

November 17, 2016

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Fire and Police Commissioners was held on the above date, commencing at 5:42 P.M.

PRESENT: Commissioners: Steven M. DeVougas, Chair
Kathryn Hein
Ann Wilson
Marisabel Cabrera
Fred Crouther
Angela McKenzie
Nelson Soler

ALSO PRESENT: Mark Rohlfing, Chief, Milwaukee Fire Department; and Carianne Yerkes, Assistant Chief, Milwaukee Police Department.

The Chair reconvened the Board in Regular Session, having previously met in Executive Session from 5:10 p.m. to 5:30 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: the performance evaluation of candidates for promotion to Chief Latent Print Examiner, Police Sergeant and Police Detective; and pursuant to Section 19.85 (1) (d) Wis. Stats. to consider strategy for crime detection or prevention, to wit: Critical Incident Investigations Memorandum of Understanding.

The meeting was staffed by Executive Director MaryNell Regan. The Chair opened the meeting with Public Comment.

1. PUBLIC COMMENT:

Ms. Mary Watkins again expressed her concern about the lack of transparency with the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Milwaukee Police Department and regional police agencies regarding investigating critical incidents. She stated that if the Board has this much trouble accessing the documents they need to make a decision, the Board should consider the difficulty the public has to go through to obtain information through open records requests. She understands this matter has been discussed in Executive Session and hopes the Board will meet in public and discuss the matter. Otherwise, she believes there is a horrible atmosphere of collusion and secrecy. She hopes the Board votes against the MOU.

Mr. Daniel C. Crowley expressed criticism of the police department for taking 17 days to complete the arson investigation of his home and arrest a suspect. He also criticized the quality of work by police officers and detectives. He also complained about the City's "real estate department" and a police officer he caught urinating on his property, who he wants charged.

2. CONSENT AGENDA:

The Director presented the following items for approval on the consent agenda. (Detailed information concerning the items can be found under the appropriate regular meeting agenda heading in the minutes.)

- A. Regular Meeting Minutes – November 3, 2016
- B. Promotions:
 1. Office Supervisor II (Police Dept.)
 2. Police District Office Assistant
 3. Office Assistant II (2 positions, Police Dept.)

- C. Appointments: School Crossing Guard (6 positions)
- D. Correspondence regarding Termination of Fire Equipment Dispatcher

There being no objections, all of the items were approved for adoption.

3. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

a) The Directive returned to the Board a letter dated October 11, 2016, from Chief Flynn, wherein he advises the Board of a policy change concerning investigations of critical incidents, allowing the Milwaukee County Investigative Team to be the primary outside investigator for critical incidents involving Milwaukee police officers, as outlined in a Memorandum of Understanding with regional law enforcement agencies. After discussing the matter in closed session, the Board has accepted the MOU for informational purposes and admonishes the Police Department to advise the Board of MOUs in the future and to keep the Board in the loop.

4. NEW BUSINESS:

a) The Director presented a proposed modification to Fire and Police Commission Rule V, Section 3 regarding the Chief Latent Print Examiner position which should have been listed as one of the positions exempt from competitive examination when the rule was previously updated on September 15, 2016. Pursuant to FPC rules, the Chair directed that the amendment be laid over until the next meeting for adoption.

b) The Director presented for informational purposes the 2017 Regular Meeting dates for the Board.

5. EXAMINATIONS:

a) The Director presented a request from FPC staff dated November 17, 2016, to amend the November 19, 2015 Police Officer eligible list (previously amended on June 2, 2016) to include an additional 103 candidates who have successfully completed the selection process. Toni Vanderboom, FPC Human Resources Representative, additionally explained that the State of Wisconsin Department of Justice requires that all law enforcement candidates need to successfully complete the Physical Readiness Test no more than six months prior to entrance into a law enforcement academy. For this reason, all of the candidates hired from this amended eligible list must complete the new Physical Readiness Test, in addition to a pre-employment medical, psychological and drug screen prior to being hired. Commissioner Crouther moved to approve the amended eligibility list, seconded by Commissioner Hein. The motion carried unanimously.

