

CITY OF WEYAUWEGA
POLICE, FIRE & AMBULANCE COMMITTEE MEETING PROCEEDINGS
SEPTEMBER 13, 2022

The Police, Fire & Ambulance Committee meeting was called to order by Chairman Rich Luedke at the Weyauwega Municipal Building Council Chambers at 6:42 p.m. Roll call was taken. Members Present: Rich Luedke, Kaley DuCoeur and Bruce Goetsch. Also present: Mayor Jack Spierings, City Administrator Jeremy Schroeder, Chief Brandon Leschke, Clerk Rebecca Loehrke, Sergeant Brian Strobusch, Chris Gunderson, and Tim Litscher.

Motion Luedke, second Goetsch, to approve the minutes from July 12, 2022. Motion carried with all "ayes".

Citizen Appearances: None

Department Update: Chief Leschke reported on the following items:

- The Waupaca County Fair week was relatively a good week. Did have a missing person who was found walking down Hwy X.
- 2016 Dodge Charger equipment has been removed. The equipment is waiting to be installed in the Silverado and new Dodge Charger. The 2016 Charger is listed on the auction site Gov Deals. The auction ends on September 27th.
- The department is transitioning to a new computer program for citations and warnings.
- Wrapped up Horse & Buggy Days with no issues. Rain did affect turnout for the event.
- All vacation shifts for the rest of the year have been covered.
- Working on the budget

2023 Gold Cross Ambulance Rate Agreement–Action: The 2023 Gold Cross Ambulance Rate Agreement was presented in the meeting packet. There will be an increase for 2023. At the consortium meeting held at City Hall, which only 7 individuals attended, Mark Fredrickson explained the increase due to Gold Cross seeing large increases in health insurance and fuel. The per capita amount is increasing from \$10.95 to \$12.84, which is an increase of \$2,600 on the budget. *Motion Goetsch, second DuCoeur, to approve the 2023 Gold Cross Ambulance Rate Agreement for \$12.84 per capita. Motion carried with all "ayes".*

Review of truck traffic on Lake and Wisconsin Streets: Schroeder reported that the property owner at 212 W Wisconsin Street informed him that the retaining wall along Wisconsin St is starting to deteriorate. Schroeder will need to reach out to Engineer Thad Majkowski, and look into the situation further. Schroeder also noted that the Class B sign is ordered for Lake St from the County. Not sure how long it will take to get it. Chief Leschke is going to discuss again with Gerard on the new traffic route. The Chief has witnessed truck traffic still going down Lake Street to Wisconsin.

Staffing Update: Chief Leschke reported that full time staff are all healthy and working as expected. The department currently has Officer Pawlosky covering the part-time shifts.

Financial Study of Part-time Employees: Sergeant Strobusch presented to the committee a financial study on what it costs the City for part-time employees. In this day and age it is very hard to get part-time staff and it is a large cost to the department when they don't stay and move on to full time

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employment. The City has a rigorous training program and believes in over 400 + field training hours to have an adequately trained officer. The information Sergeant Strobusch presented is to help understand what the department is up against while still trying to be fiscally responsible.

K-9 Therapy Dog Program: Sergeant Strobusch talked about the possibility of starting a K-9 Therapy Dog Program in the WF School District. The only other surrounding school that has a therapy dog is New London and that program is handled by a social worker. The WF School District does not have a social worker so the program would be handled by School Resource Officer (SRO) DeGrand. The therapy dog would require different training than a full police dog. The school is very much in favor of this program. DeGrand has gone to training in Colorado that has dealt with therapy dogs and was very interested in starting a program. The dog would live and train with SRO DeGrand. The department can look at donations to get the program started. The committee is in full support of the program and allows the police department to continue working on establishing a therapy dog program.

Next Meeting Date and Time: The next committee meeting was scheduled for Tuesday, October 11th at 6:15 pm.

Such Other Matters as Authorized by Law: None

Motion Luedke, second DuCoeur, to adjourn at 7:26 pm. Motion carried with all "ayes".

Recommendation to Council:

1. Recommend to approve the 2023 Gold Cross Ambulance Rate Agreement for \$12.84 per capita.

Rebecca Loehrke
City Clerk