



MINUTES OF THE POLICE AND FIRE COMMISSION

THURSDAY, JUNE 16, 2022, 3:30 PM
Virtual Meeting. Public may join via Zoom.

A. ZOOM MEETING INFORMATION.

I. This item contains Zoom information, instructions, and a link to the Virtual Comment Form.

B. ROLL CALL.

Present: Rod Goldhahn, Rashad Cobb, Ed Dorff, Excused: John Laux, Marian Boyle-Rohloff

Others Present: Fire Chief David Litton, HR Generalist Jen Smits and others.

C. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA.

Moved by Commissioner Ed Dorff, seconded by Commissioner Rashad Cobb to approve. Motion carried.

Yes- Rod Goldhahn, Rashad Cobb, Ed Dorff, No- None, Abstain- None

D. REGULAR BUSINESS.

I.

Consideration with possible action on the 2022 Chippewa Valley Regional Fire Fighter hiring process.

Moved by Commissioner Rashad Cobb, seconded by Commissioner Ed Dorff to approve. Motion carried.

Yes- Rod Goldhahn, Rashad Cobb, Ed Dorff, No- None, Abstain- None

2. Consideration with possible action on request to approve the Fire Department Battalion Chief promotional list.

Moved by Commissioner Ed Dorff, seconded by Commissioner Rashad Cobb to approve. Motion carried.

Yes- Rod Goldhahn, Rashad Cobb, Ed Dorff, No- None, Abstain- None

3. Consideration with possible action on request for promotion to the rank of Battalion Chief. The Commission may convene in closed session pursuant to Sections 19.85(1) (c) and (f), Wisconsin Statutes, to consider employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercise responsibility. The Commission may thereafter reconvene in open session pursuant to Section 19.85(2), Wisconsin Statutes, to report the results of the closed session and consider the balance of the agenda.

Moved by Commissioner Rashad Cobb, seconded by Commissioner Ed Dorff to go into closed session. Motion carried.

Yes- Rod Goldhahn, Rashad Cobb, Ed Dorff, No- None, Abstain- None

Moved by Commissioner Ed Dorff, seconded by Commissioner Rashad Cobb to return to regular order of business. Motion carried.

Yes- Rod Goldhahn, Rashad Cobb, Ed Dorff, No- None, Abstain- None

Out of closed session President Goldhahn reported that the Commission approved the recommendation to promote Chad Bronkhorst to the position of Battalion Chief.

Moved by Commissioner Rashad Cobb, seconded by Commissioner Ed Dorff to approve. Motion carried.

Yes- Rod Goldhahn, Rashad Cobb, Ed Dorff, No- None, Abstain- None

E. ADJOURNMENT.

Moved by Commissioner Rashad Cobb, seconded by Commissioner Ed Dorff to adjourn. Motion carried.

Yes- Rod Goldhahn, Rashad Cobb, Ed Dorff, No- None, Abstain- None

VERBATIM MINUTES

- Okay. We're all set.

- All right, thank you all. I'd like to call the Thursday, June 16th, Special meeting of the Police and Fire Commission to order. We'll start with a roll call. Commissioner Dorff?

- Here.

- Commissioner Cobb?

- Here.

- And I'm Commissioner Goldhahn, Vice President and Commissioner are both excused. So we do have a quorum. You all should have received an agenda emailed from Hailey. If there are no questions or changes, I'll entertain a motion to approve.

- So moved.

- A motion by commissioner Dorff.

- Second.

- Seconded by commissioner Cobb. Any further discussion? Hearing none, all those in favor.

- Aye.

- Aye.

- Any opposed? The agenda has been approved. Three items on the, the regular agenda. The first is consideration with possible action on the 2022 Chippewa Valley regional firefighting hiring process. That process was in your pre-work packet and opened the floor to any questions or comments about this, just to, to kind of set the stage. This is very similar to the Fox Valley process that we use but due to needs and the ability to to cast an even wider net, there's a proposal to, to not only use Fox valley but also to use Chippewa Valley's process as well to open ourselves to additional candidates. And I open the floor to the, the Chief, agenda cover any additional information.

