

**CITY OF STEVENS POINT
POLICE AND FIRE COMMISSION MINUTES
MEETING OF FEBRUARY 6, 2023**

- 1. Roll Call:** Commissioners Kirschling, Moore, Mrozek, Ostrowski, Taylor

Also Present: Police Chief Kussow, Fire Chief Moody, AC Gemza,
Lt. Johnson, Alderperson Kneebone

2. Approval of Minutes

Commissioner Taylor moved, seconded by Commissioner Kirschling, to approve the minutes of the January 12, 2023, meeting as presented.

Ayes, all; nays, none. Motion carried.

3. President's Report

Commissioner Moore spoke of the Round Table meeting that he, Police Chief Kussow, and Fire Chief Moody attended last Tuesday in Mauston. It was a discussion on the Police and Fire Commissions that have Optional Powers in the state. All three agreed it was very informative and hope that there will be more statewide discussions in the future.

4. Confirmation of Bills

Commissioner Ostrowski questioned Police Chief Kussow on the purchase of the LMT 40MM 4-Shot Launcher. Kussow explained it is used by SWAT for deploying less lethal and gas rounds and is a safer option than bean bag rounds for crowd control.

Commissioner Ostrowski questioned Fire Chief Moody on the purchase of the Enclosed 14' Investigation Trailer. Moody explained is to house the tools needed for fire investigations. Commissioner Ostrowski questioned Moody on the purchase of the Elderly Female Body Mannequin. AC Gemza explained the purchase to assist in training and will be used countywide by various organizations.

Commissioner Ostrowski moved, seconded by Commissioner Kirschling, to approve the confirmation of the January 2023 bills.

Ayes, all; nays, none. Motion carried.

5. Discussion, with possible action, on revisions to Administrative Policy 4.04, Termination of Employment – Exit Interview.

After a lengthy conversation, the Commission agreed to gather more information regarding the involvement of Human Resources and will contact the City Attorney regarding any legal aspects. This topic will be discussed again next month.

6. Police Chief's Report

The Rescue Task Force, comprised of the PD and FD, did tours of Pacelli, SPASH, and Rosholt High Schools. Training students and employees on how to “stop the bleed” and identify where gauze and tourniquets should be placed in schools/classrooms.

Commissioner Ostrowski wished to go on record and thanked everyone for their service and commitment to the City. Commissioner Ostrowski stated that he reads the Chiefs reports thoroughly and is appreciative of everyone for all they do especially in the last two months with responding to serious calls.

Note of Interest:

- 1-11-23 Hired Crossing Guard David Wagner for Michigan and Rice.
- Therapy Dog, Willow, and Ofc. Marchel continue to train through obedience classes at Pawsitively Unleashed.
- 1-23/1-27 Chief Kussow attended the New Chief's Conference put on by the Department of Justice.
- 1-24-23 Ast. Chief Williams attend the “Call to Action” meeting through United Way. 70 community members identified top need of our community. (1. Mental health, 2. Child care, 3. Homelessness)
- 1-25-23 Recognition banquet organized by Lt. Uitenbroek for SPPD Auxiliary and 2022 Coin Recipients. Lt Johnson worked with Lt. Uitenbroek and organized with local media outlets to attend the Coin Recognition banquet at the Holiday Inn. Channel 9 and the Metro Wire attended and conducted interviews with recipients and SPPD staff.
- 1-26-23 – Lt. Johnson did a 1.5 hr presentation at the Stevens Point Area Coop for all staff on the topic; Run, Hide, Fight and preparedness in the event of an active shooter.
- Community Service Officer Hensel has been trained/educated on abandoned vehicle laws and spent time contacting owners whose vehicles have been on the streets for more than 48 hours. City entities feedback

reveals they have seen a significant decrease in abandoned vehicles around town with this new process.

