

June 15, 2017

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Fire and Police Commissioners was held on the above date, commencing at 5:48 P.M.

PRESENT: Commissioners: Steven M. DeVougas, Chair
Kathryn A. Hein
Ann Wilson
Marisabel Cabrera
Nelson Soler

ABSENT: Commissioner: Fred Crouther
Angela McKenzie

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 4:30 p.m. to 5:42 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: evaluation of candidates for promotion to Police Sergeant and appointment to Crime Analyst; and pursuant to Section 19.85 (1) (d) and (g) Wis. Stats. to consider strategy for crime detection or prevention and to confer with a representative of the City Attorney's Office who will render oral or written advice concerning strategy to be adopted by the Board with respect to litigation in which it is or is likely to become involved, to wit: Standard Operating Procedures 114 – Employee-involved Domestic Violence, 660 – Traffic Safety and Pursuit Policy, and 130 – Foreign Nationals.

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

The Director announced that the adoption of the minutes of the Regular Meeting of June 1, 2009, had been removed from the agenda.

1. PUBLIC COMMENT:

Jonathan Farris, founder of Pursuit for Change, addressed the Commission regarding the issue of police pursuits. Mr. Farris implored the Commission to not weaken the MPD's pursuit policy. He warned that police chasing stolen cars down Milwaukee roads will lead to civilian injury and leave the City liable to lawsuits. Mr. Farris praised Chief Flynn's use of GPS tracking technology in lieu of pursuits.

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 – May 18, 2017
- B. ~~Regular Meeting Minutes – June 1, 2017 (removed from agenda)~~
- C. Promotion: Office Assistant III
- D. Appointments: School Crossing Guard (4 positions)
- E. Request for Voluntary Demotion of Office Assistant IV
- F. Communication re Termination of Firefighter
- G. Request for Media Producer Examination
- H. Request for Communications Facilities Coordinator Examination

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

3. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

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

TO CRIME ANALYST, contingent upon the successful completion of a medical examination and drug screen, effective June 20, 2017:

JASON M. RUFF.

4. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

a) The Chair presented the report of the Policy and Standards Committee, which met on June 7, 2017, to review MPD SOP 114 - Employee-involved Domestic Violence and 660 - Traffic Safety and Pursuit Policy. In considering SOP 114, the Committee heard testimony from Alderwoman Milele Coggs, Chief Flynn, Inspector Terrace Gordon, Assistant District Attorney Nicholas Heitman, Ms. Carmen Pietre, and Mr. Andre Lee Lewis. Aside from a recommendation that the policy be subject to future amendment (if needed) after being implemented so as to verify its effectiveness, the testimony received was very positive of the SOP as presented. Also considered was a June 9, 2017, letter from the Milwaukee Police Association, signed by President Michael Crivello, and the International Association of Chiefs of Police Model Policy regarding Domestic Violence. The Committee recommends the approval of SOP 114 because it fleshes out the preceding domestic violence procedure. The SOP will be presented at the next meeting of the Fire and Police Commission for approval.

In considering the proposed amendments to SOP 660, the Committee heard a presentation from Chief Flynn in support of the existing SOP without amendment. Chief Flynn discussed the history behind changes to the SOP and discussed officer pursuit training. Alderman Jose Perez testified that he does not want to see the SOP repealed but would like to see it amended to take into account enforcement concerns about reckless driving. The Alderman emphasized that reckless driving is a major part of the community conversation and needs to be addressed. Alderman Michael Murphy also testified and asked that the SOP be re-evaluated as to the topics of when an officer may initiate a pursuit, the targeting of mobile drug unit vehicles, and joyriding. Alderman Murphy initially supported the change to non-pursuit in 2010 but, after reviewing the data, now believes there needs to be some changes. The Committee also considered a June 9, 2017 letter from the Milwaukee Police Association, signed by President Crivello, a June 9, 2017 email from Alderman Cavalier Johnson, a June 13, 2017 letter signed by six members of the Common Council, and the International Association of Chiefs of Police Model Policy regarding Vehicle Pursuits. It is the belief of the Committee that further discussion is needed on the topic.

