to a recent ruling by the Supreme Court, blood can no longer be drawn from non-consenting drunken driving suspects without a valid search warrant or special circumstances that would exempt police from getting one.

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

6. 3rd Shift Activity Report

Acting Chief Padgett submitted the 3rd Shift Activity report prepared by Captain Ron Versnik and Lieutenant Anthony Spath.

A/Chief Padgett welcomed the following officers to 3rd shift patrol:

Officer Ryan Stuetgen
Officer Joel Baumgart
Officer Richard Krueger

A/Chief Padgett stated that these officers have completed the new Officer Training Program and are now in the FTO phase of their training. He stated that these officers will be on 3rd shift for approximately 6 weeks.

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

7. Crime Prevention Activity Report

Acting Chief Padgett submitted the Crime Prevention Activity Report prepared by Lt. Chad Evenson.

A/Chief Padgett stated that some of the many activities coordinated by the Crime Prevention division include:

- Checks on nuisance properties
- Senior Safety presentations
- 2013 National Night Out events
- Landlord training presentations

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

8. Sensitive Crimes Activity Report

Acting Chief Padgett submitted the Sensitive Crimes Activity Report prepared by Lieutenant Jessica Johnson

A/Chief Padgett stated that Detective Napoli registered 1 ne sex offender in the City of West Allis for the month of March. He also noted that during the month of March there were 63 domestic violence incident and of those, 12 of them were moving forward with domestic violence charges pending.

A/Chief Padgett stated that currently the incident that took place on Schlinger Ave. that resulted in the death of a West Allis High School student, is still an open case as the D.A. has not requested an inquest of the events and charges, if any, are still pending from the D.A's office.

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

9. Crime Analyst Report

Acting Chief Padgett submitted the Crime Analyst Report prepared by Crime Analyst Chrisie Hunter.

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

10. Traffic Report

Acting Chief Padgett submitted the Traffic Report prepared by Lieutenant Brian Saftig

A/Chief Padgett stated the construction surrounding Greenfield Avenue has created additional traffic in this area and he stated that the 2nd shift patrol continues to do an excellent job policing this area on a regular basis to ensure continued compliance with speed and other traffic related issues. A/Chief Padgett stated that to date, Officers have produced the following:

- Total Stops Made: 149
- Citations Issues: 106
- Warning Issued: 74
- Verbal Warnings: 05

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

11. Training Report

Acting Chief Padgett submitted the Training Report prepared by Captain Barry Waddell and Sergeant David Madden

A/Chief Padgett noted that, as stated by Captain Waddell earlier, the Police Explorer Post program has been reinstated and there about 10 youths interested in the program thus far.

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

12. Tavern Violations

Acting Chief Padgett submitted the Tavern Violations report.

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

13. Overtime Comparison

Acting Chief Padgett submitted the Overtime Comparison report

A/Chief Padgett noted that Criminal Investigation and Dispatch overtime numbers which directly relates back to incidents that have occurred over the past few months.

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

14. Sick & Injured – March 2013

Acting Chief Padgett submitted the Sick & Injured report for March.

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

15. Budget Summary

Acting Chief Padgett submitted the Budget Summary report

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

16. Other related items

Acting Chief Padgett stated that the most recent recruitment process closed on April 12th and the department received 63 applications. A/Chief Padgett stated that they have invited 38 to participate in the physical agility test on April 28th and expects to reduce the number of applicants to approximately 10-12 once that has been completed. A/Chief Padgett stated that he anticipates final interviews to take place with the Commissioners in late June early July.

E. FIRE DEPARTMENT

17. Firefighting Activity Report

Interim Chief Streicher submitted the Firefighting Activity Report

I/Chief Streicher stated that fire losses are up from last year given the recent fires the City has experienced.

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

18. Fire Department Financial Report

Interim Fire Chief Streicher submitted the Fire Department Financial Report

I/Fire Chief Streicher noted that currently the department budget is approximately 5% under budget.

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

19. Training Activity Report

Interim Fire Chief Streicher submitted the Training Activity Report prepared by Captain Jay Scharfenberg

I/Fire Chief Streicher stated that a recruitment testing process was conducted on April 6th and approximately 160 candidates took the written test. I/Chief Streicher noted that 50 firefighter candidates are scheduled to be interviewed April 29 thru May 1st, then that group will be reduced to approximately 27 candidates for second interviews. I/Chief Streicher stated candidate interviews with PFC would take place toward the end of May and/or early June.

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

20. Fire Prevention Activity Report

Interim Fire Chief Streicher submitted the Fire Prevention Activity Report prepared by Assistant Chief Marty King

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

21. Emergency Medical Services Activity Report

Interim Fire Chief Streicher submitted the EMS Activity Report prepared by Assistant Chief Steve Bane

I/Fire Chief Streicher noted that to date for 2013, EMS calls accounted for 86.2% of the total alarms responded to by the Fire Department.