- Lt. Mueller came up with new procedure for found property. Lt. Johnson worked with John Quirk, Community Media Manager, to create a tab on the city website under SPPD for the found property. When property is located and no owner is known, this property will be entered on our city website for potential claiming. CSO Hensel will be the point of contact for people trying to claim this property.

Calls of Interest:

- **01-30-23 Domestic disturbance**, Adult male suspect was involved in a physical disturbance with brother. The verbal argument over suspect spitting in the sink turn physical resulting in arrest for probation hold, domestic Disorder Conduct, Battery. Suspect transported to Jail.
- **01-29-23, Physical disturbance at Buffalo Wild Wings**, Off duty military and Law Enforcement intervened to break up the fight. Suspects contacted and issued citation upon completion of investigation.
- **01-29-23 OverDose**, Subject was released from Jail for approx. 2 hours and overdosed on drugs Two doses of Narcan given. Male transported for medical clearance by Med. Unit.
- **01-28-23 OverDose**, 200 blk of Meadow subject overdosed on heroin. Male subject was transported medically.
- **01-24-23, Road Rage**, Second and Fourth, male and female drivers who got into verbal argument which turned physical. The male driver was arrested for Battery and disorderly conduct.
- **01-23-23, Welfare Check**, 400 blk of Wadleigh, Officer were requested to check welfare of employee who had not showed for work for days. Officers located subject deceased due to apparent self- inflicted gun shot.
- **01-23-23, Suspicious**, 500 blk of Forest, Caller reported from his hospital room that persons may be in his house without permission. Officers made forced entry after announcing several times. Officers located a male and female in the residence. The male had been hiding and was later found to have warrants. Male arrested on warrants.
- **01-17-23, Welfare check**, 1600 blk of Riverview ,Officers responded to report of suicidal female who had cut wrist and wanted to die. Officers were able to make contact and talk female into giving up the razor blades. Female was initially cooperative with officers and was transported to hospital. Female later wanted to leave and physically resisted officers. Female was later placed on mental health hold.
- **01-17-23, 911 hang up**, male was calling 911 alleging he was about to be kidnapped. Male reported the cartel is after him. Male made repeated phone calls and was cited. Male continued and was later arrested on felony bail jumping for being under the influence.

- **01-17-23, Physical Disturbance**, 200 blk of Frontenac, report of two male fighting. Officers responded and one male fled the scene and was located. Upon further investigation, neither party wanted police intervention. Parties separated for the night.
- **01-13-23, Possible Firearm on School Bus**, School Resource Officer investigated report of a student from Point Of Discovery School displaying a firearm to other students on the bus a few days prior. Suspected student initially denied the allegations, upon further investigation, it was learned the suspected student did have a BB hand gun on the bus. BB gun retrieved by law enforcement from students residence . Juvenile referral on student.
- **01-13-23, 911 call of man with gun w/ hostages**, Day Inn, Officers from SPPD and multiple other jurisdictions responded and set up perimeter. Contact made with caller who was also the suspect. Verbal contact made with suspect who was taken down at gun point. Upon further investigation, no hostages, however loaded handgun. Suspect was determined to be under the influence of a narcotic and in possession with a firearm. Suspect arrested and transported to jail for poss. of meth.
- **01-12-23, Welfare check with Firearm**, 2800 blk of Jefferson, Officers responded to check the welfare of a male who reportedly cocked a gun in his bedroom during an argument with his girlfriend and talked about dying. Officers made contact and gained compliance. Male sought voluntary treatment. The firearm was taken for safe keeping.
- **01-11-23, Assist SPASH Threats**, Patrol assisted School Resource Officer investigate report of statements via snapchat by student about blowing up the school. Student was upset about math. Further investigation determined student did not have access to bombs and stated it was a joke. Disposition of school consequences.
- **01-11-23, OverDose**, 3300 blk of Glacier Av. Report of female who overdosed. Officer administered Narcan which resulted in normal breathing. CPR also administered. Female transported to hospital.
- **01-10-23, Welfare Check**, 3900 blk of Doolittle dr, Officer investigated report of suicidal male who left in vehicle. Contact with male on traffic stop. The male stated he was not suicidal, however the male was under the influence and later arrested for OWI 2nd.
- **01-09-23, Welfare Check**, 500 blk Forest, Officer received info. a male subject sent a video to girlfriend of him OverDosing in order to kill himself. Officers responded to residence where the male was hiding. Male was taken into custody on Warrants. Male was resistive and actively attempted to harm himself while in handcuffs banging his head against objects.
- **01-09-23, Disturbance with Firearm**, 1430 Torun Rd. Officers responded to report of male threatening others with a machine gun. Upon officers arrival, a suspect vehicle was stopped and occupants questioned. Further investigation learned a loaded 22 hand gun was involved. K-9 sniff of the vehicle resulted in a search which located the gun and narcotics. Several occupants were on probation. One female occupant arrested on

