

Police & Fire Commission
700 Shiocton Street
New London, WI 54961-1160

Monday March 15th, 2021

Commission Present: April Kopitzke (Pres), John Lee (Sec), Tom Schmude,
Travis Kloehn, Corey Knepfel
Police Chief: Jeffrey Schlueter
Fire Chief: Mark Wilfuer
Others Present:

Meeting called to order at 5:30 PM by Kopitzke.

- Adoption of Agenda – Lee 2nd Kloehn – carried 5-0
- Public Comment: None
- Motion to approve prior minutes from 2/15/21: Schmude, 2nd Lee
Carried 5-0
- The Commission recognizes service anniversaries.
Fire Department:

Police Department: Luke Curtis 3 years
- Report of the Fire Department by Chief Mark Wilfuer
 - Motion to approve the bills as presented for February in the amount of:
\$2,585.94 : Lee, 2nd Kloehn; Carried 5-0
 - Budget as of February 28th, 18.80% reviewed.
 - There was a brief discussion about the motion that was made at the last meeting concerning the 2% dues and the current contract that the Fire Department is in with Mukwa. Chief Wilfuer also reported that Mukwa has paid about \$7,200 for the tanker but they still owe \$3,000.

Motion was made to rescind the motion from 2/15/2021 involving the 2% dues owed by Mukwa and the services provided to Mukwa. Motion by Lee, second by Schmude: Carried 5-0
- Discuss Fire Department Equipment/Technology
 - The FD has purchased the brush truck, box and UTV
- Fire runs and service calls reviewed

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- Staffing and Training reviewed
Chief Wilfuer reported that he has received 1 application for the firefighter position
The staff completed training on wildland suppression last month.
- Discuss Chief hours
Chief Wilfuer reported that he worked 26 hours in the month of February.
- Monthly attendance report reviewed.
- Fire Inspection Note
Chief Wilfuer reported they started inspections again and they have almost completed the March inspections.

Chief Wilfuer was dismissed at 5:47 PM

➤ Report of the Police Department by Chief Schlueter

- Motion to go to closed session per WI SS 19.85(1)c to consider employment for an officer position. By Lee, 2nd Knepfel; Carried 5-0
Chief Schlueter reported to the PFC that one of the candidates had dropped out of our process and that is why another candidate needs to be selected.
- Motion to move to open session by Lee, 2nd Knepfel Carried 5-0
- Motion to have Chief Schlueter move forward with background investigation on the top candidate. Upon successful completion of the background investigation, Chief Schlueter will extend a conditional offer to the top candidate based on the successful completion of the psychological, medical exam, polygraph test, and the Law Enforcement Academy. By Lee, 2nd Kloehn Carried 5-0
- Motion to go to closed session per WI SS 19.85(1)c to consider employment for a dispatcher/community service officer. By Schmude, 2nd Lee; Carried 5-0

Chief Schlueter reported that he had been contacted by Sheriff Wilz about how the PD may have to pick up more hours in dispatch temporarily as they have recently lost a couple of dispatchers. Chief Schlueter reported that it can take up to 2 months to train a dispatcher and he suggests that a part-time dispatcher be hired to help eliminate overtime and stress on the current

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dispatchers. Chief Schlueter also suggested that we hire the person as a Community Service Officer for the summer so that they will be available to help out as a dispatcher or CSO. Chief Schlueter had posted this position on WILENET after talking to PFC President Kopitzke about 2 weeks ago.

- Motion to move to open session by Kloehn, 2nd Lee Carried 5-0
- Motion to have Chief Schlueter extend an officer of employment for part-time dispatcher/community service officer to the top candidate: By Lee, 2nd Kloehn: Carried 5-0
- Motion to approve bills for February in the amount of \$36,808.21 by Schmude, 2nd Knepfel: Carried 5-0:
- Budget as of February was reviewed. Currently 16.93%
Chief Schlueter reported that he received the Covid grant check for \$9,950 and it has been turned into Finance Director Radke. This will replace the money that was taken out of 155.57300.571 to purchase the equipment.
Chief Schlueter reported that today he received 5 invoices dated back to 2019 and 2020 from VieVu (body camera company) for about \$3,300. Chief Schlueter will be talking to the company about these invoices coming in so late. Chief Schlueter also spoke to Finance director Radke about having these put on the 2020 budget yet. Chief Schlueter reports that the budget appears to be on track for 2021.
- Chief Schlueter informed the PFC that the current rate of pay for the CSO is \$10.00 an hour. Chief Schlueter expressed some concerns about attracting potential candidates as the top candidate for the CSO position is currently making \$12.75 at Walgreens in New London as a par-time employee. The PFC discussed different pay rates.

Motion to make the hourly pay rate for the Community Service Officer be \$12.00 per hour. By Kloehn, 2nd Lee: Carried 5-0
- Crime and activity report reviewed.
 - Incident count for February was 437 calls for service.
- Current staffing and training update.
Luke Curtis and Brent Seavecki will be assigned to the duty of Field Training Officer.

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The drug Investigator position was posted and Chief Schlueter received 2 letters of interest. The interviews will be conducted in the next week or two.

The PD has firearms training at FVTC at the end of the month.

The SWAT Team has started training again.

The first officer candidate has the psych test on Tuesday. As long as that is successfully completed, he will be given a final offer of employment later this week. We hope to start him on April 5th.

- Discuss residency: Chief Schlueter explained to the PFC his concerns about the PFC making exceptions as allowed by the contract to the 15 mile residency. The concerns are: if you make one exception and deny another that we could be dealing with a grievance issue since it is a contractual issue.

Chief Schlueter explained that since this is a contractual issue the PFC can't make changes to the contract but that the City could when the contract is negotiated. Chief Schlueter suggested that if the PFC would like to make a statement about the residency that they could so that the City may take it into consideration when they negotiate with the Union.

Act 10 eliminated residency requirements for most government employees. But it allowed Cities to set a minimum residency for law enforcement at 15 miles. The PFC discussed response times and community involvement.

PFC Statement: The PFC would not oppose the residency limits be extended to 20 miles, but would like the clause in the contract taken out that allows the PFC to make exceptions.

- Update on current activities/investigations
- Update on Current Projects:
Chief Schlueter reported that:
The kitchen project is finished
The radio project has started and the repeater will be installed this week. All of the equipment has been ordered.
The roof project is scheduled for this summer
The jail cell toilets have arrived and will be installed by Ted soon.
Chief Schlueter is looking at the PD cell phone policy and ownership of the equipment if it is paid for by the officer. Chief Schlueter will report back at a later time about this and any updates to the policy if they are made.

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➤ Chief Schlueter was dismissed at 7:03PM.
Meeting was adjourned at 7:03 PM.
Respectfully submitted,
Chief Jeff Schlueter