

City of Watseka  
201 Brianna Dr  
PO Box 338  
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**PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**JUNE 14, 2022**  
**7:05 PM**

**PRESENT:** Aldermen Barragree, Cahoe, Marcier, Garfield, Miller, Alderwoman Musk

**ABSENT:** Mayor Allhands, Alderman Rushbrook, Alderwoman Ulfers

**GUESTS:** Fire Chief Ken Baier, Police Chief Jeremy Douglas

Alderman Barragree opened the meeting at 7:05 pm. There was no public comment. Alderman Garfield reported the Auxiliary department meeting for the month was spent preparing for the 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade and they will also be working at the Watseka Family Festival event that is being held on July 2<sup>nd</sup> in front of the Elks Club. Mark also stated the department went to the shooting range to get familiar with the rifle. Mark also stated the department will be getting new uniform shirts, as the current ones need to be updated.

Fire Chief Ken Baier spoke next. He stated the department had 3 fires, 1 EMS assist, 4 automatic alarms, 1 CO Alarm, and 1 burnt food alarm. Training for May consisted of hand on ventilation at the training cans, dry hydrant pumping with relaying pumping to tower, pumping with 2932, fit testing with Scott Air packs demo, and airpack training under smoke and fire conditions at training cans. Chief Baier stated he has completed his arson training and is now certified through the office of the State Fire Marshall, Andrew Douglas and Hayden Peters are now instruction 1 certified through the office of the State Fire Marshall- this was a 40-hour course. Chief Baier also stated the new radios are in and in service and the vent saw was received and it is also in service, and the new lockers are finished at station 1. Chief Baier reported the cadet program is up and running, there were 27 kids that signed up and 7 of those are coming to meetings. Shannon Woods and Zack Tobeck are 2 cadets that graduated from high school and are now officially Watseka Firefighters. Chief Baier stated he just heard from the State and the department will have an inspection done June 24<sup>th</sup> to become a 1<sup>st</sup> Responder, this is the last step in getting this done.

Police Chief Jeremy Douglas stated his department had 373 calls for the month of May. He stated the Charger is down with engine trouble and will cost about \$5100 to get it repaired and is should be back in about 1 week. Chief stated the department had their annual OSHA training and there are a few officers that need to do this yet but Fire Chief Baier can do the training for the ones that weren't able to attend the first session. Chief also stated the department has been working on getting all the officers qualified at the range and there are only 2 left and they will be done yet this week. Chief Douglas reported he has ordered the ballistic shields. He ordered 4 total, 2 are full size 24x51 and 2 shorter ones. He contacted Miner Charitable Foundation to see if they would help with the purchase and he was told they are working on some details behind the scenes and he should try back in a couple of months. Chief stated he is working on having a round table discussion with the Sheriffs department to discuss active shooter drills. Chief stated he has talked to Unit 9 and they are willing to let them use Nettie

Davis School for this active shooter drill. Chief stated Sgt Stanley and Detective Marcott are certified in active shooters and more officers will be getting certified soon.

Chief Douglas stated the Run for the Wall bike rally went well with no troubles and there will be another bike rally called Gold Star that will be coming through the middle of July with about 75-100 bikes. Chief stated due to new laws some of the Aldermen that had access to the police department side have been deactivated due to those laws. If an employee needs access without an officer present then they will need to be fingerprinted.

Alderman Barragree makes a motion to adjourn at 7:17 pm and Alderman Garfield seconded. Roll call carried 6-0.

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Brandon Barragree, Chairman