



BOARD OF FIRE & POLICE COMMISSION

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TO: Board of Fire and Police Commissioners
Chairman Robert Fulton, Commissioner Thomas Peters, Commissioner Diane VanHootegeem

FROM: Amanda Jennings, Secretary

DATE: February 20, 2023

SUBJECT: February 20, 2023 Board of Fire and Police Commissioners Meeting Minutes

The regular meeting of the Board of Fire and Police Commissioners was called to order by Commissioner Thomas Peters on Monday, February 20, 2023 at 10:00 a.m.

Those present in person were: Commissioner Thomas Peters, Commissioner Diane VanHootegeem, Chief Russ Idle, Fire Deputy Chief John Seitz, Secretaries Jenni Moser and Amanda Jennings

Public Citizen Comment

None

Approve

Commissioner VanHootegeem motioned to approve the minutes of the December 19, 2022 regular meeting. Commissioner Peters seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Correspondence

None

Old Business

Chief Idle advised there are 6 officers currently at school and 4 officers in training at the Department. There may be another lateral application soon and there is still one vacancy.

Deputy Chief Seitz advised 5 firefighters were hired last week and 1 was hired in January. Four of the new hires will start the ten-week academy next week. Staffing is currently at 47. There will be several retirements in the coming months. They are researching doing an EMT training course in-house and how to make entry level testing more efficient. Joseph Brignall will be promoted soon as Steve Selliers is retiring.

Police entry level testing will take place on Saturday, March 4, 2023. An alternate date of Tuesday, March 7th is only as needed. Discussion was held on allowing candidates to use calculators during the written exam. Chief Idle and Chairman Fulton approve the use of calculators. All were in favor of making the amendment for use of calculators for written exams.

Deputy Chief Seitz stated they will probably need to test again this fall. They are currently at candidate number 9 on the list and there are several expected vacancies. They want to test more frequently so the list does not get stale. They are looking into doing the CPAT certification locally. The same vendor that does promotional testing also does entry testing online. Candidates need a computer and a camera. The test is proctored and scheduled individually. The vendor does testing for both police and fire. The tests are validated. Seitz has spoken with several departments that do this type of testing. All agreed to keep this topic on the agenda for further discussion.



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New Business

The 2022 Annual Report was presented and reviewed. Commissioner VanHootegem motioned to approve the report as presented. Commissioner Peters seconded. Approved.

A new Battalion Chief tests needs to be created for the next promotional testing cycle. The estimated cost is \$7,000. The department is looking at options. They want to start the promotional testing process in April with completion in June or July. There will be 2 Battalion Chiefs leaving this fall.

There being no further business, a motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Commissioner VanHootegem and seconded by Commissioner Peters. Meeting adjourned at 10:22 a.m.

The next regular scheduled meeting will take place on Monday, April 17, 2023 at 10:00 a.m. in the Administrative Conference Room, City Hall, Galesburg, Illinois.