

March 3, 2011

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Fire and Police Commissioners was held on the above date, commencing at 5:35 P.M.

PRESENT: Commissioners: Richard C. Cox, Chair
Carolina M. Stark
Kathryn A. Hein
Paoi X. Lor
Michael M. O'Hear

ABSENT: Commissioner: Sarah W. Morgan (Excused)

ALSO PRESENT: Mark Rohlffing, Chief, Milwaukee Fire Department; and Edward Flynn, Chief, Milwaukee Police Department.

The Director presented for adoption minutes of the Regular Meeting of February 17, 2011. He noted at that meeting the Fire Captain and Police Officer eligible lists were approved. Commissioner Hein moved approval of the minutes as presented, seconded by Commissioner O'Hear. The motion carried unanimously.

1. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

a) The Director presented a classification report dated February 25, 2011, from Maria Monteagudo, Director of Employee Relations, regarding a new grant-funded position of Fire Lieutenant in the Fire Department. Andrea Knickerbocker, Human Resources Manager, was present and spoke regarding the report. She stated the report recommends classification of the new position as Fire Lieutenant in Pay Range 856. The individual will be working as an intelligence analyst focusing on areas that are fire related. Due to the training level required of this position, the rank of Fire Lieutenant is recommended. Commissioner Stark moved approval of the report, seconded by Commissioner O'Hear. The motion carried unanimously.

b) The Director presented a letter dated February 21, 2011, from Police Officer Ralph L. Salyers III who requests an extension to his temporary exemption of the City residency requirement. He noted that a temporary exemption was granted in December and is set to expire this month. Also in this request there is further information regarding his family, children in school, and efforts to sell his home in Waukesha. Officer Salyers was present. Commissioner Stark asked how much he has dropped the price of his home from the initial asking price. Officer Salyers replied he dropped the price twice for a total of \$11,000. Commissioner Stark asked if he has explored any alternatives such as renting his home or finding a roommate in Milwaukee. Officer Salyers responded that he cannot afford two homes at once, renters would not want to pay the price of his mortgage for rent, and his wife had her hours cut at work and will be laid off at the end of the month. Commissioner Stark asked when his son's school year ends. Officer Salyers responded around June 10th. Commissioner O'Hear asked how long of an extension he is looking for. Officer Salyers responded he was hoping for six months. Commissioner O'Hear stated he was open to a five or six month extension, but wonders why Officer Salyers thinks selling his home will go better during the next five or six months. Officer Salyers replied that winter is a bad time to sell a home, he has had open houses and showings, and he is hoping things will turn around when the weather changes and the school year ends. He added that he and his wife are looking for homes in Milwaukee, but any offer would be on the contingency that his home in Waukesha sells. He will continue to lower the price of his home. The Chair stated the only persuasive argument is his children being in school, but he would not support a six month extension from this date. Commissioner Hein stated she would be supportive of an extension to the first meeting in July, but would like a plan of what Office Salyers plans on doing if his home does not sell. Commissioner Stark added that she would support an extension to the first meeting in July, but the inability to sell a home is not a persuasive argument. Commissioner Stark moved to grant an extension to the residency exemption until July 7, 2011, seconded by Commissioner O'Hear. The motion carried unanimously.

c) The Director presented a letter dated February 25, 2011, from Police Officer Richard D. Michalak who requests an extension to his temporary exemption of the City residency requirement. Officer Michalak was present. The Chair asked if Officer Michalak has children in school. Officer Michalak responded that he does have children in school in Milwaukee. He added that he purchased his home almost a year prior to taking the test for Police Officer. When he received his results letter he was told he was not in the top 300 so he figured he would not be hired. He is not opposed to living in Milwaukee, but he does not want to live away from his children. The Chair stated exemptions are looked at on a case-by-case basis and there is no standard. The challenge he is facing is a difficult real estate market, and the job states the residency requirement upfront. Officer Michalak replied that his current real estate agent is the wife of a lieutenant on the Police Department, and she understands the importance of selling his home. He added that he has lowered the price of his home by \$20,000, is having open houses on Sundays, and has had about eight visits to his home from interested families. Commissioner Stark asked how much the price of the home has been lowered since December. Officer Michalak responded between \$6,000 and \$8,000. Commissioner Stark asked if alternatives such as renting the home have been looked at. Officer Michalak responded he has looked into it but is waiting to see how the open houses go. The problem is finding someone who wants to pay the price of his mortgage for rent. Commissioner Lor asked what the plan is if his home does not sell. Officer Michalak responded the worst case scenario is he would rent or move back in with his parents who live in Milwaukee. Commissioner O'Hear moved to grant an extension to the residency exemption until July 7, 2011, seconded by Commissioner Hein. The motion carried 4-1, with the Chair voting against.

2. EXAMINATIONS:

a) The Director presented for approval a promotional examination announcement bulletin for the position of Heavy Equipment Operator in the Fire Department. He noted there are no changes from last time the examination was given. Commissioner Stark moved approval of the bulletin, seconded by Commissioner O'Hear. The motion carried unanimously.

3. FIRE DEPARTMENT:

a) The following promotion, as presented by Chief Rohlfing, was approved by the Board:

TO FIRE LIEUTENANT, on a waiver basis, using the Fire Lieutenant, Paramedic special promotion process, effective March 6, 2011:

RICHARD D. QUIGLEY.

b) The Director presented a letter dated February 24, 2011, from Chief Rohlfing, wherein he requests reclassification of two positions of Administrative Captain-EMS in the Bureau of EMS/Training/Education to Fire Captain. The Chair referred the request to the Department of Employee Relations for study and report.

4. POLICE DEPARTMENT:

a) The following promotion, as presented by Chief Flynn, was approved by the Board:

TO OFFICE ASSISTANT IV, from OFFICE ASSISTANT III, effective March 6, 2011:

REBECCA L. SMITH.

b) The Director presented a letter dated February 15, 2011, from Chief Flynn, wherein he notifies the Board that the effective date of newly appointed Police Information Systems Director, Charles Burki has changed from February 28, 2011 to March 7, 2011.

c) The Director presented a letter dated March 2, 2011, from Chief Flynn, wherein he requests that Inspector of Police Darryl Winston serve as Acting Assistant Chief of Police for more than 30 days effective March 6, 2011. Commissioner Stark moved approval, seconded by Commissioner Hein. The motion carried unanimously.

d) The Director presented a letter dated March 2, 2011, from Chief Flynn, wherein he requests that Captain of Police Patrick S. Mitchell serve as Acting Assistant Chief of Police for more than 30 days effective March 6, 2011. Commissioner O'Hear moved approval, seconded by Commissioner Lor. The motion carried unanimously.

e) The Director presented a letter dated March 2, 2011, from Chief Flynn, wherein he requests that Captain of Police Kurt Leibold serve as Acting Inspector of Police for more than 30 days effective April 3, 2011. Commissioner Hein moved approval, seconded by Commissioner O'Hear. The motion carried unanimously.

5. PUBLIC COMMENT:

Wauwatosa resident Mary Fertel-Rust asked what acting status means and what an Inspector of Police does. The Chair responded that acting status is for a limited period of time and Inspector of Police is a rank in the Police Department above Deputy Inspector and below Assistant Chief of Police.

6. ADJOURNMENT:

Commissioner Stark moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Commissioner Lor. The motion carried unanimously.

The meeting concluded at 6:01 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,



Michael G. Tobin
Executive Director

MGT:mk