

December 20, 2012

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Fire and Police Commissioners was held on the above date, commencing at 5:30 P.M.

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

ABSENT: Commissioner: Paoi X. Lor

ALSO PRESENT: Gerard Washington, Assistant Chief, representing the Milwaukee Fire Department; and Edward Flynn, Chief, Milwaukee Police Department.

The Director presented for adoption minutes of the Regular Meeting of December 6, 2012. Commissioner Cox moved approval of the minutes as presented, seconded by Commissioner O'Hear. The motion carried unanimously.

1. FIRE DEPARTMENT:

- a) The Director presented correspondence dated December 13, 2012, from Chief Rohlfig, wherein he requests that the appointments of #249 – Kevin M. Heus, #318 – Peter D. Money, #322 – Anthony E. Lloyd, and #323 – James Loduha to Firefighter, approved at the November 15, 2012 Regular Meeting, be rescinded as the candidates either withdrew or did not qualify for the position of Firefighter. Commissioner Cox moved to rescind the appointments, seconded by Commissioner Hein. The motion carried unanimously.
- b) The Director presented correspondence dated December 13, 2012, from Chief Rohlfig, wherein he notifies the Board that Probationer Firefighter Larry J. Murphy did not return to the recruit class as he did not meet the contingencies of successful completion of a return to duty exam and drug screen.
- c) The Director presented correspondence dated December 13, 2012, from Chief Rohlfig, wherein he notifies the Board that the contingency appointments to Firefighter of #334 – Tyler K. Lindstad and #344 – David E. Jauch, approved at the November 15, 2012, meeting, were utilized.
- d) The Director presented correspondence dated December 11, and December 13, 2012 respectively, from Chief Rohlfig, wherein he notifies the Board that Firefighter Michael K. Shea returned from an unpaid medical leave of absence originally due to expire on December 30, 2012, effective December 11, 2012 and Fire Paramedic Mark G. Tesch was granted an unpaid medical leave of absence expiring March 3, 2013, effective December 3, 2012.
- e) The Director presented correspondence dated December 13, 2012, from Chief Rohlfig, wherein he notifies the Board that Engine 3, housed at 100 West Virginia Street, and Ambulance 1, housed at the quarters of Engine 13, 2901 N. 30th Street, will be decommissioned effective December 23, 2012 due to budget cuts. In addition, the Dive Team, formerly assigned to Engine 3, will now be assigned to Truck 1, housed at 100 West Virginia Street.
- f) The Director presented correspondence dated December 13, 2012, from Chief Rohlfig, wherein he requests approval of the 2013 Furlough Guidelines for sworn fire management and all civilian personnel, except Fire Equipment Dispatchers and sworn fire personnel. Commissioner Cox moved approval of the furlough guidelines, seconded by Commissioner Hein. The motion carried unanimously.

g) The Director presented a communication from Assistant Chief Washington regarding Milwaukee Fire Department (MFD) Community Relations Initiatives. Assistant Chief Washington said that on November 19, 2012 the MFD participated in Operation Warm, a national program established in 1998, to bring warm coats to children in need. Several Fire Lieutenants made contact with the national organization, Coats for Kids Foundation. Operation Warm donated 1,000 coats to the effort. Children at three (3) schools, Richard Kluge School, James Whitcomb Riley School, and Fernwood Montessori School, benefitted from the 1,008 new coats. Assistant Chief Washington said this is only a starting point for this effort and MFD will donate new coats to two (2) different schools to be selected next year. MFD's goal is to donate as many as 3,000 – 4,000 new coats in the next few years. Milwaukee Professional Firefighters Local 215 has set up a donation page (<https://donate.operationwarm.org/page/contribute/milwaukee-local-no-215-firefighters-coats-for-kids>) to assist MFD in achieving this goal.

In addition, Assistant Chief Washington said the MFD participated in the Devin Harris Foundation's 34 Ways to Assist. This program took place at the Parklawn YMCA and MFD was able to donate 300 toys to children as well as talk about fire safety with the children. He said MFD's goal for toy donation next year is to be able to give 500 toys to children in need. Finally, Assistant Chief Washington said it is important for MFD to give back to the community and stress with citizens that MFD is part of the community, rather than just for emergencies.

2. POLICE DEPARTMENT:

a) The following appointments, as presented by Chief Flynn, were approved by the Board:

TO SCHOOL CROSSING GUARD (REGULAR), with effective dates:

CLINTON CURRIE GRANT JR. (12/05/12) and AMBER RENEE MORGAN (12/04/12).

b) The Director presented correspondence dated December 6, 2012, from Chief Flynn, wherein he requests that Lieutenant Aimee Obregon serve as Acting Captain of the Technical Communication Division for more than 30 days until a promotion to Captain or transfer can be made. Commissioner Cox moved approval, seconded by Commissioner Hein. The motion carried unanimously.

