

CITY OF WEYAUWEGA
POLICE, FIRE & AMBULANCE COMMITTEE MEETING PROCEEDINGS
FEBRUARY 11, 2025

The Police, Fire & Ambulance Committee meeting was called to order by Chairman Pat Gorchals at the Weyauwega Municipal Building Council Chambers at 6:32 pm immediately following the adjournment of the Ordinance Committee meeting. Roll call was taken. Members Present: Pat Gorchals, Shani Appleby, and Meta Berg. Also present: Mayor Rich Luedke, Clerk Rebecca Loehrke, Police Chief Brandon Leschke by Zoom, Austin Baehnman, Dewey Stelzner, Tom Cullen Dan Nehring, and Lori Gosz.

Motion Appleby, second Berg, to approve the Police, Fire & Ambulance Committee meeting minutes from January 14, 2025. Motion carried with all "ayes".

Citizen Appearances: Stelzner read a letter from a resident who is in favor of the City allocating funding to the Fire District for the purchase of a new fire truck.

January Call for Service Report and Department Update: The January call reports and department update report were included in the meeting packet. 288 calls for service in January, 46 traffic citations issued, 14 written traffic warnings issued, and 6 municipal ordinance citations issued. The Chief reported he had a meeting with Axon Representative for the renewal of the body cameras for 2026-2031. There are some newer options for the camera system that will be nice. Also, worked with a property owner in the 100 block of W. Main Street to execute a search warrant which resulted in a drug arrest and criminal charges.

Promotion of Patrick McClone from part-time to full-time School Resource Officer: *Motion Gorchals, second Appleby, to promote Patrick McClone from part-time to full-time School Resource Officer starting February 24, 2025. Motion carried with all "ayes".* McClone will serve a 6-month probationary period till August 24, 2025.

Fire District Update:

- a) HVAC at Fire Station: Gorchals spoke on meeting with one contractor with Chief Cullen. A meeting will be held with a second contractor. The cost is coming in under budget. The district would like to have it installed and finished by May.
- b) Decision on Fire Truck Replacement: Gorchals reported that a new tender truck will be approximately \$540,000. It will replace two trucks that are in need of major repair work and getting old. The funds from the sale of those trucks would go towards the cost of the new truck. The City share would be approximately \$196,000. A Tender is needed for water when on mutual aid and is very important for rural areas outside of the City where there is no hydrant system. Gorchals is still up in the air on if it is needed at this time. The Mayor wants City residents and Fire Department employees to know that the City is not denying safety as rumor has it. We just want to do what is right and can't do everything at once which is why long range planning is important. At the March Fire District Meeting they will make a decision on the bidding process for a new truck. Gorchals is looking to see how council feels he should vote for the City. Chief Cullen explained that for a capital purchase the District needs to vote 80% in favor. Baehnman and Berg are yes for a new truck. Appleby is not sure yet and Gunderson said it depends on how the rest of the district feels. If the townships are voting yes then yes she would be for it.

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Discussion of adding a line on tax bill for emergency services portion: Clerk Loehrke said to check with the County Treasurer. The tax bills are printed by the County so any formatting changes need to be done with them. Mayor Luedke reported that it is broken down in the budget information on the City website.

Discussion on Municipal Building Flags: The flag on the Municipal Building has not been displayed since it got cold this winter. Chief Leschke is having Public Works get a quote on installing a light so that the flag can be on display 24/7 and not have to be taken down every day. Hoping to have a quote by Council meeting.

Set next meeting date/time: The next committee meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 11, 2025 immediately following the Ordinance Committee meeting.

Such Other Matters as Authorized by Law: None

Motion Appleby, second Berg, to adjourn at 7:12 pm. Motion carried with all "ayes".

Recommendations to the Council: No Action for Council

Rebecca Loehrke
City Clerk