

## **POLICE COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES JANUARY 26, 2010**

The meeting was called to order by Commission Chairman Dave Gough at 6:30 PM. Present at roll call were: Dave Gough, Janet West, Ken Staver, Dennis E. Murphy and Gary Ringen. Absent: None. Also present were: Mayor Dave Breunig, Don Osterday, Cindy Corley, Jason King, Mark Nelson and Phil Risseeuw.

Motion by Staver second by Ringen that the meeting notice and agenda were properly posted. Motion carried. Motion by Murphy second by Staver to approve the minutes of the previous meeting. Motion carried.

Under new business, discussion was held concerning the duties and responsibilities of the Police Commission. As per request from Chairman Gough, included with the agenda packet were copies of Chapter 2 and Chapter 4 of the City of Darlington Municipal Code. Chapter 2 authorizes the Police Commission, and describes how members of the commission are appointed; the powers and duties of the commission; and how meetings, reports and budgets are handled. Chapter 4 authorizes the Police Department, and explains the duties and responsibilities of the Police Chief and Police Officers. Chairman Gough also stated there is a League of Wisconsin Municipalities Handbook for Police and Fire Commissions, which could be purchased for each of the members of the Police Commission.

Discussion items included the following:

- Commission member Murphy then explained he asked Chairman Gough to hold this meeting to clarify the responsibility of the Police Commission regarding the budget process for the Police Department. In October, 2009, the Police Commission recommended approval of a \$437,575.10 expense budget, which included a 2.0% wage increase for Chief King. Chief King had requested an additional wage adjustment of \$2,241.92; however the additional wage adjustment was denied by Police Commission members. Later in the budget process, the Finance and Personnel Committee and City Council approved an amended Police Department budget, which included additional wage adjustment for Chief King; but no one communicated the changes to the Police Commission. After the Council meeting minutes were published that reported the approval of the additional wage increase for Chief King; members of the Police Commission were asked questions from the public that they did not know the answer to.
- Mayor Breunig explained the budget process, and how he asked the City department heads to include a 2.0% wage increase in their budgets, and keep their overall budget increases to 3.0%. The initial 2010 Police Department budget recommended for approval by the Police Commission exceeded the 3.0% increase authorized for 2010. Mayor Breunig also stated the overall annual budget is his responsibility; subject to approval by the Finance and Personnel Committee and City Council.
- Chairman Gough then explained after the October, 2009 Police Commission meeting was held; he and Mayor Breunig had a meeting with Chief King to discuss his additional wage adjustment. At that meeting, they told Chief King they would approve his additional wage adjustment if he could include the additional cost into his budget, and reduce his budget to near a 3.0% overall budget increase. Chief King was able to adjust his budget, and the revised 2010 budget was approved by the Finance and Personnel Committee and City Council. Chief King stated cuts in the 2010 budget came from reduction in overtime costs.

- Commission member West then stated the budget changes should have been forwarded back to the Police Commission for their review. A copy of the revised 2010 Police Department budget will be sent to commission members after this meeting.
- It was also decided to purchase one additional League Handbook to be kept in the City Office. Then commission members can take turns reading the handbook.
- Discussion was then held concerning the hiring of part time officers for the Police Department. Chief King stated past practice was that the Police Chief was authorized to hire part time officers to work for the Police Department. He also stated if members of the Police Commission feel they want to be involved in that process, that was fine with him. Cindy Corley then left the meeting at 6:55 PM.
- Discussion was then held concerning the Booze & Belt Enforcement program. Chief King stated the enforcement program was well advertised, and resulted in 148 violations being addressed. The cost of the State Trooper involvement was paid for by the State of Wisconsin. Two drunk drivers were sited with their third offense drunk driving citation during this program.
- Discussion was then held concerning unlicensed vehicles in city parking lots. Also discussed was the parking lot and property access problems around Mike's Engine Works business. It was the consensus of those present that additional traffic law enforcement is needed in that area.
- Chairman Gough and Mayor Breunig both stated they appreciated the service of all the members on the Police Commission, and encouraged them to continue to ask questions.

Their being no further business for this meeting, motion by Staver second by Murphy to adjourn the meeting at 7:15 PM. Motion carried.

CITY OF DARLINGTON

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Philip A. Risseeuw, Clerk-Treasurer