



Police and Fire Commission Meeting Minutes – May 8, 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/multimedia/police-fire-commission>

- I. Call to Order, Roll Call – Support Services Manager Sabrina Ojibway called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

Members present: Glenn Hayes, Jerry Grant, Dennis Knopp, Beverly Stone

Members absent: James Allen

Also present: Chief Aaron Raap, Support Services Manager Sabrina Ojibway and Records Technician Cathy Swartz

- II. Election of Police & Fire Commission Officers - Ojibway called for nominations of the chair of the Police and Fire Commission. Knopp nominated Dr. Hayes with a second from Stone. Ojibway called for any other nominations two more times and there were no more nominations.

Ojibway called the roll for a vote on the appointment of Dr. Hayes for the chair of the Police and Fire Commission:

AYES: Dr. Hayes, Grant, Knopp, Stone

NOES: None

ABSENT: Allen

The vote reflected that Dr. Hayes was the next Chair of the Police and Fire Commission. Ojibway turned the meeting over to Dr. Hayes.

Dr. Hayes asked for nominations for the Vice President of the Police and Fire Commission. Stone nominated Grant with a second from Knopp. Dr. Hayes asked two more times if there were nominations for the vice president of the Police and Fire Commission. There were no other nominations.

Ojibway called the roll for a vote on the appointment of Grant for the Vice President of the Police and Fire Commission:

AYES: Dr. Hayes, Knopp, Grant, Stone

NOES: None

ABSENT: Allen

The vote reflected that Grant was the next Vice President of the Police and Fire Commission.

Dr. Hayes asked for nominations for the Secretary of the Police and Fire Commission. Knopp nominated Stone with a second by Grant. Dr. Hayes asked two more times if there were nominations for the Secretary of Police and Fire Commission. There were no other nominations.

Ojibway called the roll for a vote on the appointment of Stone for the Secretary of the Police and Fire Commission:

AYES: Dr. Hayes, Knopp, Grant, Stone

NOES: None

ABSENT: Allen

The vote reflected that Stone was the next Secretary of the Police and Fire Commission.

- III. Approval of Minutes from February 6, 2019 - On a motion by Grant with a second by Knopp the minutes were approved by unanimous voice vote.

AYES: Dr. Hayes, Knopp, Grant, Stone

NOES: None

ABSENT: Allen

Approval of Minutes from April 12, 2019 - On a motion by Grant with a second by Knopp the minutes were approved by unanimous voice vote.

AYES: Dr. Hayes, Knopp, Grant, Stone

NOES: None

ABSENT: Allen

- IV. Citizen Comments – Dr. 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.

- V. New Business

A. Chief’s Report

1. Personnel Updates

- a. Former Officer Alecks Marjanovic’s resignation on February 12th, 2019. It was determined early on in the academy that this was not his calling and he resigned.
- b. Former Officer Kyle Hathorn’s resignation on March 8th, 2019 after 3 years of sworn service. Hathorn wished to be closer to his home and was hired by Rock County Sheriff’s Department. His second reason was that it is a bigger agency with more opportunities for special units and potentially promotion.
- c. Recruitment and hiring process of officers update. We have two open positions. A couple months ago, we put out a posting for hiring and received 95 applicants. 89 of those applicants were committed to the written test. 58 of those applicants showed up at the written test. 22 of those applicants were given an interview with Lt. Gempler, Officer Swartz and Officer Valadez a month ago. 11 of those applicants were interviewed today by Chief, Deputy Chief Meyer and Support Services Manager Ojibway. Those applicants will be narrowed down to probably four finalists to move onto the polygraph and background phase.
- d. Dispatcher hiring and recruitment updates. When we met on February 6th we had 1 ½ positions open. Since the reorganization, we were able to pick up an additional ½ position. So we have two full time positions open in dispatch. One has been filled and that person will start tomorrow and we will start a new process for the other position soon.

2. 2018 PD Annual Report & 2019 Management Plan disseminated. All of the Police and Fire Commission members received this document in mid-April. Overall, there are good trends in the report. Some trends may not look so good but there are reasonable explanations for these. Like Overtime expenditures, they are generally centered around

the vacancies in our department and therefore the expenditure of more overtime to fill those vacancies.

