



BOARD OF FIRE & POLICE COMMISSION

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TO: Thomas Peters, Chairman, Commissioner Diane VanHootehem and
Commissioner Robert Fulton

FROM: Olivia Diaz, Secretary

DATE: June 21, 2023

SUBJECT: June 19, 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 Chairman Thomas Peters on Monday, June 19, 2023 at 10:00 a.m.

Those present in person were: Chairman Thomas Peters, Commissioner Diane VanHootehem, Commissioner Robert Fulton, Police Chief Russ Idle, Fire Deputy Chief John Seitz, Secretaries Amanda Jennings, Jenni Moser and Olivia Diaz.

Public Forum (Citizen Comments)

None

Approve

Commissioner VanHootehem motioned to approve the minutes of the April 17, 2023 regular meeting. Commissioner Fulton seconded the motion. Minutes approved.

Executive Meetings were reviewed and Commissioner Fulton motioned to keep all executive meeting minutes closed. Commissioner VanHootehem seconded the motion. Motion approved.

Correspondence

None

Old Business

Chief Idle gave a department update. There are currently five officers training who will be released for independent work by the end of July. There are three at the academy now and doing well. They will graduate at the end of August. Lateral candidate, Gabriel Trulson will be sworn in on June 28th in Chief Idle's Office.

Chief Idle informed the Commission that the total number for the department stands at 53 including the eight that are in training. Each platoon will have seven officers which hasn't happened in several years.

Chief Idle shared that a total of seven participated in testing that was held on June 3rd and 6th. As of right now there are six on the list, one participant did not pass.

Fire Deputy Chief John Seitz shared that since the last meeting, there has been one retirement and they are down one.



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Seitz informed the Commission that the fire training academy will not start again until the Fall. They are on candidate 10 out of 15 on the list with the list not expiring until next year. With that in mind, the department is looking to hold entry level testing in the fall. The department is exploring the idea of shifting to a different test provider.

Fire Deputy Chief John Seitz reminded the Commission that Battalion Chief promotional interviews are happening this week and Captain interviews will happen in the spring. There was continued discussion on the promotional testing process.

New Business

Chairman Thomas Peters shared some information regarding police recruitment after doing some research. There are testing vendors that handle the process and candidates pay a fee to test. Chief Idle shares his concerns that it would dissuade people from participating. There was additional discussion on the topic.

There being no further business, a motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Commissioner Fulton and seconded by Commissioner VanHootegem. Meeting adjourned at 10:30 a.m.

The next regularly scheduled meeting will take place on Monday, August 21, 2023 at 10:00 a.m. in the Administrative Conference Room, City Hall, Galesburg, Illinois.

cc: Randy Hovind, Fire Chief
Russell Idle, Police Chief
Kelli Bennewitz, City Clerk
Media