

POLICE AND FIRE COMMISSION MEETING
Tuesday, October 11, 2011 8:00 – 8:40 AM CITY HALL
Todd McEldowney, Chairman

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

MEMBERS ABSENT: Al Lewis

OTHERS PRESENT: Police Chief Michael Steffes, Fire Chief Terry Williams and
City Administrator Blaine Oborn

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 BERGMAN/STURZL TO APPROVE MEETING MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 7, 2011.
ALL AYES, ONE ABSENT (LEWIS), MOTION CARRIED.**

POLICE DEPARTMENT – Chief ‘s Report

Chief Steffes reported calls for service were down by 39 calls compared to the same time last year. He said this was the first time that they were down in calls over the previous year since February 2009; citations are also down. One factor the calls might be down could be due to switching to a new management system and officers taking a little more time because more information is required plus the fact that they are still learning the new program.

Steffes reviewed the training for the month reporting Sgt. Mertz attended Canine Legal Update training and the entire department had fire arms training. The chief reported that he attended the Executive Management Institute in Salt Lake City with all expenses paid through a federal grant.

Chief Steffes explained a new Victim Information and Notification Everyday Program (V.I.N.E.) starting out in Oneida County. This program allows you to register and search any jail or prison record in the country to check on the status of an offender. You will be able to find out where an inmate is incarcerated and check the custody status. You will register your phone number, e-mail or however you want to be notified where this person is. Steffes advised that as soon as an offender status changes, even for a court appearance, you are notified immediately.

The chief said the department was notified on September 1, that the city had its first traffic fatality for 2011. The freak accident he explained happened on August 8 by a motorcyclist. The cyclist was riding on Lincoln Street and when he approached the Shepard Street intersection the vehicle in front of him slammed on his brakes and in order to avoid a collision, he laid down his cycle. No contact was made with the other vehicle; in fact, the driver did not know that this incident occurred. The chief responded to the scene and

stated the motorcyclist did what he is trained to do. The cyclist said he would go to the hospital on his own but appeared to have only road rash and a broken signal on his cycle. The chief said it appeared he was more upset about the minor damage to his bike. Apparently, he passed away due to a blood clot caused by the accident.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Chief Williams stated September was a slow month with only 135 calls. He reported his crew delivered their first baby since taking over the ambulance service. Hats off to his guys!

Williams noted that calls approached about 130 for the month. He reported on 166 inspections with 56 violations. They finished up three days of trench rescue training held at Public Works; Public Work workers dug trenches for them.

Williams reported he is on the board for State's Fire Chief's Educational Committee and he attend their meeting discussing a lot about the changes with the budget repair bill and what is facing all the departments around the state.

The chief advised that Rhinelander is still one of the only fire departments in the state that does building inspections. He stated he constantly receives calls on how they do this with some chiefs asking if he would be willing to talk before their city councils. Now, with the ambulance service, many others have watched how they have put this together.

McEldowney stated the original reason for this meeting was because CVMIC representatives were to meet with the Commission to discuss what the insurance company expectations are and what they require of the Commission. McEldowney asked Blaine Oborn what is their expectations for the commission. Oborn stated there was some concerns to get them trained on CVMIC's way of doing things; they try to help cities on prevention issues and make sure they follow the laws.

Lisa Kuczarski advised three dates CVMIC would be available to meet with the Commission. McEldowney suggested that Commission coordinate their calendars on which dates would work for them and give it to the recording secretary. The time and date will be set and everyone will be contacted.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

MOTION BY STURZL/TIMMONS TO ADJOURN INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION PURSUANT 19.85 (1)(c) AND (f) WIS. STATS TO APPROVE MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 7, 2011. ALL AYES, ONE ABSENT (LEWIS), MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION BY TIMMONS/STURZL TO APPROVE MEETING MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 7, 2011. ALL AYES, ONE ABSENT (LEWIS), MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION BY STURZL/TIMMONS TO RETURN TO OPEN SESSION. ALL AYES, ONE ABSENT (LEWIS), MOTION CARRIED.

INFORMATIONAL OR EMERGENCY IN NATURE

FUTURE AGENDA AND NEXT MEETING

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION BY TIMMONS/STURZL TO ADJOURN MEETING AT 8:40 AM. ALL AYES, ONE ABSENT (LEWIS), MOTION CARRIED.

Todd McEldowney, Chairman
Police and Fire Commission

Date Approved

Sandi Bergman, Clerk

Received by Clerk's Office

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