

January 8, 2015

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Fire and Police Commissioners was held on the above date, commencing at 5:45 p.m.

PRESENT: Commissioners: Sarah W. Morgan  
Kathryn A. Hein  
Michael M. O'Hear  
Ann Wilson  
Marisabel Cabrera  
Steven M. DeVougas

ALSO PRESENT: Mark Rohlfig, 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 4:32 p.m. to 5:35 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 and/or Section 19.85 (1)(f) Wis. Stats. to consider financial, medical, social or personal histories or disciplinary data of specific persons, preliminary consideration of specific personnel problems or the investigation of charges against specific persons which, if discussed in public, would be likely to have a substantial adverse effect upon the reputation of any person referred to in such histories or data, or involved in such problems or investigations, to wit: Promotion to Vehicle Operations Instructor in the Fire Department, and Acceptance of Police Officer Applications from Former Fire and Police Department Employees.

The Chair provided some updates and information to the audience. She stated there have been questions regarding the Board's ability to hear any information or have any ruling over the duty disability hearing for Officer Christopher Manney; that is not within the Board's jurisdiction; they do not have anything to do with it. She further stated individuals have asked to meet with individual Commissioners or the Board in a separate meeting and they cannot do that because of open meetings laws, and because all of them are subject to be a part of Officer Manney's appeal hearing; they cannot meet with anyone who might be concerned with the issue or could jeopardize the panel. She stated the appeal hearing for Officer Manney is being scheduled for the first week in February, that no specific date has been chosen yet, and there will be more information to come. She also stated Room 301-A is open for overflow with a television available for anyone to follow this meeting. She lastly stated that anyone who wishes to speak during the public comment section needs to fill out a request and everyone is limited to two minutes so everyone has the opportunity to speak.

The Chair presented for adoption minutes of the Regular Meeting of November 6, 2014. Commissioner Hein moved approval of the minutes, seconded by Commissioner DeVougas. The motion carried unanimously. The Chair presented for adoption minutes of the Regular Meeting of December 4, 2014. Commissioner Hein moved approval of the minutes, seconded by Commissioner DeVougas. The motion carried unanimously.

1. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

a) The Chair presented the Decision and Order from the United States District Court regarding Richard Schoen v. City of Milwaukee, et al, which ruled in favor of the Board. She stated the decision has been appealed.

2. NEW BUSINESS:

a) The Chair presented correspondence from Chief Flynn and Chief Rohlifing regarding former employees' applications for Police Officer. The Chair stated they have been asked by FPC staff to determine whether the Board can accept applications from former department members. Commissioner O'Hear moved that all of the applications that otherwise comply with FPC Rules be permitted to continue in the regular application process, including the review for good character and fitness. The motion was, seconded by Commissioner DeVougas and carried unanimously.

3. EXAMINATIONS:

a) The Chair presented for approval the Police Dispatcher eligible list. Commissioner O'Hear moved approval, seconded by Commissioner Hein. The motion carried unanimously.

4. FIRE DEPARTMENT:

a) The following promotions, as presented by Chief Rohlifing, were approved by the Board:

TO VEHICLE OPERATIONS INSTRUCTOR, from Heavy Equipment Operator, retroactive effective December 21, 2014:

DOUGLAS A. PIETZ.

TO HEAVY EQUIPMENT OPERATOR, from eligible list adopted July 27, 2014, retroactive effective December 21, 2014:

BRETT A. METZEN.

b) The following appointment, as presented by Chief Rohlifing, was approved by the Board:

TO OFFICE COORDINATOR, from a transfer/promotional posting, effective January 18, 2015:

MALISA C. YOUNG.

c) The Chair presented correspondence dated December 10, 2014 from Chief Rohlifing, wherein he notifies the Board Firefighter Manuel J. Rodriguez has returned from an unpaid medical leave of absence, effective December 10, 2014.

d) The Chair presented correspondence dated December 29, 2014 from Chief Rohlifing, wherein he notifies the Board Fire Cadet Diontra M. Woods has returned from an unpaid military leave of absence, effective December 29, 2014.

e) The Chair presented correspondence dated December 4, 2014 from Chief Rohlifing, wherein he notifies the Board he terminated Fire Cadet Zachary Talatzko, effective December 4, 2014.

5. POLICE DEPARTMENT:

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

TO POLICE DISTRICT OFFICE ASSISTANT, from Office Assistant I, retroactive effective December 21, 2014:

FRANCES MASTROGIOVANNI.

b) The Chair presented correspondence dated December 29, 2014 from Assistant Chief James Harpole, wherein he requests the Board to extend Detective Tiffany N. Skonieczny's probationary period for 110 consecutive days due to the detective being on military leave. Commissioner O'Hear moved approval, seconded by Commissioner Cabrera. The motion carried unanimously.

c) The Chair presented correspondence dated December 19, 2014 from Chief Flynn, wherein he notifies the Board that he utilized the following contingency appointments to Police Officer, approved at the December 4, 2014 meeting: #359 – Daniel J. O'Connell and #360 – Oscar A. Espitia, effective December 8, 2014; and #361 – Ryan M. Kramschuster and #363 – Benjamin T. Ade, effective December 10, 2014.

d) The Chair presented correspondence dated December 19, 2014 from Chief Flynn, wherein he requests the following appointments to Police Officer, approved at the December 4, 2014 meeting, be rescinded as the candidates either withdrew or did not qualify for the position of Police Officer: #310 – Michael S. Schally, #326 – William Neeb, Sr., #337 – Steven R. Keiller and #338 – Shawn M. McNeal. Commissioner O'Hear moved to rescind the appointments, seconded by Commissioner Hein. The motion carried unanimously.

6. PUBLIC COMMENT:

Eleven individuals spoke regarding the Red Arrow Park incident involving Police Officer Christopher Manney and Dontre Hamilton.

7. ADJOURNMENT:

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

The meeting concluded at 6:18 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Sarah W. Morgan  
Chair

SWM:cj