- Yeah, we don't typically run two academies a year just because of the manpower requirements and the the strain on our train staff. And the reason that we're asking for this this year is that, you know, we started out we were gonna have, we had 17 vacancies. And by the time we actually gave the academy two people backed up right before the start of the academy. And then we lost two, the recruits in the middle of the academy, which created four vacancies. It just had a, a fire marshal retire which creates five. The time Chief Spielman is retiring not retiring he's, he's resigning actually. And I guess, retiring he got the fire chief's job in Hudson, Wisconsin. So that makes six, we know of one more, very shortly, Brian Turk retired. So that's seven. We could have just as many as 10 more vacancies here before this, this, before the end of the Summer. We do not want to go in because of the strain on overtime especially into the Special Event season. When we get into Packer season, it's just a big strain on everybody. So trying to balance out which is worse, the, you know trying to run the training academy or or taxing everybody with the fill-in shifts. So we've opted to go to Chippewa Valley this time this Fall and see how that works out. We, we're gonna probably, for sure we'll be looking for seven people. It could be as many as 10 or 11 for this Fall. And then we may have that many more after the retirement season at the end of the year here for next Spring. So we're kind of split it up a little bit. When we get in those really big recruit classes it makes it difficult to manage. It makes it difficult for the recruits to get all of the necessary rep. So that's why we come before you.

- Chief, and I just have a question and so the ask is, that we are able to recruit individuals from a pool? What is, what is specifically is the, the ask?

- No. The ask is just to give, do a hiring process through Chippewa valley. Fox valley only does their recruitment once a year. That's it. Chippewa valley is a little more flexible in that. They'll run one for us whenever we request it. You know, the cost is around \$1,500 about similar, very similar to what Fox Valley charges. We probably, we expect that we are gonna get a lot of crossover from some of the new graduating class from Fox Valley into the Chippewa Valley class or, or process. But we will

certainly all draw some from, you know the west side of the state as well through, through this testing.

- Thank you.

- Any other questions?

- I have no questions on it.

- Okay. If not, I'll entertain a motion to approve the process and authorize them to begin.

- Motion to approve.

- Motion by commissioner Cobb.

- Seconded

- Seconded by commissioner Dorff. Any further discussion? Hearing none, all those in favor.

- Aye.

- Aye.

- Any opposed? All right. We have unanimous consent to approve the Chippewa Valley regional hiring process for a Fall hiring. It is likely that probably in, in August, September timeframe, Chief, correct me if that's wrong, but we may be that soon being in a position to schedule interviews.

- Yeah, I would say Jen, you Jen, I know you've worked out the calendar with Ryan, so I'll deferred to Jen on that.

- So what we have tentatively held for Police and Fire commission interviews would be the first week of August and we'll reach out to everyone. I would think relatively soon, just so we can get that held on all of the commissioners calendars, not be in that summer book stop pretty quickly for everyone.

- Okay. The next item is consideration with possible action on the request to approve the Fire Department Battalion Chief promotional list. That list was also in your pre-work packet. There were five candidates that went through the process. Two were successful and the alphabetical listing of those was in your packet. So unless there are any questions, I'll ask for a motion to approve that list.

- Move to approve the list.

- Motion by commissioner Dorff.

- Second.

- You're muted.

- Second.

- Second by commissioner Cobb. Any further discussion? Hearing none, all those in favor.

- Aye.

- Are there any opposed? Alright. We have unanimous consent of the promotional list as noted in the pre-work packet. And the next item is a closed session item, consideration with possible action on the request for promotion to the rank of Battalion Chief, the commission may convene in closed session, pursuant to sections 19.85 paragraph one, sub C and F Wisconsin statutes, to consider employment promotion, compensation or performance evaluation data of any public employee, over which the governmental body has jurisdiction, or exercise responsibility. The commission may thereafter reconvene an open session pursuant session, 19.85, paragraph two, Wisconsin statutes to report the results of the closed session and consider the balance of the agenda. Is there a motion to go in a closed session?

- Motion to go...

- Move to go closed session

- Motion by commissioner Cobb was first. Commissioner Dorff, was there a second?

- Yes, second.

- Okay. Second by commissioner Dorff. All those in favor.

- Aye.

- Aye.

- Any opposed? Alright, we are in closed session. Alright, thank you. While, while in closed session, we reviewed the promotion list and unanimously made the decision to authorize approval of Captain Chad to Battalion Chief. The next available opening, which is expected to be later this month around in and around June 24th. So the commission congratulates Chad and I look forward to him serving in this new position. And that was a unanimous vote by the commissioners in a closed session. That, that completes our agenda. I'll entertain a motion to adjourn.

- Motion to adjourn.

- Move to adjourn.

- Motion by commissioner Cobb. Call it a second by commissioner Dorff, all those in favor.

- Aye.

- Any opposed? Alright, we are adjourned.