warrants. One male occupant fled the traffic stop on foot when the gun was observed by officers. The male was later located by PTSO Deputy and taken to jail on felon in possession of gun and resisting.

- **01-06-23, OverDose** , PJ Jacobs JHS, School Resource Officer and patrol assist with 14 year old student overdosing on pain meds and not feeling well. Female later sought voluntary treatment after parent notification
- **01-06-23, Accidental discharge of firearm**, 200 blk Minnesota/ 300 blk Minnesota Av. Report of damage to house by bullet, Further investigation learned a male who had been cleaning his AR-15 had an accidental discharge. The bullet traveled into nearby neighboring residence. No one was home at the time. Officers counseled the male with the firearm as to firearm safety and taking responsibility.

Monthly Use of Force Reporting (annual total in parenthesis):

Number of Use of Force Incidents: 5 (5)

January Use of Force Summaries

- **1-6-23** – Officers had responded to a domestic disturbance. During the investigation it was learned a suspect had barricaded themselves in a bedroom and possibly had a hammer. Officers were forced to force their way into the bedroom and located the suspect hiding under the bed. In order to get the suspect out, one Officer displayed their taser at the suspect. The suspect surrendered, came out and was taken into custody without injury.
- **1-13-23** – SPPD Officers were called to a hotel for a report of someone possibly holding 4 people against their will, armed with a handgun. While the Officers made a perimeter around the building, other Officers began to gather more information as to the room location. As they were doing this they encountered the possible suspect. Due to the information the suspect was armed, one Officer had their patrol rifle out and pointed at the suspect, while the other had their taser out and pointed at the suspect. The suspect was given commands and was taken into custody without incident or injury.
- **1-9-23** – Officers had arrested an individual in a residence on a warrant. The suspect was uncooperative with Officers while being escorted from the residence and began banging their head against the wall. The suspect then began to put their feet on the wall in an effort to keep the Officers from being able to walk the suspect out. One Officer was forced to grab the suspect and place him on the ground at this point to avoid injury to themselves or an Officer. The suspect was then cooperative and walked out of the residence with the Officers.
- **1-20-23** – SPPD Detectives along with a few SPPD Officers executed a narcotics search warrant at a residence in Stevens Point. During the

execution of the warrant Officers pointed their firearms at suspects inside the target residence, taking them into custody. There were no injuries.

- **1-22-23** – SPPD Officers were investigating a trespassing complaint at a residence. No one had answered the door and the Officers had permission to enter the residence with force. Once Officers were entering one person was contacted. As another Officer was going downstairs, they had their weapon drawn and observed a suspect lying on a bed. The Officer pointed their weapon at the suspect and gave the suspect orders. The suspect was taken into custody without incident or injury.

Mental health related incidents: Officers Responded to the following in January:

- 72 welfare checks
- 12 voluntary
- 3 Chapter 51
- 1 suicide by firearm

Training:

- Willow began her puppy training classes
- Ast. Chief Williams completed week #3 of Command College
- Sgt. Roser Fire Arms Instructor
- DOJ New Chiefs and Sheriffs training.

