



COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Tuesday, October 1, 2024, at 6:00 PM

New Holstein City Hall, 2110 Washington Street, New Holstein, WI 53061

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order by Council President Woelfel.

ROLL CALL:

Roll call was taken by Peltier. Present were Gene Woelfel, Becca Mosier, Steve Abrams, Richard Snelson, Dan Watson, Paula Oakley, Eric Mayer, and Robert Schermetzler. Also present, City Administrator Cullen Peltier, Police Chief Eric Fisher, Emergency Management Director Russ Thiel, and Fire Chief Craig Carey.

GUESTS: Paul Rendall

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:

A motion was made by Abrams, seconded by Watson, and carried to approve the agenda as presented.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

A motion was made by Mayer, seconded by Oakley, and carried to approve the minutes from the previous meeting.

CITIZEN COMMENT: None

FINANCE AND PURCHASING:

Peltier provided an update on the 2025 Budget. He told the Committee that McClone informed them today that the increase for health insurance would be 2.9% to stay with the current plan. He stated this was great news since they were anticipating a 10%-15% increase. He stated they received the Expenditure Restraint information today. To be eligible to receive 2026 Expenditure Restraint funds we cannot exceed a net increase of 3.6%. With the preliminary budget, we would be at 2.73%. Finally, he stated that our Worker's Comp costs will also be less than anticipated.

PROTECTIONS OF PERSONS AND PROPERTY:

- a. 1. Chief Fisher stated they had 203 Incidents. They had 53 traffic stops, addressed 11 ordinance violations, had 18 medical calls, and 9 welfare checks. On 9/5/2024 Officers responded to a residence where it was reported that the reporting person had not seen their next-door neighbor for a couple of weeks and mail was piling up. Upon entering the residence, a 48 y/o male was found deceased in the home; it appears he had been deceased for approximately 6-weeks. Preliminary reports indicate natural causes. On 9/8/2024 Officers investigated a domestic disturbance, after the fact. It was reported that a male hit a pregnant female with a belt and threatened her with a knife. Alcohol was involved. The male was arrested and charged with disorderly conduct, battery, intimidating a victim/use or attempt force, and attempted strangulation and suffocation. On 9/18/2024 Officers received a report of a male breaking his bond restrictions, resulting in potential charges of intimidation of a victim and felony bail jumping. Officers responded to the residence to arrest the subject however there was no answer. The following day officers followed up on the case and executed a search warrant at the residence and found the male subject deceased. Preliminary results indicate suicide. On 9/19/2024, Officers were dispatched to a fire call at the New Holstein High School where smoke was visible in the building. It was determined to be a chemistry experiment gone bad and there were no injuries. On 9/26/2024 Officers were dispatched to a report of a weapons call involving Orbeez guns (aka gel blasters) where juveniles shot at the vehicle of another juvenile.

the case is still on-going. On 9/30/2024, Officers were dispatched to a disturbance at Taft apartments involving one male adult. Charges are being referred for disorderly conduct. They have been utilizing the speed trailer throughout the city, most notably on Wisconsin Avenue. Based on the new numbers, it is apparent that the radar trailer has been worth the investment as we are seeing less higher speeds than when we first purchased the unit. This past report from 9/19-9/30 we were located on Wisconsin and Clark Eastbound traffic. We recorded 32,100 vehicles having only 476 of those vehicles exceeding 10 mph over the speed limit. The breakdown is as follows, from 36-40 mph there were 418 vehicles, 41-45 mph there were 41 vehicles, 46-50 mph there were 14 vehicles, 51-55 mph there were 3 vehicles, and no vehicles that went over 55 mph. This would also include any emergency vehicles that would be responding to any emergencies with lights and siren. As previously reported our (2) 2025 new squad cars are in and have been paid for and are currently at the location to get outfitted. However, due to the number of vehicles that have been shipped to departments around the State, the outfitter is behind, and this pushes our department out until November to get our squads done. On 9/26 the Chevy Tahoe while being utilized on patrol broke down on Church St. and needed to be towed to Vande Hey Brantmeier in Chilton. Based on the vehicle not being able to function, it was determined that the shifting lever on the transmission was completely broke along with the shift cable. In addition, it was also found that the ball joints were also shot, and the vehicle was not safe to drive. Further inspection showed the front brake pads at less than 1mm and not safe to drive, however after discussion with Cullen it was decided not to replace that due to cost and getting rid of the vehicle. The total cost was \$1,759 to fix what was necessary to make it drivable. On Thursday, September 26, 2024, Cheryl Kever decided to resign from the New Holstein Police Department for personal reasons. After discussion with the Administrator, it was decided to not fill the position for the remainder of the year and reevaluate in January.

- b. 1. Chief Carey provided a monthly report: The department had 8 calls for the month of September: 3 mutual aid calls, 1 Fire Alarm, 2 Lift Assist, 1 Natural Gas Leak, and 1 Accident Cleanup. Eugene Thede, Jacob Marsh and the Chief are attending a ten-week Fire Investigation class through Fox Valley Tech at Chilton Fire House. They received their ISO Audit results. ISO is used to set insurance rates for property owners. The maintained a rating of 3 in the city and 5 in the country. Chief stated they would like to enter the LOSAP program offered by the State of Wisconsin. LOSAP is a recruitment and retention program. Currently, if a member is on the department for 15 years, they receive \$125 per year of service upon retirement - \$1875. If they participated in the LOSAP program, the same 15-year veteran upon retirement would receive \$5625, because the State matches two for one. They are proposing using the 2% money to fund the city's portion. Members would have to serve ten years to become partially vested and fifteen to become fully vested and they can collect at age 60. The city would have ten years to buy back years members previously served. They would need the Mayor to write a proclamation for the October, Council meeting to start the process. The letter will be forwarded to the state to inform them that the city would be interested in entering the program.
- c. 1. Emergency Management Director Thiel provided an update: he was notified by a resident that the siren at Kiwanis Park wasn't sounding during the normal test. It was determined that the switch on the siren was turned off by an unauthorized person. To remedy, they put locks on all three sirens, and they will get keys to City Hall to distribute. He checked with Captain Schroeder to see if the cameras at the park cover that area. Chief Fisher informed him that they do not. This will cost \$700 for new batteries because they were shut off, they were unable to charge properly and were completely dead. The batteries were replaced today, and the sirens were tested today after the new batteries were installed. There is nothing new on the BRIC grant. Robert E Lee will provide the report from the other grant by the end of this week.
- d. 1. Peltier read a report from Judge Sippel. In September, they had 45 Adult initial appearance: 7 no contest or guilty pleas; 11 guilty by default; 4 not guilty and will be set for pre-trial hearing with the City Attorney.

There were not any juvenile initial appearances. They had 4 adult pre-trials: 4 agreements; 1 hold open for City Attorney; 0 default failed to appear. There were not any juvenile pre-trials.

CITY BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS:

a. Peltier read a report provided by Director Meyer. They closed the pool, put Mastic 1 around high manholes (the rented the machine for 1 day and started at 5 am), got the flail mower out, prepared for the Trinity Lutheran Soccer tournament, repaired a catch basin at the Community Center, put rip rap in the drainage ditch @ 1517 Puritan, and crack filled the Solomon Trail with the help of Kiel DPW. The received the LRIP reimbursement for the Jordan Avenue project in the amount of \$41,343.55

RECREATION DIRECTORS:

- a. Park Rental and Special Event Applications - None
- b. Review of Monthly Report - None

PERSONNEL: None

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS: None

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS: None

Being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Cullen Peltier
City Administrator