

Police and Fire Commission Meeting

July 31, 2023

5:30 PM

River Falls City Hall
Council Chambers
222 Lewis Street
River Falls, WI

Police

Fire

POLICE & FIRE COMMISSION MEETING
July 31, 2023 at 5:30 p.m.
City Council Chambers
222 Lewis Street
River Falls, WI 54022

NOTE: OFFICIAL ACTION MAY BE TAKEN ON ANY AGENDA ITEM

Agenda

Call Meeting to Order

Roll Call

Approval of Minutes: September 1, 2022 Regular Meeting

- 1) Election of President of Police & Fire Commission
- 2) Election of Vice President of Police & Fire Commission

Police Department

- 3) Action on Removal from Probation for Officer Allison Libor (effective 8/21/2023)
- 4) Action on Removal from Probation for Officer Adam Amaro (effective 8/25/2023)
- 5) Authorization to end current Police Officer Eligibility List
- 6) Authorization to create a new Police Officer Eligibility List

Adjournment

Posted: July 27, 2023 at 12:00 PM

*Council members may be in attendance for informational purposes only.
No official Council action will be taken.*

NOTE: Any person who has a qualifying disability as defined by the Americans with Disabilities Act that requires the meeting or materials to be in an accessible location or format, may contact City Clerk Amy White at (715) 426-3408 or in person at 222 Lewis Street, for accommodations. Requests for accommodations should be made at least three (3) business days in advance of the meeting. Every effort will be made to arrange accommodations.

POLICE & FIRE COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

September 1, 2022 @ 5:30 p.m.

River Falls City Hall
City Council Chambers
222 Lewis Street
River Falls, WI

Meeting called to order at 5:28 p.m.

Commission Members Present: Mark Sams, Gary Donath, Grant Hanson (virtual attendee)

Commission Members Absent: Dick Rinehart, Jon Longsdorf

Staff Present: Gordon Young, Sterling Hackney

Absent: Jon Longsdorf

Approval of Minutes: Regular Meeting Minutes from June 27, 2022.

MSC Donath, Hanson. Unanimous.

1) Removal from Probation for Officer Luke Axley (effective 9/5/2022)

Chief Young shared Officer Axley was selected as our Neighborhood Resource Officer and works day shift from Monday-Friday. Officer Axley is primarily in charge of special events, mental health coordinator, downtown business liaison, and our primary person responsible for posting via Facebook. He also backs up patrol during the day and serves as an animal control officer during the day. Chief Young shared several instances where positive feedback was received. Including being praised by Allina EMS staff for his quick actions in stabilizing the patient. He was thanked by a resident for finding their lost dog. He has demonstrated a high level of patience and willingness to help individuals with mental health conditions. He also assisted EMS in delivering a baby.

Chief Young asked that Officer Axley be removed from probationary status on September 5, 2022

MSC Hanson/Donath to remove Officer Luke Axley from Probation, effective September 5, 2022. Unanimous

2) Removal from Probation for Officer Matthew Miller (effective 10/3/2022)

Chief Young shared Officer Miller received a thank you over social media for his compassion during a mental health call, as well as his attention to detail. He maintains a positive attitude and completes reports in an efficient and thorough manner. He, along with a few other officers, cleaned our entire garage and washed every vehicle in the winter. He assisted other officers in taking a stabbing suspect into custody without incident. He provides a fluent and well written police report, which accurately depicts the events in detail.

Chief Young asked that Officer Miller be removed from probationary status on October 3, 2022.

MSC Hanson/Donath to remove Officer Matthew Miller from Probation, effective October 3, 2022. Unanimous

3) Removal from Probation for Officer Alexander Hoffman (effective 10/8/2022)

Chief Young shared that Officer Hoffman is proactive on patrols, proactively stopped a vehicle on Hwy 35 that may have led to a head on collision. He also recovered a stolen vehicle, apprehended the thief, and returned it to owner. He received an email thanking him for stopping emailer's daughter, praised him for being professional and nice, and making a positive impact on the daughter.

He assisted Pierce County deputies on a physical assault call at a residence. Officers were able to safely take the suspect into custody and he displayed professionalism and calmness. Chief Young provided an overview of how the mutual aid agreement between the county and our department.

He acted quickly and safely during a high stress overdose incident to help save a life. He accepts feedback well and makes changes that are necessary after receiving feedback.

Chief Young asked that Officer Hoffman be removed from probationary status on October 8, 2022

MSC Donath/Hanson to remove Officer Alexander Hoffman from Probation, effective October 8, 2022. Unanimous

4) Removal from Probation for Officer Alex Sather (effective 10/9/2022)

Chief Young shared his history, including the difficult position of coming into the agency where his father had a successful career. Chief received feedback from a resident who called to express Thanks for him checking on his wellbeing and how kind Officer Sather was to him, and he greatly appreciated his actions. He was also part of the team that helped deliver a baby. He, along with a few other officers, cleaned our entire garage and washed every vehicle in winter. He stays busy, is quick to answer the radio, and enforces traffic laws and properly completes his case reports and calls for service entries promptly. He responds very well to feedback and takes steps to improve.

Chief Young asked that Officer Sather be removed from probationary status on October 9, 2022

MSC Hanson/Donath to remove Officer Alex Sather from Probation, effective October 9, 2022. Unanimous

Adjournment: **MSC Donath/Hanson** Unanimous by roll call vote. Meeting adjourned at 5:57 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Ailene Splittgerber
Recording Secretary