

Minutes of the Port Edwards Police and Fire Commission

Regular Meeting – Monday, January 27, 2025 – 5 [p.m.@Buehler](#) Center

Present: Commissioners Thomasgard, Blum, Weiland, (Stewart and Diggles via ZOOM). Also present were Police Chief Drew and Fire Chief Lease. No other citizens were present.

Meeting was called to order by VP Blum at 5:04 p.m. There was no public comment. President Stewart noted that Police Chief designate Abbott had agreed to salary and benefit terms with the Village Board. Commissioner Thomasgard noted the significant contributions and legacy of Marshall Buehler who died on Jan. 24th. Motion by Weiland, second by Blum to approve the minutes of the December 19th meeting. All in favor.

Fire Chief Lease submitted copies of his year end report on activities and developments within the PEFD and distributed 2 recent applications for first responder positions within the PEFD. Both applicants are enrolled in the EMS course currently in process and will not be eligible until they complete the course and pass the exam. Police Chief Drew noted that Chief Designate Abbott was attending the New Chiefs training this week and he would continue to mentor him as the transition process continues over the next couple of months.

Motion by Thomasgard, second by Weiland to go into closed session pursuant to WI Statute 19.85(1)(c) @ 5:14 p.m. All in favor. Motion by Weiland, second by Thomasgard to come out of closed session at 5:53 p.m. All in favor.

Following the closed session, the PEPFC took the following actions:

- A) Motion by Thomasgard, second by Blum to reject fire dept. applicant #1. All in favor.
- B) Motion by Weiland, second by Thomasgard to approve fire dept applicants #2 & #3 and move their process forward to an interview. All in favor.
- C) Motion by Thomasgard, second by Weiland to place already interviewed fire dept. applicant who successfully passed the employment physical on the Eligible to Hire list effective 30 JAN 25 upon successful completion of his current training. All in favor.

- D) Motion by Blum, second by Weiland to accept the applications of lateral transfer law enforcement candidates #1 & #2 and reject the applications of candidates #3 & #4 due to lack of qualifications. All in favor.
- E) Motion by Thomasgard, second by Weiland to accept the recent application for part-time police dept employment but to delay the next steps in the process allowing for Chief Designee Abbott to play a role in the process. All in favor.

President Stewart recognized and commended Chief Drew for the outstanding service he has rendered to the Village of Port Edwards over the past 5 + years and wished him well in retirement. His last day of active service will be February 14th.

The next meeting of the PEPFC will be on Wednesday, February 26th at 5 p.m. at the Buehler Center. Motion by Blum, second by Thomasgard to adjourn the meeting at 6:03 p.m. All in favor.

Leo Thomasgard

PEPFC Secretary