

**CITY OF BARABOO
POLICE AND FIRE COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES**

MINUTES FOR: Regular Meeting on July 18, 2022.

The Baraboo Police & Fire Commission (PFC) met on this date at the Baraboo Municipal Building, 101 South Boulevard, (C205), Baraboo. The meeting was opened at 3:30pm by PFC Secretary Kluge. A notice of this meeting was posted on July 15, 2022.

Roll call found Commissioners Getschmann, Hollenbeck, Kluge and Viney were in attendance. Commissioner Kujak was excused. Others present during the meeting were Police Chief Sinden and Fire Chief Kevin Stieve.

Compliance with the open meeting law was noted by Kluge.

Kluge made a request to have the Agenda be approved. Getschmann made a Motion to approve the Agenda; Viney offered a second, motion carried 4-0.

Kluge made a request to have the Minutes from June 20 be approved. Getschmann made a Motion to approve the Minutes; Viney offered a second, motion carried 4-0.

There were no citizens present to speak under 'Public Comments'.

Under ACTION ITEMS:

- In the absence of the PFC President (Kujak), Kluge briefly touched on point he wished to discuss - the item where he was to discuss the ongoing search for a Baraboo Police Chief. The Commission chose to delay this matter until a Special Meeting could be held in the near future, for that purpose. Discussion was held on a potential date (Friday, July 22, 1pm) for that future event. No action taken.
- Chief Stieve presented two separate letters as to moving Fire Fighters from Probationary Status to Active Status. These were handled as separate items:
 1. The Chief presented a letter seeking the PFC's approval of his moving Fire Fighter Mark Wichner from probationary status to active status as of July 18, 2022. Viney made a motion to approve the Chief's request; Hollenbeck offered a second and the motion carried 4-0.
 2. The Chief presented a letter seeking the PFC's approval of his moving Fire Fighters Colin Christenson and Colten De Jager from probationary status to active status with an effective date of July 29, 2022. Getschmann made a motion to approve the Chief's request; Viney offered a second and the motion carried 4-0.

Under INFORMATION ITEMS:

- Police Chief Sinden did not provide a formal 'Police Monthly Report' this month, however offered discussion on several points:
 1. He noted that he is pleased to see the Department is at full staffing currently, and hopefully will remain there into 2023. One of the concerning issues is the loss of budget the Department suffered (est. \$350K).
 2. Of concern is the action that the School Board has yet to publicize, which involves their 2023 Budget that 'hopefully' has \$150K to cover the expenses of two SRO's (School Resource Officers). He feels that the funding is approved there, but it is yet not known for sure.
 3. Sinden notes that recent crime trends in the City are steady or slightly reduced (dropping 3.9% to-date

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in 2022, compared to the same time in 2021).

4. A major ongoing case of Crimes Against Children is now reaching a conclusion, with both State and Federal charges against the suspect(s). He thanked the Department's Officers for their dedication to the Case and putting in the long tedious hours necessary to bring it to a charging decision.
 5. The County Fair is now behind the Department and it was an overall good year. There were only 3 alcohol citations and the theft of one cell phone. In terms of case load, it was a good fair for the PD.
 6. Sinden reports that there has been no significant 'Use of Force' incidents, and of those cases they did have all have checked out fine.
 7. In comparison 2021 to 2022, Jan to date, the Department has seen a 6% increase in traffic citations and warnings.
- Fire Chief Stieve did not provide a formal 'Fire Monthly Report' this month, however did offer discussion on several points.
 1. He has had to terminate one Probationary Fire Fighter for poor performance and not responding to calls as desired. The Probationary employee was given adequate instruction and chances to improve, but failed to do so and was then let go.
 2. Fire Fighter Tom Clark has turned in his notice to retire with an effective date of August 26, 2022.
 3. The Department is attempting recruiting efforts wherever they can in seeking new Fire Fighters. Kevin estimates the current staffing is at 30-31 Fire Fighters.
 4. He further noted that the Department will be hosting an 'Entry Level Fire Fighter Class' this fall at the Fire Station.

Under COMMUNICATIONS:

The League Magazines were handed out to the members in attendance.

Kluge made a request for an ADJOURNMENT:

Viney offered a Motion for adjournment; Getschmann offered a second and the Motion carried 4-0.

Respectfully submitted,



Dennis Kluge, Secretary

Approved by PFC on August 15, 2022

Cc: City Clerk