

**POLICE AND FIRE COMMISSION MEETING**  
**Wednesday, April 27, 2011 8:00 – 9:25 AM CITY HALL**  
**Todd McEldowney, Chairman**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Todd McEldowney, Sandra Bergman, Dick Timmons, Al Lewis and Joe Sturzl

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Police Chief Michael Steffes, Fire Chief Terry Williams and Administrator Bill Bell

**CALL TO ORDER**

President Todd McEldowney called the meeting to order at 8:00 AM. The meeting was posted and the media notified in compliance with the Wisconsin Open Meeting Law.

**APPROVE MINUTES**

**MOTION BY LEWIS/STURZL TO APPROVE MEETING MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 22 AND FEBRUARY 23, 2011. ALL AYES, MOTION CARRIED.**

**POLICE DEPARTMENT – Chief 's Report**

Chief Steffes reported calls for service for March had increased from the same time last year by 138 calls. The chief reported there was very little training over the last two months. Sergeant Mertz and Drago were used five times in March. Sergeant Helke and Officer Brown were given letters of commendation for saving the life of a suicidal individual. The Citizens Academy began this month. The chief reviewed the public relations activities for the month of April.

**CONFIRM PROBATIONARY PERIOD FOR OFFICERS AMANDA LINDSTRAND AND WILL STUART**

Chief Steffes recommended Officer Amanda Lindstrand be confirmed as permanent office for the department. Steffes reported Lindstrand has adapted very well with the department, improves herself by asking questions, learns from mistakes and has created a positive impact to the community. He reported she has taken on the DARE program at Zion School and has shown interest with the GREAT curriculum (gang activity).

Steffes reported that Officer Lindstrand will be having a DARE and K-9 fundraiser at the bowling alley on Saturday, June 11 from 2 PM to 5 PM. The chief said she began her fundraising when she came in for duty while the Citizen's Academy was being conducted and volunteered to be tased if the attendees donated money towards the DARE Program. That night she raised \$140.

**MOTION BY TIMMONS/LEWIS TO APPROVE OFFICER AMANDA LINDSTRAND TO A PERMANENT MEMBER OF THE RHINELANDER POLICE DEPARTMENT. ALL AYES, MOTION CARRIED.**

Chief Steffes reviewed a letter submitted by Sergeant Mike Allard recommending that Officer Will Stuart be appointed to a permanent member of the department. The chief said that Officer Stuart has performed very well; he exhibits very good tactical skills and performs excellent self-initiated field activity with great enthusiasm for his profession. The chief stated that Stuart is doing an excellent job and displays solid leadership ability.

**MOTION BY STURZL/LEWIS TO APPROVE OFFICER WILL STUART AS A PERMANENT MEMBER OF THE RHINELANDER POLICE DEPARTMENT. ALL AYES, MOTION CARRIED.**

**FIRE DEPARTMENT – Chief Report**

Chief Williams reported as of his report they have had 130 calls for service.

He explained that Assistant Chief Tom Waydick had just returned from a two week EMS training at the National Fire Academy in Maryland. Since Waydick is the EMS leader who oversees the ambulance service, this was very worthwhile training and the only cost to the city was Tom’s meals amounting to only \$210.00 for the two week school. He said that Waydick brought back a lot of ideas for them to review. Williams told other departments were complimentary to Tom with some great ideas and how the Rhinelander Department made things work.

Williams reported on the training that was conducted with the new hybrid electric vehicles. The chief explained the danger to emergency responders and that special gloves had to be purchased because impact could energize certain parts of the vehicle, specifically the doors.

New firefighter Alex Wichmann has been on for a month now and things are going very well.

The department received the first Medicare payment for the ambulance service for October, November and December totaling \$119,000; the department bills quarterly rather than monthly. Current outstanding now is \$173,000.

**AT 8:50, MOTION BY BERGMAN/TIMMONS TO ADJOURN INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION. ALL AYES, MOTION CARRIED.**

**INFORMATIONAL / EMERGENCY IN NATURE** None

**NEXT MEETING** – The Commissions next meeting will be at 8 AM on Wednesday, June 8, 2011.

**FUTURE AGENDA** None

**ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION LEWIS/STURZL TO ADJOURN POLICE AND FIRE COMMISSION MEETING AT 9:25 AM. ALL AYES, MOTION CARRIED.**

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Todd McEldowney, President  
Police and Fire Commission

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Date Approved

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Sandra Bergman, Clerk

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Received by Clerk’s Office

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