



MINUTES OF THE POLICE AND FIRE COMMISSION

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2022, 1:00 PM

In person at City Hall, Room 604

Virtual attendance also available 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: Ed Dorff, Rod Goldhahn, John Laux, Rashad Cobb, Marian Boyle-Rohloff

Others Present: HR Manager Melanie Falk, HR Generalist Jen Smits and others.

C. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA.

Moved by Commissioner Ed Dorff, seconded by Commissioner Marian Boyle-Rohloff to approve.
Motion carried.

Yes- Marian Boyle-Rohloff, Rod Goldhahn, Rashad Cobb, Ed Dorff, John Laux, No- None, Abstain-
None

D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES.

I. Approval of the minutes from the regular meeting held September 8, 2022 and the special meetings held September 27, September 29, October 10, and October 11, 2022.

Moved by Commissioner Marian Boyle-Rohloff, seconded by Commissioner Rashad Cobb to approve. Motion carried.

Yes- Marian Boyle-Rohloff, Rod Goldhahn, Rashad Cobb, Ed Dorff, John Laux, No- None, Abstain-
None

E. INFORMATIONAL.

I. President's Report.

President Goldhahn reported on a potential hearing regarding a complaint against a Police Officer. The prehearing conference is scheduled for November 9, 2022.

F. REGULAR BUSINESS.

I. Consideration with possible action on the following communications:

a. Budget Status Report.

Anthony Robniak addressed the Commission regarding the behavioral health officer program.

Moved by Commissioner Marian Boyle-Rohloff, seconded by Commissioner Ed Dorff to receive and place on file the budget status report and budget spreadsheet. Motion carried.

Yes- Marian Boyle-Rohloff, Rod Goldhahn, Rashad Cobb, Ed Dorff, John Laux, No- None, Abstain-None

b. Budget Spreadsheet.

c. Consideration with possible action on request to approve the monthly bills.

Moved by Commissioner Ed Dorff, seconded by Commissioner John Laux to approve. Motion carried.

Yes- Marian Boyle-Rohloff, Rod Goldhahn, Rashad Cobb, Ed Dorff, John Laux, No- None, Abstain-None

2. Convening on the above date for the purpose of holding interviews with Fire Chief candidate(s). 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 Marian Boyle-Rohloff, seconded by Commissioner Rashad Cobb to go into closed session. Motion carried.

Yes- Marian Boyle-Rohloff, Rod Goldhahn, Rashad Cobb, Ed Dorff, John Laux, No- None, Abstain-None

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

Yes- Marian Boyle-Rohloff, Rod Goldhahn, Rashad Cobb, Ed Dorff, John Laux, No- None, Abstain-None

Out of closed session President Goldhahn reported that the Commission interviewed one of the Fire Chief finalists.

G. ADJOURNMENT.

Moved by Commissioner Ed Dorff, seconded by Commissioner John Laux to adjourn. Motion carried.

Yes- Marian Boyle-Rohloff, Rod Goldhahn, Rashad Cobb, Ed Dorff, John Laux, No- None, Abstain- None

VERBATIM MINUTES

- Recording
- All right, welcome everyone. I'd like to call the Monday, November 7th meeting of the Police and Fire Commission to order. We'll begin with roll call. Let the record show Commissioner, Vice President Boyle-Rohloff, Commissioner Dorff, Commissioner Cobb, Commissioner Laux and Commissioner Goldhahn are all present. You should have received your agenda in the mail from Hailey. So, if there aren't any questions, I'll entertain a motion to approve.
- So moved
- Moved by Commissioner Dorff. Any seconds?
- Second.
- Seconded by Commissioner Boyle-Rohloff. Any further discussion? Hearing none. All of those in favor?
- Aye.
- Any opposed? Alright, our first item on the agenda is the approval of a multitude of meeting dates from past meetings. So within your packet were the minutes from the regular meeting of September 8th and the special meetings of September 27th, September 29th, October 10th, and October 11th. Is there anything in any of those minutes that you would like to pull out and discuss or have a question on? If not, I'll entertain a motion to approve all those.
- So moved.
- Second.
- Motion by Commissioner Boyle-Rohloff, seconded by Commissioner Cobb. Any further discussion? Hearing none. All those in favor?
- Aye.
- Aye.

- Any opposed or abstained? Minutes have been approved. Informational report. I'll just share that it looks like the commission may have a hearing that we'll need to schedule sometime probably the end of this month or next month. An individual has filed a complaint against a police officer and they've properly filed the complaint and so I will be meeting with the individual and the commission's attorney. So, the city provides an attorney for the commission for these things independent of the city. He and I will be meeting with that individual on Wednesday and also a representative of the police department to do a pre-hearing conference. So, that's when we set up the rules of the hearing and talk about witnesses and timing and things like that. And so if that proceeds, then we will schedule a public hearing on the matter in order to judge that. In front of that meeting, I know that Mary has been through some of these before, I think the rest of you have been in these as commissioners, they're very much like an arbitration if you have experience in that, but we'll go through detailed training ahead of time so you'll know what to expect as part of that process. So, more to come on that as we get closer those dates. And so that is my only piece of information to share. Next agenda item is item F. Consideration with possible action on the following communications of the budget status report and the budget spreadsheet. And then sub C, consideration with possible action on a request to approve our monthly bills. And we have a citizen who has requested to address the commission on this matter, Anthony Robniak. Am I pronouncing that right?