c) The Director presented correspondence dated December 12, 2012, from Chief Flynn, wherein he notifies the Board that Police Officer Scott Strong returned from an unpaid military leave of absence, which commenced February 28, 2012, effective November 25, 2012; Office Assistant I Sarah Smith returned from an unpaid maternity leave of absence, which commenced October 4, 2012, effective November 25, 2012; Police Officer Joseph Goggins was granted an unpaid medical leave of absence until February 23, 2013, effective November 24, 2012; and Custodial Worker II Delbert Orr was granted an extension to his unpaid medical leave of absence, which commenced on November 14, 2012, until January 2, 2013.

d) The Director presented correspondence dated December 13, 2012, from Chief Flynn, wherein he requests approval of the 2013 Furlough Guidelines for all Milwaukee Police Department (MPD) members. Commissioner Cox moved approval of the furlough guidelines, seconded by Commissioner O'Hear. The motion carried unanimously.

e) The Director presented a communication from Chief Flynn regarding neighborhood engagement and federal grants. Chief Flynn said MPD's mission was, in partnership with the community, to create and maintain neighborhoods capable of sustaining civic life. To that end, all of the things that MPD does are oriented not as an end to themselves, but rather to create an environment whereby neighborhoods can become strong enough to have social capital where they can exercise informal social control, where they can access the leaders of government, and where they can peaceably raise their children and pursue the American dream. According to Chief Flynn, that is why the police department exists. MPD exists so neighborhoods can be safe enough to sustain civic life and generate economic opportunity.

To that end, Chief Flynn said MPD applied for grants through federal partners that facilitate local collaboration (neighbors, non-profits, government, and philanthropy). These grants recognize the connection between neighborhoods and public safety; i.e., there is no stability without safety. According to Chief Flynn, Milwaukee is the only city to receive both awards and the only city using the police department as the lead public agency.

The Building Neighborhood Capacity Program (BNCP) is a key program of the White House Neighborhood Revitalization Initiative (NRI) which aligns federal investments in neighborhoods that struggle with concentrated poverty, high rates of crime, low-performing schools, inadequate access to housing and healthcare, and an absence of economic vitality. The goal of this grant is to identify/assist eight (8) neighborhoods in four (4) cities to develop the knowledge, skills, relationships, interactions, and organizational resources that allow residents, civic leaders, the public and private sectors, and local organizations to create comprehensive neighborhood revitalization plans. MPD is the lead agency for this grant because MPD is most committed and engaged in these neighborhoods. Community policing, according to Chief Flynn, is based upon neighborhood engagement. In Milwaukee, government agencies, nonprofit intermediaries, and philanthropic partners are coming together in a cross-sector partnership to help neighborhoods build social capital. Chief Flynn described an effort made by Mayor Barrett and MPD to request additional mortgage settlement money from the State of Wisconsin to demolish abandoned houses in a targeted manner in order to reduce crime, stabilize neighborhoods, and provide an economic development opportunity. Milwaukee is one of four (4) cities funded and MPD was awarded \$225,000 in federal funds to be directed to the Amani Neighborhood (\$75,000), Metcalfe Park Neighborhood (\$75,000), and the City of Milwaukee's cross-sector partnership supporting BNCP (\$75,000). This program will facilitate the neighborhoods coming together to help prioritize the challenges in the neighborhood and to focus philanthropic, governmental, and non-governmental attention to those self-identified issues thereby building community-based empowerment and a feeling of success which can be built upon to stabilize the neighborhood. The lead community partner for the Amani Neighborhood is the Dominican Center for Women and the lead community partner for the Metcalfe Park Neighborhood is the Next Door Foundation.

The Byrne Initiative grant is a Department of Justice grant that targets Milwaukee's Washington Park neighborhood. Within that neighborhood, according to Chief Flynn, there are six (6) target areas where crime and disorder are especially damaging to the quality of community life. The purpose of this grant is to deal with crime through a problem-solving approach oriented toward neighborhood stabilization. The goals are to improve public safety by enhancing the effectiveness of law enforcement through relationship building and collaborative problem solving around MPD personnel, community residents, and local organizations. Every month in every district there are crime prevention meetings with community stakeholders attended by 25-50 people. According to Chief Flynn, there is a high level of community engagement in these meetings as they come together to talk about shared issues and concerns. Each meeting is attended by the district commander, a representative from the Detective Bureau, and Community Liaison Officers. This is a larger grant and supports enhanced law enforcement activities by aligning non-law enforcement community resources and services in and around especially troubled areas. As in the BNCP grant, the Byrne Initiative grant is a cross-sector partnership (government, nonprofit intermediaries, and philanthropic partners) and Milwaukee is one of 15 cities funded. Again, according to Chief Flynn, Milwaukee is the only city that applied for and received both grants. The grant award is \$600,000 in federal funds over 36 months. Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC) will serve as the national training and technical assistance provider for the program and Kimberly Hassell, PhD from the University of Wisconsin – Milwaukee will serve as the research partner to evaluate the effort.

Commissioner Cox said Neighborhood House is involved in the Byrne grant because they are in partnership with Safe and Sound for the Drug Free Coalition for the 53208 area. In addition, the activity for the Washington Park neighborhood also includes the Hmong Association.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT:

There was no comment made from the public present.

4. ADJOURNMENT:

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

The meeting concluded at 5:52 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael G. Tobin".

Michael G. Tobin
Executive Director

MGT:kj