

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

Monday September 18th, 2023

Commission Present: Corey Knepfel (Pres), Travis Kloehn (Sec), Doug Noel,
April Kopitzke, Tom Schmude

Police Chief: Jeffrey Schlueter

Fire Chief: Mark Wilfuer

Others Present:

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

- Adoption of Agenda – Kopitzke 2nd Kloehn – carried 5-0
- Public Comment: Chief Schlueter requested the next PFC meeting be changed as he will be gone. The next meeting will be Monday October 23, 2023 @ 5:30pm.
- Motion to approve prior minutes from 8/21/2023:
Kloehn, 2nd Schmude Carried 5-0
- The Commission recognizes service anniversaries.
Fire Department: Ryan Bednarowski 13 years

Police Department:
- Report of the Fire Department by Chief Mark Wilfuer
 - Motion to approve the bills as presented for August in the amount of: \$2,785.87: Kloehn, 2nd Kopitzke; Carried 5-0
 - Budget as of _____ reviewed – none presented
 - Discuss/Approve 2024 budget – tabled until next month.
 - Discuss Fire Department Equipment/Technology
 - Chief Wilfuer reported he received the invoice for the new truck.
 - Fire runs and service calls reviewed

 - Staffing and Training reviewed
Fire Department will be looking to hire 1 soon as a fire fighter took a job in Stevens Point.

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- Discuss Chief hours
Chief Wilfuer reported that he worked 21 hours in the month of August. These hours are in addition to fire calls.
- Monthly attendance report reviewed.
- Fire Inspection Note.
Things are going well. They are working with the building inspector on a couple of things.

Chief Wilfuer was dismissed at 5:41 PM

➤ Report of the Police Department by Chief Schlueter

- Motion to approve bills for August in the amount of \$48,166.13 by Schmude, 2nd Noel: Carried 5-0:
- Budget as of _ was reviewed. Currently – None presented.
- Discuss/Approve the 2024 budget: Chief Schlueter presented the 2024 budget to the PFC. There was motion to approve the 2024 Police Budget in the amount of \$2,595,305. By Schmude, 2nd Kloehn – Carried 5-0
- Crime and activity report reviewed.
 - Incident count for August was 443 calls for service.
- Staffing and training update.
 - Chief Schlueter reported:
There are a lot of changes taking place at the PD. Chris Dearth is done and Chief Schlueter expects to lose another officer to Appleton PD in the next month. Chief Schlueter has started the new hiring process and will start interviews this week. Chief Schlueter has also posted for promotions to fill for Dearth and the other officer as they both hold promotional assignments.

Chief Schlueter also gave the PFC an update on how the hiring process might go if we need to send an officer to the academy. Currently NLPD has 2 spots reserved for the March academy as the January academy is filled. The March academy graduates in August. The candidate then will be in field training for 3 months.

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There is a chance the PD will not be full staffed until December of 2024.

Chief Schlueter also spoke to the PFC about the pay rate for the recruit while in training and how he feels there should be a pay rate lower than the starting rate but higher than the CSO position. The PFC supports this.

Chief Schlueter also spoke to the PFC about retention and how soon the new officers reach top pay. This is a contractual issue.

- Discuss Community Service Officers – No action taken on this at this time.
- Discuss/Approve cost of officers for special events. Chief Schlueter informed the PFC that for the most part Reserve Deputies are not available anymore for special events. Because of this, New London PD Officers have to fill those spots. Chief Schlueter reported that officer overtime cost the city about \$55-\$75 per hour with benefits. Chief Schlueter recommended that the PD charge a flat rate so that organizations can plan for the cost. The PFC agreed that a flat rate of \$55 would be a flat rate to charge.
- Update on current activities/investigations
None
- Update on Current Projects:
Chief Schlueter reported that the PD is leaning towards going with Motorola Body Cameras and Squad Cameras.

➤ Chief Schlueter was dismissed at 6:40PM.

Meeting was adjourned at 6:40 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Chief Jeff Schlueter