

**MINUTES  
POLICE AND FIRE COMMISSION  
Superior, Wisconsin**

1. A special meeting of the Board of the Police and Fire Commission for the City of Superior was called to order Thursday June 11, 2020 at 4:30 p.m. via Google Meet, Superior, Wisconsin.

2. ROLL CALL

Commissioners present: Shawnu Ksicinski, Arthur Gil de Lamadrid, Howard Hendrickson, Ephraim Nikoi,

Also present: Chief Alexander, Chief Gordon, Councilor Fennessey, Mayor's Chief of Staff Nick Raverty

There being a quorum present, the meeting was in order.

3. RECOGNITION OF NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

The recording secretary mailed and/or delivered agendas and agenda packets to persons or organizations listed, and the meeting was legally noticed in accordance with Wisconsin State Statutes open meeting law.

4. Police & Fire Department updates

Chief Gordon spoke of the workings of the Fire Department during this time with COVID. Chief Gordon said all vacations and training were cancelled, but all firefighters stepped up and helped to make the transition go smooth. Chief Gordon said they have secured funding for a new ladder truck to replace Engine 2. Chief Gordon said they are finished with the 'test drive' portion of this project and are now getting into the specifications. He said they hope to have this ladder truck by the beginning of 2021. Chief Gordon said in addition to the City monies allocated for this truck, several partners are offering financial assistance for this project. Enbridge in particular has committed to donating \$120,000 towards the purchase of this truck. Chief Gordon also mentioned that the department has stopped all inspections during COVID. DSPS, who governs the inspections, gave the department permission to not do inspections and/or training. This has proven to be a challenge, and somehow the inspections will have to be caught up. All in all, Chief Gordon said the department is doing really well, and the final touches are being done on the new station and outdoor amenities.

Chief Alexander told the Commission that the police department also went to a special schedule during COVID, and officers will be transitioning back to normal operations on June 20<sup>th</sup>. All detectives and plain clothes officers joined Patrol and that allowed us to go to an extended schedule to allow for recovery if people got sick, or family members got sick. Chief Alexander said officers had been extremely cooperative with this transition and the public has been very understanding with the changes made due to COVID. Chief Alexander mentioned the recent protests and unrest following the murder of George Floyd. Duluth had a large gathering that did result in some property damage and violence. Under a mutual aid agreement we did staff twelve officers in Duluth, over a two day period during these protests. We had a rally here at the Government Center on June 4<sup>th</sup>. We reached out to the organizers of the event to get to an agreement on some ground rules and Chief Alexander said the organizers were extremely helpful in getting a message out for the protest to be a peaceful one. Chief Alexander said there were no arrests associated with any of the demonstrations that happened here in Superior, and no property damage. Chief Alexander mentioned recent and upcoming promotions. John Kiel has replaced recently retired Matt Markon as Assistant Chief. That leaves a Patrol Division Commander spot open, and that

process is ongoing. Also with the retirement of Sergeant Jack Curphy and upcoming retirement of Sergeant Chris Kirchoff, we'll need to fill Sergeant spots. There will be a lot of movement in the non-union side of supervising in the department. Chief Alexander mentioned the meeting tonight of the Mayor's Commission on Communities of Color that he will attend and talk with community members about some reforms that we've already done, and possibly get some ideas on some new ones. They are also going to draft a statement for the City regarding the death of Mr. Floyd.

*Motion by Commissioner Hendrickson, seconded by Commissioner Lil de Lamadrid and carried to approve the Police & Fire Department updates.*

5. Review and approve a statement from the Police & Fire Commission to the Communities of Color Commission

*Motion by Commissioner Gil de Lamadrid, seconded by Commissioner Nikoi and carried to approve the statement with edits made to the Communities of Color Commission.*

*Motion by Commissioner Hendrickson, seconded by Commissioner Gil de Lamadrid and carried to adjourn the meeting at 5:30 p.m.*

*Submitted by: Donna Swanson  
Recording Secretary*