

**CITY OF STEVENS POINT
POLICE AND FIRE COMMISSION MINUTES
MEETING OF APRIL 5, 2023**

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

Also Present: Police Chief Kussow, Fire Chief Moody, Assistant Chief Rottier, Assistant Chief Williams, Lt. Johnson

Commissioner Moore welcomed Commissioner Thomas Zenner to the PFC.

2. Approval of Minutes

Commissioner Mrozek moved, seconded by Commissioner Kirschling, to approve the minutes of the March 9, 2023, meeting as presented.

Ayes, all; nays, none. Motion carried.

3. Confirmation of Bills

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

Ayes, all; nays, none. Motion carried.

4. Police Chief's Report

- Met with Cole Peterson's parents and Eric Duffy's parents to discuss ways to prevent more drownings in the river.
- Assisted Dept. of Revenue with numerous issues at ICON bar.
- Ready Transport started on April 1st to assist with transports on Emergency Detentions.
- Officer Clark and Officer Wierzba issued Life Saving Award for overdose.
- Monthly PGA update

Personnel: 45/49

Note of Interest:

- 3-1-23 Lt. Johnson hosted a pizza party for 23, 6th grade Safety Cadets at Bannach School.
- Lt. Johnson hosted another pizza party for 40 Safety Cadets at Jefferson School. The group consisted of 4th, 5th and 6th graders.

- 3-2-23 Honor Guard assisted with the funeral for former Sheriff Ron Borski.
- 3-2-23 the Police Department met with school and City officials to discuss the traffic concerns around Ben Franklin Middle School before and after school hours. Some suggestions were made as well as alternatives presented to the District.
- 3-3-23 Lt. Uitenbroek and Asst. Chief Williams attended the ICS 300 training for large scale events at Portage County Sheriff's Office Emergency Government.
- 3-6-23 Chief Kussow and Lt. Johnson met with the Portage County Tavern League and after a suggestion was made Lt. Johnson began working with Streets Personnel to get 7 "Free Parking during the day" signs put up in the downtown area. Specifically in Lot 2, Lot 7 and Lot 16.
- 3-8-23 Lt. Johnson presented Run, Hide, Fight to approx. 20 staff at the Country Inn and Suites.
- 3-14-23 Lt. Johnson and Lead Officer Beach attended the Law Enforcement Career Day at UW-Platteville. Approximately 75 other agencies from around the state, Illinois, Iowa and Federal Departments were present as well.
- 3-15-23 Lt. Johnson and School Resource Officer Kramer attended the College and Career Fair at SPASH. At this event the Officers spoke with many students who had questions or interests in Law Enforcement or the Stevens Point Auxiliary Unit.
- 3-28-23 Meeting and training for implementation of online scheduling.
- 3-29-23 Lt. Johnson met with Emergency Response Personnel with Festival Foods and did a walk-through of their facility. During the walk-through safety concerns were discussed as well as future training plans for staff.
- 3-30-23 AC Williams, Mayor Wiza, Chief Kussow, Lt. Johnson, Director Kramer, Lt. James(UWSP), Stacey Duellman (UWSP Director of Center for Prevention), Superintendent Scott Halverson, and the Duffy Family, met to discuss potential safety improvements to Pfiffner Park and combatting underage drinking in Stevens Point.

Calls of Interest:

