

May 3, 2012

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Fire and Police Commissioners was held on the above date, commencing at 6:04 P.M.

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

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

The Chair reconvened the Board in Regular Session, having previously met in Executive Session from 5:39 p.m. to 6:01 p.m. pursuant to Section 19.85 (1)(c) Wis. Stats. to consider employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation data of any public employee over whom the Board has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility, to wit: interview of Police Communications Systems Manager.

The Director presented for adoption minutes of the Regular Meeting of April 19, 2012. Commissioner Hein moved approval of the minutes as presented, seconded by Commissioner Morgan. The motion carried unanimously.

1. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

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

TO COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEMS MANAGER, contingent upon successful completion of a background investigation, medical examination, and drug screening, effective May 7, 2012:

JOHN M. MESICH.

2. NEW BUSINESS:

a) The Director presented correspondence dated April 19, 2012, from Chief Flynn, wherein he notifies the Board the Chicago Police Department (CPD) requests mutual aid from the Milwaukee Police Department (MPD) for the NATO Summit, scheduled in Chicago, Illinois from May 18-21, 2012. Chief Flynn said approximately 110 officers from the Mobile Incident Response Team (MIRT) will be deployed to assist the CPD. Chief Flynn characterized the request as a tribute to the reputation of MPD that CPD has asked for their assistance. In addition, Chief Flynn said the officers will gain invaluable experience policing a national event. The Director indicated the Common Council approved an inter-governmental agreement between the City of Milwaukee and the City of Chicago on May 2, 2012. At this time, the Director is awaiting approval from the Attorney General of the State of Wisconsin. Commissioner O'Hear asked how financing is handled for situations such as these. Chief Flynn responded that MPD will be reimbursed by the Federal Government through the City of Chicago.

3. EXAMINATIONS:

a) The Director presented for adoption an eligible list for the position of Help Desk Specialist II in the Police Department, consisting of 43 names. Commissioner Morgan moved approval of the list, seconded by Commissioner O'Hear. The motion carried unanimously.

4. FIRE DEPARTMENT:

- a) The Director presented correspondence dated April 26, 2012, from Chief Rohlfing, wherein he notifies the Board that Firefighter Jacqueline J. Kollauf was terminated for violation of Department Rules.
- b) The Director presented correspondence dated April 17, 2012, from Chief Rohlfing, wherein he notifies the Board that Fire Equipment Dispatcher Zachary M. Gorelik was suspended for five (5) days for violation of Department Rules.
- c) The Director presented correspondence dated April 25, 2012, from Chief Rohlfing, wherein he notifies the Board of a response to the Mayor and Common Council regarding his research into the viable benefit and use of a pickup truck equipped with ultra-high pressure water system for use in the City of Milwaukee by the Milwaukee Fire Department (MFD). Chief Rohlfing summarized the results of his research by saying this system is more appropriate for off-road fire-fighting applications and is not applicable in an urban environment. MFD continues to investigate the use of smaller vehicles in some engine houses that have a high volume of EMS calls and a low volume of fire and rescue calls. There are several variables being considered to determine whether smaller vehicles would actually be a cost savings to the department.

5. POLICE DEPARTMENT:

- a) The Director presented correspondence dated March 28, 2012, from Chief Flynn, wherein he notifies the Board that Police Officer Jon R. Parker has been suspended for 30 days for violation of Department Rules and Regulations under Personnel Order 2012-46 dated March 28, 2012.
- b) The Director presented correspondence dated April 17, 2012, from Chief Flynn, wherein he notifies the Board that Police Telecommunicator Dorothy J. Ballard has been suspended for 15 days for violation of Department Rules and Regulations under Personnel Order 2012-50 dated April 17, 2012.
- c) The Director presented correspondence dated April 26, 2012, from Assistant Chief James Harpole, wherein he notifies the Board that Police Officer Jennifer Mishich returned from an unpaid medical leave of absence effective April 15, 2012, which commenced February 28, 2012; and Police Officer Jill Glidewell was granted an unpaid medical leave of absence which commenced on March 28, 2012 and will conclude on July 1, 2012.

6. PUBLIC COMMENT:

Chris Ahmuty, Executive Director of the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) of Wisconsin, spoke to provide information regarding ACLU activities in response to allegations of police misconduct regarding strip searches in District 5. First, the ACLU is focusing on public education; i.e., distributing 100,000 Know Your Rights pocket guides to educate individuals about their rights when encountering law enforcement. Second, given that the ACLU is still waiting for MPD to provide the Strip Search Authorization Forms requested through Open Records, the ACLU, in an effort to obtain copies of Strip Search Authorization Reports, has utilized social media and distributed fliers requesting citizens share the above-mentioned information with the ACLU. According to Mr. Ahmuty, the ACLU will not release any information related to specific individuals unless they have a signed waiver by the individual. Commissioner Lor asked if the Know Your Rights pocket guide would be translated for smaller minority groups. Mr. Ahmuty responded that in the past they have translated into Spanish and Hmong.

The Chair extended Jim Bartos, Executive Director of the Silver Spring Neighborhood Center (SSNC), an invitation to speak. Mr. Bartos said the SSNC has been in existence 54 years and has a wonderful partnership with the City of Milwaukee Housing Authority, Police District 4, and Fire Engine 8. SSNC is

(Public Comment:)

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excited about the redevelopment of the eastern half of Westlawn and what it will mean for the revitalization of the neighborhood.

7. ADJOURNMENT:

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

The meeting concluded at 6:18 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,



Michael G. Tobin
Executive Director

MGT:kj