

**CITY OF STEVENS POINT
POLICE AND FIRE COMMISSION MINUTES
MEETING OF MARCH 9, 2023**

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

Also Present: Police Chief Kussow, Fire Chief Moody, Lt. Johnson, Lt. Mueller, Alderperson Kneebone, Brandi Makuski – Point/Plover Metro Wire

2. Approval of Minutes

Commissioner Ostrowski moved, seconded by Commissioner Mrozek, to approve the minutes of the February 7, 2023, meeting as presented.

Ayes, all; nays, none. Motion carried.

3. Confirmation of Bills

Commissioner Ostrowski asked Police Chief Kussow to further explain the purchase of virtual classroom supplies. Chief Kussow explained the department can host classes and training for ARIDE, DNR, State Patrol, etc. Will benefit the city by bringing people here from all around the state.

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

Ayes, all; nays, none. Motion carried.

4. Fire Chief's Report/EMS Report

Retirement ceremony was held for Motor Pump Operator Art Dahms after 32 years of service. Promotion/graduation ceremony was held for many members of the Department.

The Department did receive the FEMA Grant for \$228,750.00. Zander, Fleisner, Przybylski, and Oestreich were important members of the department to move the project forward. Commissioner Kirschling congratulated Chief Moody on getting the FEMA Grant and recognized that his staff worked hard to get it.

Significant Events

- MPO Arthur Dahms Retirement Ceremony
02/07/2023
- FEMA Grant award for \$228,750.00 for SCBA replacement
02/08/2023
Promotion and Graduation Ceremony Lt. Oestrich, BC Hopfensperger,
MPO Pettis, MPO Parker, Secretary Baxter, FF/PM's Hionis, Mack, Krueger
02/10/2023
- FEMA presentation with Testin, Shrankland, and Baldwin present
02/24/2023
- Badger Heating and Cooling started installation of HVAC at Station 1

Mutual and Automatic Aid Fire Response: (3)

YTD (6)

- 3335 Wilson Ave (Plover) 02/03/2023
- 3241 Coon Ave (Point) 02/19/2023
- 183952 Hwy 153 (Wittenberg) 02/23/2023

Fires

- Structure Fires-2 YTD (4)
- Vehicle Fires-0 YTD (0)
- Brush, Grass, Wildland Fires-0 YTD (0)
- Trash/Dumpster Related Fires-0 YTD (0)
- Cooking Incidents-0 YTD (4)
- Chimney Fire -0 YTD (1)
- Excessive Heat, Scorch, No Fire- 1 YTD (1)
- Electrical Issues-3 YTD (4)

EMS/Rescue

- EMS Assist Calls-44 YTD (113)
- Assist Invalid-0 YTD (0)
- Vehicle Accidents-2 YTD (5)
- EMS Standby-0 YTD (0)
- Assist Other Government Agency-0 YTD (0)
- EMS Call, Other-1 YTD (1)

Alarms

- False Alarms Responses-6 YTD (14)

Hazardous Materials

- Carbon Monoxide Detected-0 YTD (0)
- Natural Gas Detected-1 YTD (2)
- Gasoline and Flammable Leak/Spill-0 YTD (1)
- Hazardous Investigation nothing found-4 YTD (4)
- Oil/Combustible Spill included Vehicle Accidents-0 YTD (0)
- Chemical Spills-1 YTD (5)

Other Incidents

- Animal Rescue-0 YTD (0)
- Burning Regulation Issues-1 YTD (1)
- Citizen Complaints-0 YTD (0)
- Water/Steam Leak-0 YTD (0)
- Smoke Scare, Odor of Smoke, Steam Mistaken for smoke-2 YTD (3)
- Dispatched and Cancelled Enroute-2 YTD (6)
- Nothing Found on Arrival- 0 YTD (0)
- General Service Call-0 YTD (0)
- Bomb Scare-0 YTD (0)

Technical Rescue

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

Monthly Total (70)

Year to Date Total (170)

Total Fire Losses City Property-\$10,000

YTD: \$10,0000

Total City Property Saved-\$2,067,600

YTD: \$2,067,600

Monthly Training:

- Rapid Intervention
- Chimney Fires
- SCBA Confidence and familiarization
- Leadership Leading the Fire Company
- Maps and Streets Familiarization

- EMS Handtevy
- EMS Case Review
- Ropes and Knots
- Confined Space Flint Hills

Public Activities:

- Explorer Post Meeting (SCBA familiarization) 02/15/2023
- Cub Scouts Station Tour 02/28 2023

Heart Month: Keep the Heart Red- there were 6 black blubs placed in the heart this month. Representing the number of cardiac arrests and heart attacks in Portage County during February Heart Month.



