

MINUTES OF THE CHIPPEWA FALLS POLICE AND FIRE COMMISSION

A meeting of the Chippewa Falls Police and Fire Commission was held on Monday, August 22, 2022 at the Chippewa Falls Fire Department, Station 1, 1301 Chippewa Crossing Blvd., Chippewa Falls, WI.

Commission members present: Cindy Boggess, Greg Dachel, Mike Houle, Chris Norseng, Todd Prill. Others present: Fire Chief Lee Douglas, Police Chief Matt Kelm, CFPD Sgt Sheridan Pabst, CFPD Officer Stephanie Schmidt, and FD MPO/Paramedic Greg Bowe.

1. Chair Dachel called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. As there were no corrections to the agenda, it was approved as distributed.
2. A motion was made by Prill/Norseng, to approve the minutes of the meeting held on June 7, 2022. Motion passed. As minutes of the meeting on June 16, 2022 were omitted from this meeting's notice, they will be presented for approval at the next meeting.
3. CFPD Officer Stephanie Schmidt was recognized for completion of her 18 month probationary period with the CFPD on 6-8-2022. Chief Kelm praised Officer Schmidt's upbeat nature, her positive influence as a "team player", and her active attempts to recruit for the CFPD. . He presented Officer Schmidt with an inscribed Challenge Coin in recognition of the end of her probationary status.
4. **Fire Department Report:** * Chief Douglas briefed the PFC members on recent fires on Superior Street (which included a body being located within the house) and a small house fire on E. Wisconsin St. He praised his staff for working to put out the Superior St. fire while maintaining the integrity of the scene for evidence. They have also recently assisted with a fire in the Town of Lafayette. With the Fire Inspector position currently open, fire inspections are being handled by BC Bowe as well as shifts doing what they can to help with inspections. * The new rescue boat is here and up and running. DNR training will be held. * There are 2 open positions at the FD and there are no candidates. It is a problem as well for the Fire District and all over. * Current priorities are transfers from St. Joseph's Hospital. The Chief feels it is more beneficial to take the transfer business than to have St. Joe's shut down.
5. **Police Department Report:** * New hire Noah Weimert is in the CVTC academy and will graduate in October. * Officer Noah Weinke resigned in August. * There are currently 6 applications for the new officer position, with application deadline of September 7th. * This fall the department will be down 3 officers. In the Spring Officer Joyce will be back from reserve duty and Noah Weinke will be on duty. * Lt. Micolichuk is expected to retire sometime after the first of the year. * SROs will be back to school in a couple of weeks. * CFPD is participating in a district-wide (including MACS) parent meeting at the high school regarding emergency response plans to situations like happened in Uvalde, Texas. Parents will hear

from the Chiefs and school officials. Other brief highlighted information:- * The CFPD has had some pretty “big” cases in the last 4 months – a stressful and busy year for the CFPD. *The PD’s Citizen’s Academy was a success and hopes are to do one again next year. *Fair week was a busy week for the PD.* A PD Retirees Picnic, an off-duty event, was held and was a huge success. * Other items briefly touched upon were proposed baseball game with Special Olympians, a dog parade in the park on Oct. 29th, the new Watchgard body cam system being good for 5 yrs, Officer Schoenwetter now has State Certification for drug recognition, Crime Stoppers is up and running, the new drone has 3 pilots trained.. * The year-to-date shows again that drug offenses are high. The Chief is working on the 2023 budget..

6. * Chief Kelm mentioned the upcoming city-wide referendum (on November 8, 2022) and how, hopefully if passed, it will impact hiring. Word needs to get out about the needs of both the PD and FD. The Chief stressed that it is important for the community to get the word about the needs listed in the referendum. CESA 10 is managing the dissemination of information about the referendum.
7. A motion to adjourn was made by Houle, seconded by Prill, to adjourn at 7:22 pm. Motion passed.

Submitted by: Chris Norseng, Secretary, Chippewa Falls Police and Fire Commission