- Exactly.

- Goes by Tony. So if you wanna come up and have a seat at the table and let us know what's on your mind.

- Sounds good. So, good afternoon, Green Bay Leadership. My name is Anthony Robniak. I'm currently on a path towards a career in healthcare. As a former United States sailor, I wanna first acknowledge all of you for stepping up to civil service. I recognize that you are responsible for some of Green Bay's bloodiest, but most necessary work. I wanna speak briefly on the work of the behavioral health staff at the Green Bay Police Department. I've spent a few hours shadowing the office and I would like to tell you the professionalism and effectiveness of the police officers and clinicians who work there. Unfortunately, I cannot provide any data to back my claim. Indeed, it's difficult to quantify, prevented morbidity and mortality in regards to mental health. But, please believe me when I say, they regularly talk down dangerous ideation before it progresses to action. How many times have each of us here healed ourselves by venting our concerns or airing our frustrations to a loved one? I challenge you to imagine a world of isolation. Imagine for whatever reason, disability, age, unfortunate tragedy, that the folks you love and depend on for support suddenly vanish. Who do you trust? With whom do you confide in with the agony and anger that arises throughout the day? There are people in this community living under those lonely circumstances. Those folks are best reached with diplomacy. If I'm not mistaken at this moment, there's a single behavioral health clinician working with two behavioral health officers at the Green Bay Police Department and they provide the boots on the ground, day to day diplomacy to the folks in dire straits. I recall a mantra I learned in the Navy, "Always used the least amount of force necessary." Indeed, I came to this very meeting unarmed, because I believe all of you are ultimately unarmed citizens with no intent to harm. As you review the bills, I would like to argue, the more we prioritize behavioral health services in any form, the more we can extend the same courtesy to the people of Green Bay. That's it. Thank you.

- Thank you for sharing that. Have you shared your experience with the police department, a positive experience?

- Yes. We just kind of talked in person.
- Okay. So that we have that information and the officers that you were involved with...
- Yes, sir.
- Because that's, you always love to hear those kind of comments. And thank you for sharing that with us as well.
- Yeah.
- Were you were you able to speak directly with Chief Davis?
- I do not believe so. I just chatted with the two behavioral health officers and the clinician.
- You might want to reach out to Laura Wery, who is the chief's secretary and he's very open and ask him for 15 minutes of his time. He would probably love to hear that letter.
- I will, yeah.
- And he could probably give you the mission of his vision of the mental health officers going forward under his leadership.
- Good. All right.
- Yeah, I would agree with that. And he probably wouldn't limit you to 15 minutes either.
- No.
- It was Wery?
- Laura Wery.
- Laura Wery.
- Yeah. Yeah.
- Do we know her email address off hand? We can just give it to him to eliminate the...
- I think I can probably find that here.
- Laura W
- Sorry, I didn't bring a note pad with me.
- No problem. Thank you.

- Thank you.
- Thanks again for time.
- Appreciate it.
- Thank you.
- All right, within your packet, you would've received the budget status report and the expenditures to date. We've got I think just under \$3,000 for the advertisements for the police chief role and then other advertising and spending relative to recruiting. Any, are there any questions on any of those? If not, I'll entertain a motion to receive those and place on file.
- So moved.
- By Commissioner Boyle-Rohloff.
- Second.
- Second by Commissioner Dorff. Any further discussion? Hearing none, all those in favor?
- Aye
- Aye
- Any opposed or abstained? All right, I'll pull those documents and place those on file. And next item is consideration with possible action on a request to approve monthly bills. These are in your packet. Also, all dealings with hiring and background items. If there are no questions, I'll entertain a motion to approve .
- Move to approve
- Motion to approve by Commissioner Dorff. Second?
- Second.
- Second by Commissioner Laux. Any discussion? Hearing none, all those in favor?
- Aye.
- Aye.
- Any opposed? Abstained? All right. We'll pay the bills. And the last item on the agenda is convening on the above date for the purpose of holding interviews for fire chief candidates. The commission may convene in closed session pursuant to Section 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 exercised responsibility. The commission may thereafter reconvene in open session pursuant to sections 19.85 paragraph one, sub

C and F, Wisconsin Statutes to report the results of the closed session and to the balance of the agenda. Is there a motion to go to closed session?

- So moved.
- Motion by Commissioner Boyle-Rohloff.
- Second.
- Seconded by Commissioner Cobb. Any further discussion? Hearing none. All those was in favor?
- Aye.
- Aye.
- Any opposed or abstained? All right. We're in closed session.
- {automated Voice] Recording stopped. Progress.
- All right, we are back in open session. While in closed session, we interviewed one of the finalists for the fire chief candidate and we will interview this second candidate later in the week. That completes our agenda. Is there a motion to adjourn?
- So moved.
- Moved by Commissioner Dorff.
- Second.
- Seconded by Commissioner Laux. Any discussion? Hearing none, all in favor?
- Aye.
- Any opposed? All right, we are adjourned.
- [Automated Voice] Recording stopped.