- 03-30-23, Assist Wisconsin Dept. of Revenue with compliance check at ICON Bar. Violations observed and addressed, no licensed bartender and multiple violations identified by Dept. of Revenue agents.
- 03-28-23 Physical Disturbance, 500 blk of Bliss, male suspect left the scene prior to police arrival. Male suspect was later located and arrested on domestic charges and a warrant.
- 03-26-23 OverDose, 700 blk of Johns Dr. Officer responded to report of a man down outside of the complex. Officers responded and assisted med. Unit with two doses of naran. Further investigation led officers to believe the male used meth and heroin.
- 03-25-23 Stolen Vehicle, Auto Zone, vehicle owner left vehicle running with keys in it unlocked. Further investigation by SPPD Officers located the vehicle. Contact was made with 4 suspects at the residence at which the vehicle was located. During the investigation, an amount of meth was located as well as other drug paraphernalia. All 4 subjects were arrested on Probation Holds.
- 03-25-23 OverDose Death, 700 blk of Johns Dr., Officers responded to investigate a report of possible dead body. Upon further investigation, a deceased male was located in the apartment with evidence of possible Drug related OverDose. SPPD Detectives were called to the scene to investigate.
- 03-25-23 Assist Portage County Sheriff's Office with Vehicle Pursuit when a high speed pursuit entered Stevens Point PD Jurisdiction. The tires of the suspect vehicle were deflated with spike strips. The occupants of the suspect vehicle were taken down at gun point during a high risk vehicle stop.

- 03-23-23 Suspicious Vehicle, Auto Zone, SPPD Officer made contact with a male occupant. The male occupant had several warrants, probation hold, and bail jumping. During police contact, the male suspect admitted to swallowing narcotics that required further medical assistance.
- 03-21-23 Physical disturbance between males, Mead Park, Suspects had left prior to Officers arrival. Later one of the parties presented at the Hospital with injuries and claimed he had been beaten and robbed of his wallet and phone.
- 03-20-23 Assist Med Unit, Officers responded to 1600 Division for a report of a female having a heart attack as result of Meth use. Further investigation with the male associated with her led to his arrest for Felony Bail Jumping.
- 03-12-23 Disturbance, 1000 blk of First St. Female in the hallway causing a disturbance due to her meds being off. Female was arrested on Probation and Parole warrant.
- 03-15-23 Burglary In Progress, SPPD Officers responded to the Country Club based on a report of suspects stealing which was verified by live video. SPPD Officers arrived first and placed a male in custody who was later turned over to Portage County as the address is in Portage Co. Sheriff's jurisdiction.
- 03-16-23 Physical Disturbance, YMCA, SPPD Officers responded to investigate a report of two male physically fighting. Further investigation led to one male being arrested on Probation Warrant and the other trespassed from the premise.
- 03-14-23 Physical Domestic Disturbance, 500 blk of Johns Dr. Officers were called to the residence for a physical disturbance. Upon further investigation, the female was arrested for battery and domestic Disorderly conduct.
- 03-11-23 OverDose, Econo Lodge, Officer responded to 911 call that a male had overdosed. Officer arrived and provided Narcan and performed CPR. Male victim was later learned to have an active warrant, which was not acted upon due to medical concerns. SPPD Officers later received lifesaving award for their efforts.
- 03-11-23 Physical domestic disturbance, 2000 blk of Ellis, Officer responded to report of family holding a male down. Officer escorted the male out of the residence, while doing so he punched a window causing self-injury in need of medical attention. Upon further investigation, the injured subject's mom and mom's boyfriend were arrested for battery and DC charges domestic related. Another male juvenile had a battery warrant from West Allis, which was addressed.
- 03-09-23 Disturbance, Caller reported that he was being followed by a male. Further investigation by Officers of the matter learned the caller had a warrant. The caller was located in the area and fled officers on foot. Suspect was apprehended and taken into custody on warrant and fresh charges.
- 03-07-23 Suspicious, 1430 Torun Rd. Officers responded to male who was under the influence of narcotics. The male injured himself while attempting to enter a trailer that was not his. The male then made entry to a nearby vehicle that was not his. The male was bleeding due to his injuries. A Probation and Parole warrant and fresh charges were not acted upon at that time as medical attention was needed.
- 03-07-23 Disturbance , 1600 Academy Festival Foods, Officers responded to report of male causing a disturbance yelling at himself and fake shooting people with his finger gun. The male was contacted and arrested on disorderly conduct, bail jumping, and probation hold.
- 03-04-23, Missing Person/ Death investigation. SPPD Officer were called to 200 blk of Minnesota for a welfare check on 20 yr old male who was missing. Upon further investigation by patrol and Detectives and active searches of geographical areas it was determined the male may have gone through the Ice on the Wisconsin River. Mutual aid by area departments to include the Marathon Co. Sheriff's Dept. Dive team located the body of the 20 year old male in the Wisconsin River.

