

January 7, 2016

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: Steven M. DeVougas, Chair
Michael M. O'Hear
Kathryn A. Hein
Marisabel Cabrera
Ann Wilson
Fred Crouther

ALSO PRESENT: Chief Mark Rohlfing, Milwaukee Fire Department, and Carianne Yerkes, Inspector of Police, representing the Milwaukee Police Department.

The meeting was staffed by Executive Director MaryNeil Regan. The Chair opened the meeting by indicating that the Commission was trying something new and beginning the meeting with the Public Comment segment. He reminded everyone that each speaker would be allowed two minutes and to direct comments to the Commissioners and no else.

1. PUBLIC COMMENT:

Ms. Tanya Calderon was the first speaker and expressed her dissatisfaction with the outcome of an FPC investigation of police officers and firefighters at the scene of her auto accident and the reports which they prepared.

Ms. Mary Watkins also expressed dissatisfaction with the outcome of an FPC investigation into the confiscation of her American flag at a protest when she was standing on it. She demonstrated her dissatisfaction by standing on an American flag during the meeting.

Mr. Chris Ahmuty of the American Civil Liberties Union of Wisconsin congratulated the Commission on receiving Public Comment prior to the Board voting on any matters; however, he was still concerned about the two-minute time limit for speakers. He also wanted to know why the Board's minutes were not being posted until after they were approved, and he had questions about the progress and monitoring of the roll-out of the body-worn cameras by the Police Department.

Mr. Michael Crivello, president of the Milwaukee Police Officers' Association, drew the Board's attention to U.S.C. Title 18, Chapter 33, Section 700(a), which addresses how the United States flag is to be displayed and maintained. He stated the flag should not be placed on the floor or the ground. He believed the federal statute allowed the Board to decide how the flag should be displayed by members of the public during its Board meetings.

2. MINUTES:

The Director presented for adoption minutes of the Regular Meeting of December 17, 2015. Commissioner O'Hear moved approval of the minutes as presented, seconded by Commissioner Hein. The motion carried unanimously.

3. FIRE DEPARTMENT:

a) The Director presented a letter dated December 15, 2015, from Chief Mark Rohlfing, wherein he notified the Board of the termination of Network Coordinator Associate James A. Lyon on December 15, 2015, for violation of Department rules and the Fire Department's Code of Conduct.

b) The Director presented a letter dated December 15, 2015, from Chief Rohlfing, wherein he notifies the Board of the termination of probationary Fire Equipment Dispatcher Vikisha M. Waldkirch on December 15, 2015, pursuant to FPC Rule XI, Section 7.

4. POLICE DEPARTMENT:

a) The Director presented a letter dated December 18, 2015, from Chief Edward Flynn, wherein he requests that the appointment of Tammy S. Kaishian to Office Assistant I, approved at the December 17, 2015 Regular Meeting, be rescinded as Ms. Kaishian withdrew her candidacy for the position. Commissioner O'Hear moved to rescind the appointment, seconded by Commissioner Crouther. The motion carried unanimously.

b) The Director presented a letter dated December 16, 2015, from Chief Flynn, wherein he notifies the Board that Detective Shannon Lewandowski has been suspended for 35 days and discharged from the Department for violation of Department Core Values under Personnel Order 2015-150, dated December 16, 2015.

c) The Director presented a letter dated December 14, 2015, from Chief Flynn, wherein he notifies the Board of the termination of probationary Recruit Officer Reginald L. Meadows on December 14, 2015, pursuant to Personnel Order No. 2015-149 and FPC Rule XI, Section 7.

d) The Director presented a letter dated December 30, 2015, from Chief Flynn, wherein he requests that the probationary period of Police Officer Israel M. Rivera be extended for 137 consecutive days until May 28, 2016, due to the recruit officer being on limited duty status during his initial probationary period. Commissioner O'Hear moved approval of the request, seconded by Commissioner Hein. The motion carried unanimously.

5. ADJOURNMENT:

Commissioner Crouther moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Commissioner O'Hear. The motion carried unanimously.

The meeting concluded at 5:52 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,



MaryNell Regan
Executive Director

MNR:JS:jcs