



## Police and Fire Commission Meeting Minutes – February 6, 2019

ABSTRACT/SYNOPSIS OF THE ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS OF THE OFFICIAL ACTIONS OF THE POLICE COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF WHITEWATER, WALWORTH AND JEFFERSON COUNTIES, WISCONSIN

Video and audio of this meeting can be viewed on the City of Whitewater web site at <http://www.whitewater-wi.gov/AgendaCenter/Police-Fire-Commission-16>

- I. Call to Order, Roll Call - Commission President Glenn Hayes called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm  
Members present: Glenn Hayes, Jerry Grant, Beverly Stone, James Allen  
Members absent: Dennis Knopp  
Also present: Chief Aaron Raap and Records Technician Cathy Swartz
- II. Approval of Minutes November 7, 2018 - On a motion by Grant with a second by Allen the minutes were approved by unanimous voice vote.  
AYES: Hayes, Grant, Stone, Allen  
NOES: None  
ABSENT: Knopp
- III. Citizen Comments - Hayes read the following disclaimer: *"No formal Police Commission action will be taken during this meeting although issues raised may become part of a future agenda. Participants are allotted a three to five minute speaking period. Specific items listed on the agenda may not be discussed at this time; however citizens may speak to those issues at the time the Police Commission discusses that particular item."*
  - There were no citizen comments.
- IV. New Business
  - A. Chief of Police Report  
Chief Raap expressed his condolences to the Milwaukee PD for the loss of their officer that morning.
    1. WILEAG Accreditation Update – A team of three people spent three days at our department in mid-November. They concluded that we met the board's state of the art standards for Law Enforcement Accreditation. It's a highly prized recognition of law enforcement excellence. The governing board met in December to conduct a review of the onsite assessment and to review feedback. The board voted unanimously in December to re-accredited WPD for a three-year period beginning December 10<sup>th</sup> of last year. It was our 6<sup>th</sup> accreditation through WILEAG and it is one of the most in the state of Wisconsin.
    2. Community Engagement Update – Noteworthy items since November 7<sup>th</sup> of last year.
      - Veteran's Day Ceremony held at the UW-Whitewater – Chief Attended
      - Meet, Greet and Talk with the Optimist Club of Whitewater - He shared with them an event that we were going to do in December, Shop with a Cop, our 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual.
      - Holiday Parade of Lights – Number of On Duty officers were assigned the event. Chief attended the parade off duty.
      - Coffee with a Cop – 1<sup>st</sup> one for the WPD. Two locations, Jessica's and the Sweetspot East. Officers took turns sitting in the restaurants with citizens talking about whatever they wanted to talk about.

- Whitewater Unified School District Crossing Guard and Bus Driver Recognition Breakfast - Chief, Capt. Meyer and SRO Brandl attended.

Allen recommended that we promote these community events more by placing more photos on Facebook. He really enjoys these photos. Hayes agrees and believes Chief has been doing a great job.

3. Wisconsin New Chiefs & Sheriffs Training – This is a once a year training in Madison. The Department of Justice puts on this training for new chiefs and sheriffs from the previous year. Chief mentioned it was a very good training covering many topics and provided many resources and tools for them. Chief was a speaker on AM620 regarding officer retention during the conference.
4. 2019 City Budget and Impact on the Department – Process started July/August 2018 but was finalized in November 2018. Chief put forth what we needed in the budget. We were approved for approximately \$25,000 less than the previous year's budget. The police department has approximately 30% of the city's budget and the majority of that is staffing, personnel and benefits. Chief is hoping that items he put in the budget for 2018 will be approved for 2019's budget. Two were capital improvement projects – the need for a new evidence garage and an upgrade by 2020-2021 to the communication hardware in our dispatch center. Chief would also like to add 1-2 patrol officers and a half-time dispatcher. Chief is wanting to make our current half-time dispatcher into a full time dispatcher. The process was very long but was very well run by the Finance Director, the City Manager and the finance committee.
5. 2018 Citizen Complaints – There were eight citizen complaints. This is an average amount. They were all fully investigated and all were designated as exonerated.
6. Personnel Updates
  - a. Patrol Officers Complete Field Training – Three weeks ago Officers Ryan Taft and Paxton Bergin completed field training.
  - b. New Patrol Officer at Academy – Officer Aleks Marjanovic is one month into his police academy training at WCTC.
  - c. Canine Tilla – He was officially sworn in on December 6<sup>th</sup> of last year. Canine Tilla and his handler Officer Stuppy have attended some community events. Caine Tilla is doing very well in the measures in which he was training.
  - d. Dispatcher Hiring Process – Since the last meeting we have completed a posting, a screening and a hiring process for the 1.5 FTE positions. Unfortunately, the candidate that we offered the position to turned down the position for a job in New Berlin that paid a little more and we had one candidate for the ½ time position but we decided it just won't be a good fit. So, both positions have been reposted. The five current dispatchers, along with the communications supervisor, continue to work longer hours in order to provide the great service to our officers, the university's officers and the city's fire and rescue crews.
- V. Future Commission Meeting Dates - The Police Commission will meet on Wednesday, May 8th at 6:30 pm in the Municipal Building Community Room - On a motion by Allen with a second by Stone the next scheduled meeting date and time were approved by unanimous voice vote.

AYES: Hayes, Grant, Stone, Allen

NOES: None

ABSENT: Knopp

VI. Future Agenda Items

- No future agenda items were mentioned.

VII. Adjournment - On a motion by Allen with a second by Stone the Commissioners unanimously voted to adjourn to closed session.

AYES: Hayes, Grant, Stone, Allen

NOES: None

ABSENT: Knopp

The Commissioners adjourned at 6:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Cathy Swartz

Records Technician