03-03-23 OverDose, 3000 blk of Michigan Av. Officers investigated and found evidence of a domestic disturbance in which the male caller beat the female who Overdosed. The male was arrested and Jailed.

- 03-01-23 Disturbance after the fact that involved a gun, Female reported that a known male was flashing gun at her when she was following him in Wausau. Female complainant reported finding a gun in her vehicle that was confiscated by officers when she reported to the Police Department to make the complaint. Request for charges sent to District Attorney's office.

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

Use of Force Incidents: 3 (8)

March Use of Force Summaries

- 3/9/23 – Officers located an individual walking on the sidewalk who had an actable warrant for their arrest. One Officer tried to get the subject to stop walking by asking the subject a question. The subject did not listen, dropped their belongings and began running from Officers. Officers pursued the subject for a short distance, where the subject stopped, pointed a finger gun at an officer and began to imitate shooting the Officer. Another Officer came up to the other side with their taser deployed. Officers then handcuffed the subject. The subject continued to be verbally resistive and uncooperative. The subject claimed injury and asked for an ambulance. The subject was later taken for medical clearance and once inside the Emergency Room, the subject refused to obey officers and tried to head butt an officer. At this point, the subject was pushed onto the bed. The subject continued being verbally abusive toward Officers. The subject was later taken to jail without incident. The subject claimed injury, but no injuries were located.
- 3/23/23 – Detectives assisted an outside agency with the execution of a narcotics warrant. During the execution Officers pointed their duty weapons at occupants inside the residence until they were taken into custody. No injuries.
- 3/23/23 - Detectives assisted an outside agency with the execution of a 2nd narcotics warrant. During the execution Officers pointed their duty weapons at occupants inside the residence until they were taken into custody. No injuries.
- 3/24/23 – Officers assisted Portage County Sheriff's Office with a high-speed pursuit that came into the City of Stevens Point. The suspect vehicle stopped and SPPD Officers along with PTSO Deputies took the suspects in the vehicle into custody. While the Officers were doing this they pointed their firearms at the suspects. No injuries.
- 3/25/23 – Officers were investigating a stolen vehicle complaint. Officers located the stolen vehicle in a garage, occupied by 4 people. Officers surrounded the residence along with the assistance of K9 Barry. Officers had their firearms out and when contact was made with the suspects, the Officers pointed their firearms at the suspects. K9 Barry was held on a leash and was also used as a display of force to get the suspects to cooperate with the Officers. All 4 of the suspects were taken into custody without injury.
- 3/26/23 – A driver fled from a SPPD Officer during a traffic stop. The fleeing driver was located by another Officer nearby. That Officer pointed their taser at the suspect, however the suspect kept running. Eventually the suspect fell and allowed the Officer to catch up. The Officer then tackled the suspect to the ground, where the suspect got some scrapes on their knees. The suspect was later arrested for OWI.
- 3/29/23 – SPPD Officers assisted PTSO Deputies after a suspect fled from a traffic stop in Stevens Point. One SPPD Officer was able to locate and catch up to the suspect and tackled him to the ground. The suspect was then taken into custody without injury to the suspect or the Officer

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

- Total welfare checks for 2023 = 215
- 87 welfare checks
- 7 voluntary
- 6 Chapter 51's

Training:

- 3-6-23 Ofc. Morton, Ofc. Hessel and Ofc. Solis attended Crisis Intervention Training in WI Rapids.
- 3-6-23 to 3-17-23 Det. Lepinski attended Division of Criminal Investigation's narcotics school in Oshkosh, WI.
- 3-21-23 Ofc. Yang, Det. Poeschel, Ofc. Hessel and Ofc. Morton attended Department of Justice training in Best Practices for First Responders and investigations of sexual assaults at the SPPD.
- 3-30-23 Ofc. Hessel and Ofc. Solis attended Precision Immobilization Technique training in Merrill, WI.