5. EXAMINATIONS:

a) Jeff Harvey, Staffing Services Manager of the Fire and Police Commission, presented a staff request to amend the Fire Cadet Eligible List. On June 1, 2017, the Commission adopted the eligible list for Fire Cadet which reflected the 151 candidates who successfully completed the selection process for the position. Due to a clerical processing error, two additional candidates were found to have submitted the required documentation needed to be included on the eligible list. Mr. Harvey requests the approval of an amended eligible list of 153 candidates, containing the two additional candidates who had successfully completed the selection process. Commissioner Wilson moved amendment of the list, seconded by Commissioner Soler. The motion carried unanimously.

b) Emily Keeley, Human Resources Analyst—Senior of the Department of Employee Relations (DER), presented the Emergency Vehicle Equipment Installer job announcement bulletin for the Commission's approval. The purpose of the Emergency Vehicle Equipment Installer is to install, troubleshoot, and repair

emergency vehicle systems, including mobile radios and computers, in-car video systems, and license plate readers. The minimum requirements include three years full-time experience in installing security, audio-visual, or other electronic equipment into vehicles requiring disassembly and reassembly of vehicle components or an associate's degree in electronic technology or a related field. The application period will run from June 16th to July 7th. Commissioner Cabrera moved approval of the bulletin, seconded by Commissioner Hein. The motion carried unanimously.

6. FIRE DEPARTMENT:

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

TO PERSONNEL PAYROLL ASSISTANT II, from the DER Program Assistant I transfer list, effective July 2, 2017:

NANCY A. BALKOWSKI.

b) The Director presented a letter dated June 5, 2017, from Chief Rohlfing, wherein he requests an exception of FPC Rule XI, Section 2 (b) in order to enable appointments of Fire Cadets to Firefighter. Fourteen (14) Fire Cadets have not yet reached the age of 21 and none of the cadets have yet had two full years in the program as required by the FPC rule. Commissioner Cabrera moved to approve the request, seconded by Commissioner Hein. The motion carried unanimously.

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

A letter dated June 1, 2017, from Chief Rohlfing, wherein he notifies the Board that Probationer Firefighter Jeremy Fontanez has been terminated effective June 3, 2017. This termination is unrelated to his Workers' Compensation case.

7. POLICE DEPARTMENT:

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

TO POLICE SERGEANT, on a waiver basis, contingent on successful completion of a drug screening, effective retroactive to July 2, 2017:

#35 - JASMINE D. MOODY.

b) The following promotion, as presented by Chief Flynn, was approved by the Board under the Consent Agenda, Item C:

TO OFFICE ASSISTANT III, from Office Assistant II, an underfill for Office Assistant IV, effective July 2, 2017:

MAI O. XIONG.

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

TO SCHOOL CROSSING GUARD, with effective dates:

YANAIRA DE LA CRUZ CUEVAS (5/17/17), RUBEN S. FERRER CARDONA (5/8/17), LARRY J. MORGAN (5/16/17) and BIANCA B. VEGA-ALMA (5/8/17).

d) The following request was previously approved by the Board under the Consent Agenda, Item E:

The Director presented a letter dated June 8, 2017, from Chief Flynn, wherein he presents a request from Office Assistant IV Amy Skenadore for voluntary demotion to her former rank of Police District Office Assistant, to be effective June 18, 2017.

e) The Director presented a June 8, 2017, letter from Chief Flynn wherein he requests that the probationary period of Police Lieutenant Caroline Tillman be extended for a period of 30 days until August 2, 2017. Commissioner Soler moved approval of the request, seconded by Commissioner Hein. The motion carried unanimously.

f) The Director presented a June 7, 2017, letter from Chief Flynn wherein he requests that the probationary period of Emergency Communications Operator I Lisa Thierry be extended for a period of three months until November 29, 2017. Commissioner Hein moved approval of the request, seconded by Commissioner Wilson. The motion carried unanimously.

g) The following communications were previously received by the Board under the Consent Agenda, Items G-H:

The Director presented a letter dated June 7, 2017, from Chief Flynn, wherein he requests that a recruitment and examination be conducted for the exempt position of Media Producer. The request will be referred to the Department of Employee Relations for implementation.

The Director presented a letter dated June 7, 2017, from Chief Flynn, wherein he requests that a recruitment and examination be conducted for the position of Communications Facilities Coordinator. The request will be referred to the Department of Employee Relations for implementation.

8. ADJOURNMENT:

Commissioner Cabrera moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Commissioner Hein. The motion carried unanimously.

The meeting concluded at 6:05 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,



MaryNell Regan
Executive Director

MNR:RC:rk