



Police and Fire Commission Meeting Minutes – August 21, 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>

- I. Call to Order, Roll Call – Commission President Glenn Hayes called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

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

Members absent: None

Also present: Chief Aaron Raap, and Support Services Manager Sabrina Ojibway

- II. Approval of Minutes from May 8, 2019; May 29, 2019; June 25, 2019 and July 18, 2019 – Correction noted by Hayes, on the second page of the May 29, 2019 regular meeting minutes the template showed a date of June 25, 2019. On a motion by Allen with a second by Grant the corrected minutes were approved by unanimous voice vote.

AYES: Knopp, Hayes, Grant, Stone, Allen

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

- 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’s Report

1. Personnel Updates:
 - a. Training update of newly hired Officers Beecroft & Brock: Beecroft began academy training on Monday, August 12th, 2019. Brock is in his 4th week of field training.
 - b. Former Officer Ryan Weston’s resignation: Weston resigned effective Saturday, August 17th, 2019. He took a deputy’s position with the Walworth County Sheriff’s Office.
 - c. Officer recruitment update: Last week, Deputy Chief Meyer posted for our open position. The information is being shared across numerous social media sites along with job boards. Applications are being accepted through the morning of Sept. 5th, 2019. Efforts are being made to shorten the hiring process.
2. PD 2nd Quarter Report disseminated: Covers the months of April, May and June and compares data to 2018. Reduction in burglaries, motor vehicle accidents and overtime. Looking for improvement in parking enforcement and lowering number of thefts. High dollar amount under burglaries (\$250,000) attributed to stolen/recovered ambulance.

3. 2019 Wisconsin Chiefs of Police Summer Conference update: WPLF (Wisconsin Police Leadership Foundation) Training Committee discussed training/potential speakers for upcoming conferences. Other topics that were covered included Principles of Force Science – Emphasis on Body-worn Cameras, an extensive review of the Parkland, Florida School shooting, Social Media Crisis Communication Planning and Legal Updates which covered collective bargaining and public records laws.
4. Purple Angel Award report: Chief Raap met with the president of the Walworth County Dementia Friendly Community Initiative, Inc. at a meeting months ago. Allowed the opportunity to bring cost-free training to sworn and civilian members of the Whitewater Police Department, UW-Whitewater Police Department and Whitewater Fire/EMS in early July.
5. Fair & Impartial Policing training: Captain Vander Steeg along with a few lieutenants and officers attended this UW-Whitewater Police Department hosted training August 20th and August 21st. Chief Raap attended several years ago while with the Milwaukee Police Department. This training focuses on implicit-bias-awareness training for law enforcement and how the mind works. Instead of placing an emphasis on blame, the focus is on how implicit biases can impact well-intentioned individuals outside their conscious awareness.
6. Jefferson County Drug Endangered Children (DEC) ad hoc committee report: Chief Raap attended the Jefferson Co. Sheriff and Chiefs' meeting earlier in the day. Currently, they are in the final stages of a county-wide agreement on best-practices when dealing with drug, alcohol and violence endangered children. Chief Raap is one of three chiefs on this committee.
7. PD procurement of MRAP rescue vehicle: Procured through the Federal 1033 Program. Vehicle is valued at over \$700,000, only 90 were awarded to agencies throughout the nation. No cost to local tax payers – asset forfeiture used to ship from Texas and painting was accomplished through a generous donation of time from a citizen and the efforts of a newly hired officer. Will be able to train officers on operation in-house. Preparedness is the ultimate goal for the MRAP. Potential use in future parades and annual Big Rig Gig.
8. Commencement of Union contract negotiations: City staff meetings began two weeks ago, future meetings to occur with WPPA and WPPSA.
9. Community Engagement Update:
 - a. 2019 Big Rig Gig: Held on July 18th, 2019. Chief Raap, Lieutenant Borchardt and Office Valadez in attendance with a squad car.
 - b. 4th of July Festival and Parade: Officer Stuppy and K9 Tilla participated in the parade and achieved the honor of “Best Float”.

- c. Lincoln Elementary Law Enforcement Appreciation Lunch: Annual event in which members from Whitewater Police Department, UW-Whitewater Police Department and Walworth County Sheriff were in attendance.
 - d. Washington Elementary lunch with family & SRO: SRO Brandl and Chief Raap attended with the family that won this luncheon at a recent PTO fundraising event.
 - e. Special Olympics Torch Run- Whitewater leg: Lieutenant Gempler, Detective Hintz, Detective Schleis and Officer Stuppy participated.
 - f. Our House Senior Living – fundraiser for K9 unit: Held on July 11th, 2019 and raised around \$1000 for the K9 unit.
 - g. Meet & Greet event with new UW-Whitewater Chancellor Dr. Dwight Watson: All WPD command staff and other WPD personnel took some time to meet the new Chancellor at this event held at Casual Joe’s on August 13th, 2019.
 - h. “Fair-Themed” lunch event at Fairhaven: Chief Raap and City PR & Communications Manager Kristin Mickelson attended on August 13th, 2019.
 - i. Whitewater Area Chamber of Commerce Annual Maxwell Street Days and Brat Fundraiser: Held on August 10th, 2019. Officers took the opportunity to park and walk and engage with the community.
 - j. 1st ever “Cone with a Cop” event: Chief Raap worked with the General Manager at our local McDonald’s to host a new community outreach event on August 22nd, 2019.
 - k. Summer on the Mall: Chief Raap participated in a dunk tank on July 17th, 2019 to help benefit the Bethel House.
- V. Future Commission Meeting Dates - The Police Commission will meet on Wednesday, November 13th, 2019 at 6:30 pm in the Municipal Building Community Room.
- VI. Future Agenda Items – Chief wanted the commission to know that he will be requesting a Special Session between now and November for hiring purposes.
- VII. Adjournment - On a motion by Knopp with a second by Grant the Commissioners unanimously voted to adjourn to closed session.

AYES: Knopp, Hayes, Grant, Stone, Allen

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

The Commissioners adjourned at 7:02 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Sabrina Ojibway
Support Services Manager