Field Training (FTO):

Auxiliary Unit:

- Total events: (w/out Aux. Mtgs) = 2
 1. UWSP Hockey
 2. Point Bock Run
- Total Hours without ride along / = 27
- March meeting included Emergency Vehicle Operations Course with hands on simulated traffic control.
- Auxiliary Unit worked with Community Media to film footage for recruitment video.

School Resource Officers:

SPASH

- 85 calls for service, including the following:
- -5 Truancy citations
- -6 vaping investigations, 2 citations issued
- -2 citations for sexting
- -2 securely internet gun search alerts-both investigated and cleared with no issues.
- -2 weapons related investigations/searches of student-cleared without issue
- -2 fights-cleared with school consequences
- -2 theft complaints-both items located and returned
- - 5 welfare checks
- -5 10-50's
- -1 gift card handed out for a vaping tip.

Vaping continues to be a significant issue, and we are exploring use of an educational course for first time violators to complete in lieu of a citation. If the course is not successfully completed, a citation would then be issued.

PJ Jacobs

- Calls for service - 137
- School consequences issued - 55
- Citations for vapes issued - 4
- Citations for DC issued - 2
- Juvenile referrals - 6 • Truancy citations - 2
- 2 \$10 gift cards issued for tips which lead to the arrest of students with vapes.

SRO Quisler responded to two significant calls from Madison Elementary school. One call involved a 10 year old who brought an airsoft pistol to school, which was discovered after school on the playground. The other call involved a 12 year old boy who punched a phy ed teacher multiple times. Both students received out of school suspensions in addition to police consequences.

Ben Franklin

- Calls for service - 93
- School consequences issued - 43
- Citations for Disorderly Conduct - 5
- Citations for Truancy - 3
- Juvenile Referrals - 1 - For Disorderly Conduct
- Youth Enrichment Service Referrals - 1 New
- 1 - \$10 Gift Card issued for a Vape tip

Ben Franklin had 2 incidents, 1 at school and 1 at Gateway afterschool, where students threatened to obtain a gun and shoot another student. 1 of those students is attending a different school now and the other is being checked for weapons when they arrive at school for the remainder of the school year.

Ben Franklin saw multiple students finish up their programing with the Youth Enrichment Service Center and are now attending full-time at school with bi-weekly visits by YES staff.

Commissioner Moore moved, seconded by Commissioner Zenner, to approve the Police Chief's report and place it on file for March 2023.

Ayes, all; nays, none. Motion carried.

5. Fire Chief's Report

- Took delivery of Truck 22 on March 6th and training is currently going on. Will be in service April 14th at Station 2.
- Donation from Kwik Trip for \$3,000. Put towards gas meters.
- Hosted Traffic Incident Management Enhancement program for 3 days with DOT and State Patrol.
- Paramedics are working on their National Registry renewals.

47 Members Approved
45 positions Funded
41 Staffed

Significant Events

- Truck 22 Delivered 03/16/2023
- Kwik Trip donation 3,000 for MSA 4 Gas Meter 03/30/2023

Mutual and Automatic Aid Fire Response: (4)

- 617 Division Street (City) YTD (10)
03/07/2023
- 2009 College Ave (City) 03/08/2023
- 190 Crossroads Commons (Plover) 03/16/2023
- 2040 County Highway HH (Plover) 03/17/2023

Fires

- Structure Fires-0 YTD (4)
- Vehicle Fires-1 YTD (1)
- Brush, Grass, Wildland Fires-0 YTD (0)
- Trash/Dumpster Related Fires-0 YTD (0)
- Cooking Incidents-1 YTD (5)
- Chimney Fire -0 YTD (1)
- Excessive Heat, Scorch, No Fire-4 YTD (5)
- Electrical Issues-1 YTD (5)

