



City of West Allis

Meeting Minutes

Police and Fire Commission

Thursday, January 19, 2023

6:00 PM

West Allis Police Department
11301 W. Lincoln Ave.

REGULAR MEETING

A. CALL TO ORDER

Commissioner Manthei called the meeting to order at 6:05 pm

B. ROLL CALL

Present: Commissioners Mark Manthei, Danielle Romain and Kimberly Cosby

Excused: Commissioners Kurt Kopplin and Leverett Baldwin

Also Present: Police Chief Pat Mitchell, Deputy Chief Chris Marks - Police Department; Fire Chief Mason Pooler, Assistant Chief Jason Schaak, EO Steve Prusinski - Fire Department; 1st District Alderman Ray Turner, 4th District Alderman Dan Roadt, CAO Rebecca Grill - City of West Allis; Bridget Morawetz, Recording Secretary

C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Approval of the December 15, 2022 Regular and Closed Session Meeting Minutes

A motion was made by Commissioner Romain and seconded by Commissioner Manthei to approve the minutes as presented.

The motion carried by the following votes:

Aye: 3, Commissioners Manthei, Romain and Cosby

Nay: 0

D. POLICE AND FIRE COMMISSION

1. Swearing-in of new PFC Board Member

After Commissioner Manthei called the meeting to order, Kimberly Cosby was sworn in by recording secretary Bridget Morawetz

E. FIRE DEPARTMENT

2. Operations Division Report

Chief Pooler stated that the FatPot software program that has been in use for almost a year continues to assist with distributing mutual aid calls evenly among all participating departments.

Chief Pooler also reviewed the benchmarks contained in this report.

The Commissioners had no additional questions or comments and the report was placed on file.

3. EMS Bureau Report

Chief Pooler reviewed a highlighted call included in DC Novak's report regarding a mutual aid call assist with Wauwatosa. He stated that upon arrival at an alternative birthing center in Wauwatosa, the on-site staff was attempting care for a newborn in distress. Both departments took over CPR and care of the newborn and swift transport to a specialty hospital ensured the newborn received stable and appropriate care.

Chief Pooler also reviewed the benchmarks included in this report.

The Commissioners had no additional questions or comments and the report was placed on file.

4. EMS Revenue Reports

Chief Pooler stated that 2022 was one of the highest years for EMS revenue collection.

The Commissioners had no additional questions or comments and the reports were placed on file.

5. Training Bureau Report

Chief Pooler thanked Ct. Brandon Foley for his two years with the Training Bureau where he served as an Interim Deputy Chief. He stated that Ct. Foley is moving back to a 24-hour Captain beginning January 2023. Chief Pooler stated that the new year will bring a combined bureau of Training and EMS headed by Deputy Chief Kyle Novak.

The Commissioners had no additional questions or comments and the report was placed on file.

6. QPR Performance Report - December

Chief Pooler stated that the dispatch center continues to strive to reach the 7% needed to qualify for Accreditation status.

The Commissioners had no additional questions or comments and the report was placed on file.

7. Community Risk Reduction/Support Services Report

Assistant Chief Jason Schaak stated that the department will be working with Vital Strategies and Johns Hopkins University to develop a state-wide survey to provide insight into potential initiatives to combat the opioid epidemic.

AC Schaak stated that discussions continue with Pulsepoint contacts to move the program to a county-wide platform vs. city specific.

AC Schaak also reviewed the benchmarks included in this report.

The Commissioners had no additional questions or comments and the report was placed on file.

8. Request for approval: Agreement between WAFD and Vital Strategies

AC Schaak requested the approval of an agreement between WAFD and Vital Strategies to participate in distribution of a survey to better understand the root cause of drug use. AC Schaak stated that for our participation, WAFD will receive a \$2,000 honorarium.

A motion was made by Commissioner Romain and seconded by Commissioner Cosby to approve the request as presented.

The motion carried by the following votes:

Aye: 3, Commissioners Manthei, Romain and Cosby

Nay: 0

9. Fire Prevention Bureau Report

AC Schaak stated that DC Suarez Del Real made some changes to the fire inspection process and the result was more inspections completed in 2022 and more issues were addressed with business and building owners. AC Schaak also stated that the implementation of a false alarm fee charged to those businesses who experienced three or more false alarms had generated an additional \$12,400 for the city in 2022.

AC Schaak also briefly reviewed an arson fire that was included in this report.

The Commissioners had no additional questions or comments and the report was placed on file.

10. Mobile Integrated Healthcare (MIH) Bureau Report

AC Schaak stated SUD Coordinator Chris Williams participated in a 4-day training academy to become a recovery coach. He stated that this training program was offered thru a non-profit organization called Project WisHop.

The Commissioners had no additional questions or comments and the report was placed on file.

11. Fire Department Financial Report

Chief Pooler noted the city has applied for COVID federal reimbursement funding to help offset the overtime overage shown on the financial report. He stated that much of the OT was the result of employees off duty with COVID and/or COVID like symptoms.

The Commissioners had no additional questions or concerns and the report was placed on file.

12. Master Plan Performance Report

Chief Pooler did not speak to anything included in this report.

The Commissioners had no additional questions or concerns and the report was placed on file.