3. 2019 Wisconsin Chiefs of Police Winter Conference update. A yearly conference, held in the Wisconsin Dells, held in February of this year. Chief was asked to serve on the Wisconsin Chief's of Police Training Committee and accepted it. The first meeting was held about 2 months ago.
4. 2019 Spring Splash update. The event went very well primarily from a law enforcement perspective but also from citizens. Chief received many complimentary emails and phone calls regarding this year's event. Stone had a comment and compliment regarding the amount of garbage of Spring Splash this year. A lot of planning and effort went into this year's event, just like in the past. We were able to get some extra staffing in from other agencies and everyone from the WPD put in 12 or more hour shifts. Even former Support Services Manager Kathy Boyd assisted. (She is now the Administrative Assistant for the City Manager.) There were no significant uses of forces used by officers and there were no injuries to any law enforcement officers. Dr. Hayes had a comment and compliment regarding the crowd containment and assistance to them. He also mentioned that all of the personnel he saw was professional. Chief will have data, ie number of arrests, charges and overtime expenditures, regarding the event at a later date for the council and the PFC. Chief heard that the downtown businesses enjoyed the extra activity but that some businesses didn't really see extra activity that day. We also had an ancillary event that occurred that might have been concerning to us that was held at V's waterfront but because of preliminary contact with the event organizer, the event went off without a hitch.
5. 2019 Police Week - May 12th – 18th
6. 2019 Police Personnel & Citizens Awards Ceremony will be held on May 21st during the beginning of the common council meeting.
7. Community Engagement Update
 - a. 2019 Special Olympics Polar Plunge and Chili Cookoff. Early February 2019, Chief served as a judge for the Chili Cookoff. Detective Jake Hintz participated in the Polar Plunge along with other law enforcement and students.
 - b. Police Ride-alongs. We continue to provide police ride-alongs to most that request it. They are generally 4 hours in length. Participants need to sign a waiver to complete one. Chief has begun to personally invite each of the Common Council members. All of the PFC member are also invited.
 - c. Presentation at WWUSD School Board meeting. Chief and SRO Brandl attended this meeting to discuss the School Resource Officer position and Chief did a formal introduction of himself.
 - d. Fairhaven Senior Living Drug Take Back Event. At a Jefferson County Chief and Sheriff's Meeting, a Jefferson County Health Department representative asked if anyone would consider holding a take back event. Whitewater PD was the first to volunteer and the first to hold an event. Det Hintz gave a presentation on what prescription medication is and how the access to these drugs can affect communities. The general public was invited to the event. The total weight collected was 6lbs. It was a successful event.

- e. Annual Kiwanis Pancake Breakfast. March 2nd at the Armory. CSO Bradley and McGruff attended along with the Chief and his son.
 - f. Annual St. Patrick's Day celebrations in Whitewater. Patrol staffing was at 70%, normally on a Sunday we are at 40% staffing. There were 74 calls for service on that day. Police made very few arrests and there was very little disorder.
 - g. Whitewater Annual Chamber of Commerce Banquet & Auction was held on April 11th. The UW-Whitewater Interim Chancellor Cheryl Green was the keynote speaker. Chief had a conversation with her regarding matters of mutual concern, to include Spring Splash, she had lots of great ideas regarding this event.
 - h. UW-Whitewater Black Student Union (BSU) & Police event held on April 16th. Whitewater City and Campus Police attended along with about 40 BSU members. They ate pizza and played games together. Afterwards there was a formal sit-down discussion period, questions/answers and ideas were shared about how we can strength relationships between BSU, persons of all color, and police departments in the city. WPD officers, a detective, a lieutenant, Deputy Chief Meyer and Chief attended this event.
 - i. Triad of Walworth County–Safety & Crime Prevention for Seniors event was held on April 22nd in Elkhorn. This was a meeting and a signing event. This group helps improve the quality of life and gives resources to people who are suffering with Dementia and Alzheimer's. Chief met an individual there who provides free training and resources to law enforcement on these issues. This summer Chief and Deputy Chief Meyer will be setting up a training for our officers regarding these issues.
 - j. Brats at the Bank – K9 fundraiser event was held on April 27th at Premier Bank. This event was organized by an outside group who has been a very supportive group for our K9 program. Approximately \$1000 was raised.
- VI. Future Commission Meeting Dates - The Police Commission will meet on August 21st, 2019 at 6:30 pm in the Municipal Building Community Room.
- VII. Future Agenda Items – Chief wanted the commission to know that he will be requesting a Special Session between now and August for hiring purposes. He will send an email or a letter in the future with dates. Dr. Hayes mentioned that for a police and fire commission session, we only need a quorum to attended, therefore we only need 3 commission members to attend.
- VIII. Adjournment - On a motion by Knopp with a second by Grant the Commissioners unanimously voted to adjourn to closed session.

AYES: Dr. Hayes, Knopp, Grant, Stone
NOES: None
ABSENT: Allen

The Commissioners adjourned at 7:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Cathy Swartz
Records Technician