6. FIRE DEPARTMENT:

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

TO FIRE CAPTAIN, on a waiver basis, from eligible list dated March 3, 2016, contingent upon successful completion of a drug screening, to be effective November 20, 2016:

#3 – THOMAS F. POLLOCK.

b) The Director presented a letter dated November 9, 2016, from Chief Rohlfing, wherein he requests that the probationary period of Fire Captain David Seager, Jr. be extended for a period of one year until December 20, 2017. Commissioner Crouther moved approval of the request, seconded by Commissioner Wilson. The motion carried unanimously.

c) The Director presented a letter dated November 10, 2016, from Chief Rohlfing, wherein he requests that the probationary period of Firefighter Bryant L. Adams be extended for a period of time to be established after his return to duty. Commissioner Wilson moved approval of the request, seconded by Commissioner McKenzie. The motion carried unanimously

d) The following communication was previously received by the Board under the Consent Agenda, Item D:

A letter dated November 3, 2016, from Chief Rohlfing, wherein he notifies the Board that Fire Equipment Dispatcher Christopher R. Hibben has been terminated from the Department for non-disciplinary reasons, effective November 2, 2016.

7. POLICE DEPARTMENT:

a) The Director presented a letter dated November 9, 2016, from Chief Flynn, wherein he nominates Latent Print Examiner David L. Wagoner to the exempt position of Chief Latent Print Examiner in the Police Department, to be effective December 4, 2016. Pursuant to Rules of the Board, final action on this nomination was laid over to the next meeting for approval.

b) The following promotions, as presented by Chief Flynn, were approved by the Board:

TO POLICE SERGEANT, on a waiver basis, from eligible list dated May 5, 2016, as amended on November 3, 2016, contingent upon successful completion of a drug screening, to be effective December 4, 2016:

#8 – CASSANDRA L. BENITEZ.

TO DETECTIVE, on a waiver basis, from eligible list dated December 17, 2015, contingent upon successful completion of a drug screening, to be effective December 4, 2016:

#23 – ROBERT F. WENGER.

c) The following promotions, as presented by Chief Flynn, were approved by the Board under the Consent Agenda, Items B1-3:

TO OFFICE SUPERVISOR II, from Office Assistant IV, effective December 4, 2016:

ANISSA M. PARKER.

TO POLICE DISTRICT OFFICE ASSISTANT, from Office Assistant I, effective December 4, 2016:

IRMA BICKHAM.

TO OFFICE ASSISTANT II, from Office Assistant I, effective December 4, 2016:

NARAYDA CHAIREZ and KAYLA NOHELTY.

d) The following appointments, as presented by Chief Flynn, were approved by the Board under the Consent Agenda, Item C:

TO SCHOOL CROSSING GUARD, with the following retroactive effective dates:

ALYSSA M. BROWN (10/05/16); MIREYA CARMONA (9/26/16); ROCHELLE K. EDELBROCK (10/24/16); GEORGE E. JOHNIKIN (10/14/16); SARAH D. JONES (10/14/16); AND VERDA M. RUTLEDGE (10/20/16).

e) The Director presented a letter dated November 9, 2016, from Chief Flynn, wherein he presents a request from Police Officer David J. Grycowski for voluntary demotion to the non-sworn position of Emergency Communications Operator I, to be effective November 20, 2016. The probationary period for this position is 12 months. Commissioner Soler moved approval of the request, seconded by Commissioner Hein. The motion carried unanimously.

f) The Director presented a letter dated November 9, 2016, from Chief Flynn, wherein he presents a request from Police Officer Israel M. Rivera for voluntary demotion to the non-sworn position of Emergency Communications Operator I, to be effective November 20, 2016. The probationary period for this position is 12 months. Commissioner McKenzie moved approval of the request, seconded by Commissioner Wilson. The motion carried unanimously.

8. ADJOURNMENT:

Commissioner Crouther moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Commissioner Wilson. The motion carried unanimously.

The meeting concluded at 5:56 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,



MaryNell Regan
Executive Director

MNR:JCS:js