We had many exciting activities going on.

- ❖ Keep the Heart Red (tracking Heart Attacks and Sudden Cardiac Arrests in Stevens Point and Portage County)
- ❖ There were different video's that will be release throughout the month.
- ❖ Social Media Posts promoting Heart Healthy Lifestyle
- ❖ And Friday February 3rd SPFD participated in National Wear Red Day

Overdose Risk Assessment: Worked with Portage County Health Department on the Counties Overdose Risk Assessment.

National Registry: About half the Stevens Point Fire Department is in the process of renewing their National Registry. This process should be completed by March 31st.

Commissioner Taylor moved, seconded by Commissioner Kirschling, to accept the Fire Chief's Report and place it on file for February 2023.

Ayes, all; nays, none. Motion carried.

5. Police Chief's Report

Chief Kussow explained the new section on his report "Personnel" – current Officers vs. how many Officers the city has approved the Department to have.

Officer Jadon Solis is now on solo patrol.

The Department is working with the Sheriff's Office and Plover PD for all three agencies to use a new program for assisting with Emergency Detentions, which will free up officers to continue working patrol.

Personnel: 45/49

Note of Interest:

- 2-1-23 Ast. Chief Williams and Lt. Uitenbroek read to a class at McKinley School for Read Across America Day.
- Lt. Johnson worked with several locations this month who have purchased and are installing Knox Boxes, to include Aspirus Hospital on Vern Holmes Dr., Redeemer Lutheran Church, the Boys and Girls Club, Berard Center and Good News Fellowship Church.
- 2-4-23 Several Officers participated in Polar Plunge for Special Olympics raising over \$2000.
- 2-9-23 Several members from SPPD attended SPASH to assist them with participating in the Wisconsin School Breakfast Challenge. The school gets points for doing certain things and inviting certain groups to their events to help support their food program.
- 2-9-23 Chief Kussow, Lt. Moss and Lt. Johnson attended a security meeting at Aspirus Hospital on Vern Holmes Dr. to address several safety concerns to include poor radio connections, lack of security, and active shooter plans.
- 2-20-23 Lt. Johnson gave a Rescue Task Force training to Pacelli High School.
- 2-22-23 Hosted Sheepdog K9 training – 2 day seminar that covers topics including narcotic-contraband detection dog operations and relevant case law related to the Supreme Court, United States of appeals for the Seventy Circuit and the State of Wisconsin.
- 2-24-23 Ofc. Radsek and Lt. Johnson presented to the City Parks Department on homeless population in the City.
- 2-27-23 Ast. Chief Williams attended meeting with Plover PD, Portage County Sheriff's Office and Redi transport regarding pilot program for mental health commitments.
- 2-28-23 received 3 sealed bids for PD roof. All three will be presented to Committees and one will be approved by committees in March.

Calls of Interest:

- **02-25-23** Physical Disturbance, Icon Night Club, Officers investigated a report of drunk male fighting another male due to possible theft of money. Further investigation found not theft, however male was arrested and jailed for State Disorderly Conduct.
- **02-24-23** Physical Domestic Disturbance, 700 blk Illinois Av. Male and female involved in physical disturbance. Upon further investigation a dual arrest was made on the male and female for charges of domestic related battery and domestic disorderly conduct.
- **02-24-23** Physical Domestic Disturbance, 500 blk Forest St, Officers responded to location to investigate a physical disturbance between father and son. Upon further investigation, the father was arrested for domestic battery.
- **02-23-23**, Disabled Vehicle, Green and Simonis, Officer stopped to check on what appeared to be disabled vehicle. Further contact with the vehicle and occupants found drug activity in play. The female occupant was arrested on probation hold as meth and marijuana paraphernalia was located.
- **02-22-23**, Disturbance with possible gun, 3900 blk Robert St. Officers responded to a disturbance between and male and female with mention of gun. Upon arrival and further investigation, no gun located and neither party wanted to cooperate with investigation despite the male having minor injury to hand from punching a hole in the wall.
- **02-22-23**, Assist State Patrol, State Patrol had a vehicle pursuit with known vehicle with out of state plates. SPPD Officers assisted by attempting to locate suspect vehicle which was located in the city of Stevens Point. Another vehicle traveling with the pursuit suspect vehicle drove past the abandon vehicle used in the pursuit with State Patrol. A second High speed pursuit was initiated by Portage Co Sheriff who was initially out with Stevens Point Officers near abandoned vehicle. Portage Co. Sheriff later terminated the pursuit due to speeds. Follow up by SPPD Officers lead to a search warrant for abandoned suspect pursuit vehicle. The search located a firearm.
- **02-22-23**, Welfare Check/ Deceased Subject, 700 blk Johns Dr., Officer attempted contact with male. Housing authority keyed in to apartment under exigent circumstances. Officers located a decease male along with signs of drug use. Detectives responded and later located a quantity of illegal drugs.
- **02-20-23**, Disturbance, 900 blk Main St., Officers investigated a report of disturbance between two males. During the investigation it was learned one of the male had a warrant. Male was arrested and transported to jail.
- **02-18-23**, Disturbance with Property damage, 700 blk John's Dr. Officer investigated a report of a male who smashed an apartment window and