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

22. Emergency Medical Services Revenue Report

Interim Fire Chief Streicher submitted the EMS revenue report prepared by Assistant Chief Steve Bane

I/Fire Chief Streicher stated that the EMS revenue continues to be ahead of budget and this does not include the Milwaukee County subsidy contribution.

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

23. Sick and Injured Report

Interim Fire Chief Streicher submitted the Sick and Injured Report

I/Fire Chief Streicher stated that the sick numbers are down from last year. He stated that currently there is only one person still on long-term sick leave and just recently two employees returned to duty from long-term sick.

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

24. Master Plan Performance Snapshot

Interim chief Streicher submitted the Master Plan Performance Snapshot report

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

25. Request for Approval: Self Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) Equipment

Interim Fire Chief Streicher submitted a request for approval to purchase Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus equipment.

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

Votes: Aye – 4 Commissioners Kempen, Clark, Mester and Nehmer
 No - 0

26. Communication: West Allis Fire Department Standards of Coverage

Interim Fire Chief Streicher submitted a communication regarding the West Allis Fire Department Standards of Coverage

I/Fire Chief Streicher stated that this booklet is a required document submitted to the Accreditation Peer Assessment board. This booklet is an in-depth overview of the Department. I/Fire Chief Streicher noted that he, Captain Scharfenberg, and Firefighter Mallory Sura contributed to collecting the information and creating the final document for submission to the Accreditation group.

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

27. Other related items

Interim Fire Chief Streicher read a letter from Hunger Task Force thanking the Fire Department for participating in their recent peanut butter food drive.

I/Fire Chief Streicher distributed to the Commissioners an overview of historical staffing levels and job responsibilities in the Fire Department. He stated that this was a good informational overview of how the department has changed over the years and he invited the Commissioners to contact him should they have any questions regarding the information.

F. POLICE AND FIRE COMMISSION

28. Discussion: Review of comments received on Exit Interviews

Commissioner Kempen stated that he has reviewed some of the recent exit interviews from employees and found that issues with IT were most prevalent in the comments and he asked for feedback regarding these issues. A/Chief Padgett stated they have a monthly meeting

with IT to discuss ongoing issues they have with the Phoenix program. He stated that progress has been made, but not to the point of satisfaction. Interim Fire Chief Streicher noted that Kevin Koenig from IT attends the morning Officer meeting call on Tuesday and Thursday and is made aware of any issues the stations may be having as well as admin.

29. Discussion: Criteria and establishment of the Fire Chief hiring process

Commissioner Kempen asked Commissioner Clark to share an update on the Fire Chief hiring process. Commissioner Clark stated that Commissioners Mester, Haass and himself met on April 11, 2013 to review and discuss the Fire Chief hiring process. Commissioner Clark stated that on April 15th, the entire PFC, along with Audrey Key from Human Resources, met and discussed the final version of the recruitment document for the Fire Chief job description and to move forward with posting and distribution of the recruitment material. Commissioner Clark stated that at this time he would ask for a vote for final approval of the Fire Chief job description, posting and distribution.

A motion was made, seconded and unanimously passed to approve the Fire Chief Job Description and the posting and distribution of the recruitment information. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

30. Discussion: Review of Police Officer disciplinary issues

Agenda Item discussed in Closed Session

31. Discussion: Finalization of the Chief of Police Employment Contract

A motion was made, seconded and unanimously passed to rescind the requirement that the Chief of Police shall enter into a written contract with the Police & Fire Commission Board. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

32. Discussion: Date selection for the Chief of Police Swearing-In Ceremony

Commissioner Kempen stated that the swearing-in ceremony for Chief Padgett will take place on Thursday, May 2, 2013 in the Common Council Chambers.

Commissioner Kempen thanked both the Police and Fire Departments for their handling of the two recent fatal fires.

Commissioners requested of CAO Paul Ziehler that going forward, they would like to have Ed Polachek, HIDTA Director, to sign all requests HIDTA is submitting to the PFC for approval of purchases.

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 and review Police Officer disciplinary issues and discussion and finalization of the Chief of Police Employment contract.

A closed session for the above purpose is authorized pursuant to the provision of Section 19.85(1)(b) and (c) of the Wis. Stats., to consider dismissal, demotion, licensing or discipline of any public employee or person licensed by a board or commission or the investigation of charges against such persons, and to consider financial, medical, social or personal histories or disciplinary data of specific persons, preliminary consideration of specific personnel problems or the investigations of charges against specific persons except where par; (c) 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 Commissioners will reconvene in open session at said time and place to consider any other matters on the agenda.

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

Commissioner Kempen called the meeting to closed session at 7:35 pm

Closed session agenda items were discussed

A motion was made, seconded and unanimously passed to reconvene into open session at 8:21 pm.

H. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, on a motion made, seconded and unanimously passed the meeting adjourned at 8:30 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.