

City of Watseka
201 Brianna Dr
PO Box 338
Watsoka IL. 60970

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING
AUGUST 9, 2022
7:00 PM

PRESENT: Mayor Allhands, Aldermen Miller, Barragree, Cahoe, Marcier

ABSENT: Aldermen Garfield and Rushbrook and Alderwomen Ulfers and Musk

GUESTS: Assistant Fire Chief Nick Peters and Police Chief Jeremy Douglas

Mayor Allhands opened the meeting at 7:00 pm. There was no public comment. Chief Douglas stated the Auxiliary Departments monthly meeting was preparing for the Watseka Family Festival and they also provided traffic control for the accident west of town.

Assistant Fire Chief Nick Peters stated his department had 5 fires, 7 EMS Assists, 4 MVA,s, 5 automatic alarms, 1 autoaid call, 3 mutual aid calls, and 5 other miscellaneous calls for the month of July. Training for July consisted of SCBA training at the cans, vehicle rig inspections and station maintenance, and critique of the Walnut & 4th St fire.

Assistant Chief Peters stated he finished blue card instructor class (command class), Lesage and Burton both finished their vehicle machinery operation classes. He also stated the department is working on coverage for EMS and the MABAS Golf Outing will be held 9/10/2022 at Shewami Golf Course.

Police Chief Jeremy Douglas stated his department had 392 calls for service during the month of July. Chief stated he is wanting to hire a lateral entry police officer at the 3rd year pay scale. He has talked to the fire and police commission and they are ok with this. He has also talked to the FOP and the City Attorney and they are all in agreement also. A sidebar will be needed from the FOP to be attached to the current contract. This 3rd year pay scale will only be for pay the other benefits start from the bottom. The current police officer who was hired as a lateral will need to be paid retro. After some discussion **Alderman Marcier makes a motion to recommend to the Council to hire lateral entry police officers at the 3rd year pay scale according to the current union contract and Alderman Miller seconded. Roll call carried 5-0.** Chief stated Joshua Douglas will begin his employment with the Police Department on August 24th, he will be hired on as a lateral. Alex Corriveau is still scheduled to start full time by the middle of October.

Chief stated the ballistic vests should be here soon. At this time all of the vehicles are working. Chief stated the department will be doing a training soon with the Sheriffs office at the old Nettie Davis School.

Alderman Marcier asked about the status of body cams and Chief Douglas stated he has one more to look at so he will be bringing information to next months meeting.

Alderman Marcier makes a motion to adjourn at 7:11 pm and Alderman Miller seconded. Roll call carried 5-0.

_____John Allhands, Mayor