car windshield with a grill. Subject later located and arrested for Disorderly conduct.

- **02-16-23**, Drunk and disorderly male, 1200 Main (Old Shopko Lot), report of intoxicated male wanting to fight people. Male was arrested for disorderly conduct and resisted. The male had 3 separate knives on his person which he had attempted to access. (Resulted in officer injury)
- **02-16-23**, Disturbance with Firearm, 2300 blk Center, Report of male who returned home intoxicated causing damage to TV, cabinets, and other items. Male then escalated by loading a 30-06 rifle. Family exited the house and a perimeter was established. Upon verification that only the male was inside, the perimeter was terminated, with later follow up investigation.
- **02-10-23**, Domestic disturbance with injury, 800 blk Second St. Female ran into Point After with Bra and sweat pants with fresh injuries and bruises. Further investigation learn male had struck her several times with a wooden object and with fists over an argument about a PlayStation. Male was located at residence and refused to exit. Family member of female made entry and convinced suspect to turn himself in. Male subject arrested substantial battery and Bail Jump.
- **02-10-23**, Disturbance with Knife, 2100 blk Ellis St. Report of a disturbance with a male and female arguing each with knives. Officers observed the reported behavior and entry was made. Contact with the male and female resulted in arrest for both and medical attention due to cuts.
- **02-09-23**, OverDose, South Point, Officer responded to restaurant for report of male OD on drugs. Contact with male probation search of the male located narcotics. Male arrested for possession after medical clearance.
- **02-07-22**, OverDose 300 blk First St N report of a male who overdosed on heroin. Officers arrived and gave two doses of narcan. Due to medical concerns male was not arrested on probation warrant, however was left in the care of medical staff.
- **02-06-22** Child Abuse, Officer investigated report of 3 year old female with bruising to her sternum and stomach area. Further investigation found male boyfriend was upset with 3 year old and struck her for wetting her pants. Male suspect initially fled when confronted by family. Suspect later turned himself in.
- **02-05-23** Disturbance, Officer responded to report of male and female arguing over infidelity on the part of the female half. The male who was also intoxicated was arrested for trespass and bail jumping for no drink.
- **02-05-23** Domestic Disturbance, 400 blk West Karner, Female victim returned home to find broken TV's and other property. The male half sent text death threats to the female victim. Male suspect arrested for Domestic DC.

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

Number of Use of Force Incidents: 3 (8)

February Use of Force Summaries

- **2-1-23** – SPPD Detectives executed a narcotics search warrant on a residence in Stevens Point. During the warrant execution, Detectives pointed their service weapons at occupants inside the residence while taking them into custody. All occupants were taken into custody without incident or injury.
- **2-16-23** - SPPD Detectives executed a narcotics search warrant on a residence in Stevens Point. During the warrant execution, Detectives pointed their service weapons at occupants inside the residence while taking them into custody. All occupants were taken into custody without incident or injury.
- **2-16-23** – SPPD Officers were dispatched to a disturbance in a parking lot where an intoxicated subject was trying to fight groups of people. Once Officers arrived, the suspect was approaching and threatening a group of people. To avoid an altercation Officers gave commands to the subject, who ignored them, so Officers immediately each grabbed an arm of the suspect and walked him away from the crowd. As soon as Officers did this, the suspect tensed up and tried reaching for items in their pocket, which was observed to be a knife. The knife was removed and the subject was put on the ground for handcuffing. Once on the ground the suspect attempted to keep their hands tight to their body. Officers had to use a considerable amount of force to get the suspect's hands behind their back, using wrist pressure. Once the suspect was handcuffed, several more knives were located. The suspect was highly intoxicated and continued to be belligerent throughout the contact. One of the Officers injured their thumb during this event and ended up missing time at work.