Field Training (FTO):

- Officer Solis successfully completed step #2 and is on to step #3

Auxiliary Unit:

- Total events: (w/out Aux. Mtgs) = 6
- Total Hours without ride along / = 84
- **Banquet at Holiday Inn, Recognition of Coin recipients , Auxiliary members and Chaplains**

School Resource Officers:

SPASH

- 103 calls for service, including the following:
- -3 fights, including one arrest for substantial battery
- - 5 citations for vaping
- -2 citations for truancy

- -2 threat type investigations, one of which was a student who made a post about bombing the school, and the other student who threatened his social worker
- -4 harassment investigations
- Visit from Governor Evers and Lt Governor Rodriguez
- School Resource Officer Quisler and Lt. Uitenbroek tested the school radios with the PA, and also worked on the reunification plan for SPASH

PJ Jacobs

- Calls for service - 118
- School consequences - 35
- City Ordinance Arrests - 1 + 4 assists with Sgt Klein
- Truancy - 1
- Youth Enrichment Services referrals - 3
- Police Outreach Program taught in Family And Consumer Science classes - 4 with about 26 kids each time
- Juvenile referrals - 2

Ben Franklin

- 101 Calls for service
- 2 Juvenile Referrals, 1 for Theft and the other for Display of a Facsimile Firearm as well as Obstructing an Investigation
- 5 Non-traffic Citations ranging from Truancy to DC and possession of a vape by a person under 18 years of age
- 2 YES (Youth Enrichment Services) Referrals
- 44 School Consequences ranging from In-School to Out-of-School suspensions or alternate passing times
- 2 Reports of minors sexting each other
- 1 Report of a student bringing alcoholic beverages on a after school trip
- January 2023 at Ben Franklin Jr. High School saw an increase in behavioral issues as well as the presence of vaping devices. School administrators including School Resource Officer Marchel, responded to reports of vaping devices on nearly a daily basis, locating and confiscating many that contained both nicotine and different forms of THC, ranging from Delta-8, Delta-9 and Delta-10. Multiple students were sent home for observation as they appeared under the influence of suspected narcotics.
- Ben Franklin had one K9 search conducted with a positive indication, but nothing located.
- Ben Franklin also saw several threats to bring a firearm on school grounds and internet searches for firearms that were flagged on the "Securely" alert system. None were determined to be credible threats to the school after investigating. Officer Marchel did respond to a report of a BB-gun that was

brought to Point of Discovery School and a juvenile referral was submitted after a BB-gun that appeared to be a real pistol was recovered.

Commissioner Moore moved, seconded by Commissioner Taylor, to approve the Police Chief's report for January 2023.

Ayes, all; nays, none. Motion carried.

7. Discussion, with possible action, on the appointment of Firefighter/Paramedic Jeremiah Parker to the position of Motor Pump Operator.

Position available due to the retirement of Arthur Dahms, after 32 years of service at the Stevens Point Fire Department.

Commissioner Taylor recused himself from a vote.

Commissioner Mrozek moved, seconded by Commissioner Kirschling, to appoint Jeremiah Parker to the position of Motor Pump Operator, effective date February 8th, 2023.

Ayes, Kirschling, Moore, Mrozek, Ostrowski; abstention, Taylor; nays, none. Motion carried.

Commissioner Moore thanked Mr. Dahms for his years of service.

8. Fire Chief's Report/EMS Report

Chief Moody stated the Fire Academy Class 2301 started January 16th and is scheduled for graduation this Friday, February 10th at 1400 at Station 1. He invited the Commissioners to the ceremony for their graduation, which will also include recent appointments and promotions for others at the Stevens Point Fire Department.

