

MINUTES
POLICE AND FIRE COMMISSION
Superior, Wisconsin

1. The regular meeting of the Board of the Police and Fire Commission for the City of Superior was called to order Wednesday October 14, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. in Room 204, of the Government Center, Superior, Wisconsin. Some participants joined the meeting via Google Meet.

2. ROLL CALL

Commissioners present: Howard Hendrickson, Ephraim Nikoi, ChaQuana McEntyre

Also present: Chief Alexander, Chief Gordon, HR Director Koneczny

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. Approval of minutes: September 9, 2020

Motion by Commissioner McEntyre, seconded by Commissioner Hendrickson and carried to approve the minutes from the September 9, 2020.

5. Police & Fire department updates

Chief Gordon said it has been a busy time and the department is dealing with a lot of COVID related issues in the community. The department has had one positive COVID case, but the department's policies in place are working and no other department members have been positive to date. Chief Gordon said he is currently updating everyone on the process. The department has spent a lot of time on Order #3 concerning occupancy limits in businesses that was introduced by the Governor, although today that order was overturned. The outbuilding is complete and everything has been moved in. The Enbridge equipment is in response mode now in the station and it is impressive. Chief Gordon said the union is looking to change their shift from 24 on, 48 off, to 48 on, 96 off. They have requested a trial period, and Chief Gordon has been working with labor management on an MOU that will allow this to happen since it is currently mid-contract.

Chief Alexander said that the police department has had a greater exposure of COVID, a total of seven officers have tested positive for COVID. Chief Alexander noted that we are adhering to the governor and mayor's orders, as well as more strict internal orders within the department. We're trying to restrict the number of officers in the building at any given time to keep everyone safe. So far we've been able to fill the vacancies created by these cases. Chief Alexander told Commissioners that there has been recent promotions, and we have also made four conditional officers to individuals who will attend recruit school beginning in January. Chief Alexander noted that three of these candidates are female, so that's exciting for the department. Chief Alexander spoke about an uptick in violence in recent months. It's difficult to tell if these are COVID related. Chief Alexander told the Commissioners while there have been a few positive COVID cases in the Douglas County Jail, he said that our exposure with jail staff is fairly limited because they are not accepting most non-violent offense arrested individuals, so we are not bringing many people there. Therefore we haven't been able to link any of our exposures to that activity.

No Action

6. Letter from Chief Gordon; completion of probationary period, Steve Miner

Motion by Commissioner Hendrickson, seconded by Commissioner McEntyre and carried to approve the letter from Chief Gordon, completion of probationary period, Steve Miner.

7. Letter from Chief Gordon; completion of probationary period, Camron Vollbrecht

Motion by Commissioner Hendrickson, seconded by Commissioner McEntyre and carried to approve the letter from Chief Gordon, completion of probationary period, Camron Vollbrecht.

8. Letter from Chief Alexander; completion of probationary periods, Matthew Swanson, Austin Lauridsen

Motion by Commissioner Hendrickson, seconded by Commissioner McEntyre and carried to approve the letter from Chief Alexander, completion of probationary period, Matthew Swanson.

Motion by Commissioner Hendrickson, seconded by Commissioner McEntyre and carried to approve the letter from Chief Alexander, completion of probationary period Austin Lauridsen.

9. Letter from Chief Alexander; promotions, Joel Markon, Christopher Woolery

Motion by Commissioner Hendrickson, seconded by Commissioner McEntyre and carried to receive and file the letter from Chief Alexander, promotion of Joel Markon.

Motion by Commissioner Hendrickson, seconded by Commissioner McEntyre and carried to receive and file the letter from Chief Alexander, promotion of Christopher Woolery.

10. Letter from Chief Alexander; promotion, Matthew Brown

Motion by Commissioner Hendrickson, seconded by Commissioner McEntyre and carried to receive and file the letter from Chief Alexander, promotion of Matthew Brown.

11. Approve updated Police Officer certified hire list

Motion by Commissioner McEntyre, seconded by Commissioner Hendrickson and carried to approve the updated Police Officer certified hire list.

12. Update on Firefighter testing process

No action

13. Review PFC rules related to how the Commission receives correspondence and the process for an individual filing a complaint

Motion by Commissioner Hendrickson, seconded by Commissioner McEntyre and carried to table agenda item 13 until the next meeting.

Motion by Commissioner McEntyre, seconded by Commissioner Hendrickson and carried to adjourn at 6:32 p.m.

*Submitted by: Donna Swanson
Recording Secretary*