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

- Total welfare checks for 2023 = 128
- 56 welfare checks
- 5 voluntary
- 1 Chapter 51

Training:

- 2-6-23 to 2-8-23 Ast. Chief Williams and Ast. Chief Rottier attended Chiefs conference.
- Ast. Chief Williams completed week #4 of Command College.
- Therapy Dog Willow continued her training and received her A.K.C. STAR Puppy ribbon.

- 2-6-23 to 2-8-23 Lead Ofc. Clark instructor development.
- 2-8-23 to 2-9-23 Sgt. Klein Instructor vehicle contacts.
- 2-10-23 Lt. Brooks and Sgt. Klein for Instructor in High Risk Vehicle Contacts.
- 2-22-23 Ast. Chief Williams, Lt. Uitenbroek and Sgt. Ballew Sheep Dog K-9.
- 2-28-23 Lt. Spath for instructor in High Risk Vehicle Contacts.

Field Training (FTO):

- Officer Solis successfully completed FTO on Feb. 28, 2023- Solo Patrol

Auxiliary Unit:

- Total events: (w/out Aux. Mtgs) = 4
- Total Hours without ride along / = 24
- SPPD Auxiliary training for Feb. included DAAT and O.C. training with Lt. Johnson and Sgt. Roser.

School Resource Officers:

SPASH

- 101 calls for service, including the following:
 - two fights, arrests for substantial battery and disorderly conduct
 - Four "Securely" alerts, including three involving weapons searches. All cleared and deemed not to be a threat after investigation
 - Snapchat threat to the school reported to patrol- investigated by patrol and deemed not credible. Follow up on the school end, student was interviewed along with parents, and suspended.
 - One additional threat complaint involving a text about shooting another student, found to be a joke after investigation.
 - Two students in possession of pepper spray
 - Two sexting complaints, investigation continuing
 - four vandalism complaints
 - Two truancy citations
- Winter formal dance at SPASH
- Quisler and I have been working on the SPASH reunification kit, which is nearly complete.

PJ Jacobs

- Calls for service - 137
- School consequences - 21
- Disorderly conduct citations issued - 6
- Vape citations issued - 4

- Juvenile referrals - 2
- Truancy citations issued - 2
- YES program referrals - 0
- We had one quick \$50 reward issued to a student who came forward to report a student who had a utility knife on his person and who was displaying it to other students and making threats. That student received a juvenile referral and is out of school suspended for 45 days. They'll be working at a neutral site with a tutor during that time.

Ben Franklin

- 87 - Total behavioral incidents
- 39 - School Consequences
- 4 - Citations (2 Truancy, 1 possession of a vape, and 1 DC)
- 2 - Juvenile Referrals (2 for DC)
- 0 - YES Referrals (Youth Enrichment Services) 5 students continuing visits from previous referrals
- 1 - 72 hour hold placed on student by JJ Social Worker
- One student threatened to bring a gun to school to kill another student and received a suspension and future weapons checks for the rest of the school year.

Commissioner Mrozek moved, seconded by Commissioner Taylor, to approve the Police Chief's report and place it on file for February 2023.

Ayes, all; nays, none. Motion carried.

6. Discussion, with possible action, on approval of the 2022 Annual Report for publication on the Department web page for public viewing.

Chief Kussow completed the 2022 Annual Report with the help from several individuals from the Department. Asking for approval to put the report on the city web page for public viewing.

Commissioner Mrozek stated that the report was excellently done. She wanted it to be known that it is not an annual requirement, and she encouraged everyone to read it.

Commissioner Ostrowski moved, seconded by Commissioner Kirschling, to approve the 2022 Annual Report for publication on the Department web page for public viewing.

Ayes, all; nays, none. Motion carried.

7. Discussion, with possible action, on approval to start Kylie Bachaus on the same date as William Klismith (May 22, 2023), with the expected retirement of Officer Alan Raasoch on June 29, 2023.

Original plan and approval was to have Kylie on a three month eligibility list. Request approval to start Kylie on the same day as William Klismith.

Commissioner Taylor moved, seconded by Commissioner Mrozek, on approval to start Kylie Bachaus on May 22, 2023.

8. President's Report

Commissioner Moore gave the floor over to Commissioner Taylor because he is leaving the PFC Commission. Commissioner Taylor explained that he recently moved into the Township of Linwood. He stated that he is sad to leave the Commission but is confident in the remaining Commissioners and the new Chiefs.

Commissioner Moore thanked Commissioner Taylor for his time and commitment.

9. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 2:24 p.m.