13. Request for approval: Promotion to Lieutenant

A motion was made by Commissioner Cosby and seconded by Commissioner Romain to approve the promotion as requested.

The motion carried by the following votes:

Aye: 3, Commissioners Manthei, Romain and Cosby

Nay: 0

14. Request for approval: Promotion to Equipment Operator

A motion was made by Commissioner Romain and seconded by Commissioner Cosby to approve the promotion as requested.

The motion carried by the following votes:

Aye: 3, Commissioners Manthei, Romain and Cosby

Nay: 0

F. POLICE DEPARTMENT

15. Request for approval: End of probationary period -Officer Jordan Cooper

A motion was made by Commissioner Romain and seconded by Commissioner Cosby to approve this request as presented by Chief Mitchell.

The motion carried by the following votes:

Aye: 3, Commissioners Manthei, Romain and Cosby

Nay: 0

16. Request for approval: End of probationary period - Officer Anton Best

A motion was made by Commissioner Romain and seconded by Commissioner Cosby to approve this request as presented by Chief Mitchell.

The motion carried by the following votes:

Aye: 3, Commissioners Manthei, Romain and Cosby

Nay: 0

17. Police Department Financial Reports

Chief Mitchell reviewed the financial reports with the Commissioners, noting the city's accounting procedures do not accurately reflect various grants and other forms of reimbursements the department receives that help to offset overages in many of the budget line-item accounts. Chief Mitchell stated that the department received reimbursement in 2022 for OWI enforcement, speed enforcement, WA/WM school liaisons, State Fair and Candy Cane Lane.

The Commissioners had no additional questions or comments and the report was placed on file.

18. Monthly Performance Report

Chief Mitchell stated one new officer recently completed his law enforcement training in December of 2022 and three new officers are scheduled to begin their academy training this month.

Chief Mitchell spoke briefly to the following items included in this report:

- Citizen complaints;
- Officer development goals;
- 2022 Candy Cane Lane presence;
- 2022 Holiday shopping initiative

The Commissioners had no additional questions or comments and the report was placed on file.

19. Patrol Bureau Activity Report

Chief Mitchell recognized Officer Kossow for his participation in the arrest of a felony offender who was also a suspect in a kidnapping case pending in Waukesha County. He stated that the information regarding this situation was discussed at that day's daily assembly and Officer Kossow's observation while on shift helped to get a dangerous offender off the streets.

The Commissioners had no additional questions or comments and the report was placed on file.

20. Communications Unit Report

Chief Mitchell was pleased to share with the Commissioners that the dispatch center currently has eight full-time dispatchers employed, just one short of the allotted nine positions available. He stated that in 2022 Common Council approved a market pay adjustment for this position and feels the pay increase was very helpful to recruit and retain candidates.

The Commissioners had no additional questions or comments and the report was placed on file.

21. Community Services Unit Report

Chief Mitchell did not speak to anything included in this report.

The Commissioners had no additional questions or concerns and the report was placed on file.

22. Criminal Investigations Bureau Report

Chief Mitchell reviewed a serious incident involving the neglect of two disabled adults left alone at a group home. Chief Mitchell stated the two adults were quickly moved a safe environment and the group home is currently under investigation for numerous serious violations.

The Commissioners had no additional questions or comments and the report was placed on file.

23. Tavern Violations Report

Chief Mitchell did not speak to anything included in this report.

The Commissioners had no additional questions or concerns and the report was placed on file.

24. Training Unit Report

Chief Mitchell welcomed Blake Ewer as the newest Community Service Officer. Chief Mitchell stated that Blake is currently enrolled in the Criminal Justice program at WCTC.

The Commissioners had no additional questions or comments and the report was placed on file

25. Discussion and confirmation: Chief Mitchell's annual review at the February PFC meeting

Chief Mitchell stated that he will be prepared for his annual review at the February 16, 2023 PFC meeting.

G. POLICE AND FIRE COMMISSION

26. Police and Fire Financial Report

The Commissioners had no additional questions or concerns regarding this report and it was placed on file.

H. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, on a motion made and seconded, the meeting adjourned at 7:26 pm



All meetings of the {bdName} are public meetings. In order for the general public to make comments at the committee meetings, the individual(s) must be scheduled (as an appearance) with the chair of the committee or the appropriate staff contact; otherwise, the meeting of the committee is a working session for the committee itself, and discussion by those in attendance is limited to committee members, the mayor, other alderpersons, staff and others that may be a party to the matter being discussed.

NON-DISCRIMINATION STATEMENT

The City of West Allis does not discriminate against individuals on the basis of race, color, religion, age, marital or veterans' status, sex, national origin, disability or any other legally protected status in the admission or access to, or treatment or employment in, its services, programs or activities.

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT NOTICE

Upon reasonable notice the City will furnish appropriate auxiliary aids and services when necessary to afford individuals with disabilities an equal opportunity to participate in and to enjoy the benefits of a service, program or activity provided by the City.

LIMITED ENGLISH PROFICIENCY STATEMENT

It is the policy of the City of West Allis to provide language access services to populations of persons with Limited English Proficiency (LEP) who are eligible to be served or likely to be directly affected by our programs. Such services will be focused on providing meaningful access to our programs, services and/or benefits.