EMS/Rescue

- EMS Assist Calls-60 YTD
(173)
- Assist Invalid-0 YTD
(0)
- Vehicle Accidents-0 YTD
(5) • EMS Standby-0
YTD (0)
- Assist Other Government Agency-1 YTD
(1)
- EMS Call, Other-0 YTD (1)

Alarms

- False Alarms Responses-12 YTD
(26)

Hazardous Materials

- Carbon Monoxide Detected-2 YTD (2)
- Natural Gas Detected-2 YTD (4)
- Gasoline and Flammable Leak/Spill-0 YTD (1)
- Hazardous Investigation nothing found-4 YTD (8)
- Oil/Combustible Spill included Vehicle Accidents-0 YTD (0)
- Chemical Spills-0 YTD (5)

Other Incidents

• Animal Rescue-0	YTD (0)
• Burning Regulation Issues-2	YTD (2)
• Citizen Complaints-0	YTD (0)
• Water/Steam Leak-0	YTD (0)
• Smoke Scare, Odor of Smoke, Steam Mistaken for smoke-1	YTD (4)
• Ring Removal-1	YTD (1)
• Dispatched and Cancelled Enroute-4	YTD (10)
• 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 (4)
• 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 (98)

Year to Date Total (268)

Total Fire Losses City Property-\$0

YTD: \$10,0000

Total City Property Saved-\$0

YTD: \$2,067,600

Monthly Training:

- Building Construction
- Material Properties and Effects
- Traffic Incident Management
- Computer Aided Dispatch
- NFIRS Reports
- High Voltage Auto Extrication
- Patient Refusal and Pain Management
- Ventilator Bi-pap

Public Activities:

o DNR Work Capacity Standby	09/09/2023
o SPASH Career Fair	03/15/2023
o Explorer Post Meeting (SCBA familiarization)	03/15/2023
o SPASH outreach Lunch	03/16/2023
o Hands Only CPR	03/22/2023

Training:

- Stevens Point Fire Department hosted the State of Wisconsin's Traffic Incident Management Enhancement (TIME) Program.
- Dr Sinclair from Aspirus provided valuable Ventilator/ CPAP/BiPAP training to all three crews.

- About half of our Paramedic completed our National Registry renewal. The other half will be renewed next yr.

Public Education: FF/ Medic Tim Ewers taught "Hands only CPR First Aid/ Narcan" to UWSP staff.

Partnership: Provided EMS Stand for the Wisconsin DNR Work Capacity Test for Fireline staff

SPASH Career Fair:

Stevens Point Fire and Ambulance Service participated in the Stevens Point Area Senior Highschool career fair. Students got to interact with Firefighter Paramedics about a career in Fire and EMS the also had hands on experience with the Choking vest where they got give the Heimlich maneuver and used the virtual Fire Extinguisher prop. Special thanks to BC Kedrowski, FF/Medic Sam Kessenich, FF/Medic Bryce Moseley, FF Medic Naomi Hionis.

Commissioner Kirschling moved, seconded by Commissioner Ostrowski, to approve the Fire Chief's report and place it on file for March 2023.

Ayes, all; nays, none. Motion carried.

6. Discussion, with possible action, to hire new Firefighter/Paramedic candidates, after running an entry level FF/PM interview process.

Would like to move forward with the hiring process of three new Firefighter/Paramedic candidates and looking for approval from the Commission. The candidates are Dylan Herless, Justin Peppard, and Madelyn Avery as new entry level Firefighters/Paramedics within the organization.

Commissioner Moore moved, seconded by Commissioner Kirschling, to approve hiring the three new Firefighter/Paramedic candidates.

Ayes, all; nays, none. Motion carried.

7. Review of the 2022 Annual Report for the Stevens Point Fire Department.

Report will be available on the city of Stevens Point website. Chief Moody wished to point out the members of the Fire Department put the report together and new Admin Asst Karyn Baxter has stepped up and did a lot to make this happen. They need to be recognized for all their hard work.

Commissioner Kirschling moved, seconded by Commissioner Zenner, to accept the 2002 Annual Report for the Stevens Point Fire Department.

8. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 2:48 p.m.