

CITY OF EDGERTON
POLICE COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday, December 9, 2020

President Paul Davis called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm. Commission Members in attendance were Mark Coombs, Joshua Lee and Lisa Venske. Paul Davis attended virtually. Terry Dickinson was excused. Also attending was Police Chief Kowalski and Lieutenant Kanable. This meeting was held in person at City Hall and available virtually as well.

Davis confirmed the agenda was posted properly for this meeting at City Hall, the Library and the Post Office on Friday, December 4, 2020.

MINUTES:

Coombs/Venske motion to approve the September 2, 2020 Police Commission Meeting Minutes passed, all voted in favor.

UPDATE ON OFFICER WHITNEY:

Chief Kowalski provided a detailed update on Officer Whitney's progress through his probationary period. He is approaching the six-month mark and has already received a letter of commendation.

UPDATE ON LIEUTENANT KANABLE:

Lt. Kanable attended in person and was introduced to the Commission. In Chief's own words, he is happy, blessed and proud of the Lieutenant and the entire department. Lt. Kanable stepped up in the role of the recent Lt. resignation and also in the Chief's absence due to Covid.

DISCUSS "USE OF FORCE" POLICY ACCREDITATION:

The current policy was submitted to the Wisconsin Law Enforcement Accreditation Group pursuant to a Presidential Executive Order and was certified with no revisions or updates. No choke holds are allowed except to protect a Police Officer's life. Each Edgerton Police Department Officer has taken a de-escalation course online. Because of this accreditation, the EPD will be eligible to apply for any Department of Justice grant being offered.

DISCUSS APPROVAL OF LEXIPOL POLICY AND PROCEDURE PROGRAM:

In brief, Lexipol LLC is a company that provides policy manuals, training bulletins, and consulting services to law enforcement agencies. Lexipol provides a full library of customizable, state-specific law enforcement policies that are updated in response to new state and federal laws and court decisions. Their online training platform delivers courses and videos designed to meet police training mandates, backed by tools to manage license renewal. They will also connect us to grant assistance to make the budget go further and wellness resources that protect our officers in this high-stress, demanding profession.

Chief provided details on the costs involved, the reimbursement of a part of those costs by the League of Municipalities and the advantages of participating in this program for the EPD. After discussion and questions, a Davis/Coombs motion to proceed obtaining Lexipol's services was passed. All voted in favor.

DISCUSS COVID PANDEMIC AND ITS EFFECT ON TRAINING:

After several Covid positives, the EPD lobby was closed to the public and the entire building was deep cleaned. Officer training requirements have been adjusted by the Law Enforcement Standards Board and Training and Standards Bureau, extending deadlines and offering online training. Several EPD officers are completing all training requirements and the entire EPD will be in compliance.

POLICE CHIEF REPORT:

Chief Kowalski gave a report on the City of Edgerton Police Department Officers and staff. He is extremely happy with the performance of all involved. The Police Commission members are very appreciative of the updates and communication from the Department. As soon as it is safe from Covid, the Chief will offer a ride along program to Commission members.

NEXT MEETING OF THE POLICE COMMISSION:

The next meeting will be scheduled for Wednesday, March 10, 2021.

Davis/Coombs motion to adjourn passed, all voted in favor.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:11 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Lisa Venske, Police Commission Secretary