Significant Events

Fire Academy 2301 started	Jan 16 th 2023
Ice Rescue 1600 Robin Lane	Jan 15 th 2023
MSA SCBA In-Service	Jan 29-31 2023

<u>Metro Fire Response:</u> (0)	YTD (3)
• 668 Granite Ridge Road West (Hull)	01/04/2023
• 1225 Torun Road (City)	01/17/2023
• 4324 Hwy 66 (Hull)	01/23/2023

Fires

- Structure Fires-2 YTD (2)
- Vehicle Fires-0 YTD (0)
- Brush, Grass, Wildland Fires-0 YTD (0)
- Trash/Dumpster Related Fires-0 YTD (0)
- Cooking Incidents-4 YTD (4)
- Chimney Fire -1 YTD (1)
- Excessive Heat, Scorch, No Fire- 0 YTD (0)
- Electrical Issues-1 YTD (1)

EMS/Rescue

- EMS Assist Calls-69 YTD (69)
- Assist Invalid-0 YTD (0)
- Vehicle Accidents-3 YTD (3)
- EMS Standby-0 YTD (0)
- Assist Other Government Agency-0 YTD (0)
- EMS Call, Other-0 YTD (0)

Alarms

- False Alarms Responses-8 YTD (8)

Hazardous Materials

- Carbon Monoxide Detected-0 YTD (0)
- Natural Gas Detected-1 YTD (1)
- Gasoline and Flammable Leak/Spill-1 YTD (1)
- Hazardous Investigation nothing found-0 YTD (0)
- Oil/Combustible Spill included Vehicle Accidents-0 YTD (0)
- Chemical Spills-0 YTD (0)

Other Incidents

- Animal Rescue-0 YTD (0)
- Burning Regulation Issues-0 YTD (0)
- Citizen Complaints-0 YTD (0)
- Water/Steam Leak-0 YTD (0)
- Smoke Scare, Odor of Smoke, Steam Mistaken for smoke-1 YTD (1)
- Dispatched and Cancelled Enroute-4 YTD (4)

- Nothing Found on Arrival- 0 YTD (0)
- General Service Call-0 YTD (0)
- Bomb Scare-0 YTD (0)

Technical Rescue

- Water/Ice Incidents-2 YTD (2)
- Rope/High Angle Rescue-0 YTD (0)
- Extrication of Victim from Elevator-1 YTD (1)
- Extrication of Victim from a Vehicle-1 YTD (1)
- Extrication of Victim from Building-0 YTD (0)

Monthly Total (100)

Year to Date Total (100)

Total Fire Losses City Property-\$0

YTD: \$0

Total City Property Saved-\$0

YTD: \$0

Training:

- Forcible Entry
- SCBA
- Search and Rescue
- Ice Rescue
- Officer-Smart Goals
- MPO-Cold Weather Operation and equipment familiarization

Public Activities:

- Station Tour Jan 9th 2023
- Explorer Post Meeting (EMS Scenarios) Jan 25th 2023

Mid- State Technical College Paramedic Interns: SPFD welcomes two paramedic interns from the Mid-State Technical College Paramedic Program. The paramedic interns work along side our paramedics and learn valuable patient assessment and general field skills while still in school.

Training: All 3 Crews completed Advanced Cardiac Life Support refresher. Special thanks to Firefighter Paramedic Jason Pettis for handling all of the instruction.

Public Safety Red Kettle Challenge: SPFD once again participated in the Salvation Army's red Kettle Challenge. Below is the official results, good time was had and money was raised for a great charity.

Plover Fire: \$3,604.30
Point Fire: \$2,375.71
Portage Co Sheriff: \$2,025.07
Plover PD: \$1,712.95
Point PD: \$868.02
Dewey Fire: \$330.87
State Patrol: \$66.89

Total: \$10,983.81

Commissioner Moore moved, seconded by Commissioner Ostrowski, to accept the Fire Chief's Report for January 2023.

Ayes, all; nays, none. Motion carried.

12. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 3:05 p.m.