

BLOOMINGTON BOARD OF PUBLIC SAFETY

The Bloomington Board of Public Safety held a Regular Session on **Tuesday, June 20, 2023, at 6:00 p.m.**, in the McCloskey Room, Room 135, City of Bloomington located at 401 N. Morton Street, Bloomington, Indiana.

CALL TO ORDER

Board President Kim Gray called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Board Members Rachel Guglielmo, Natalia Galvan, and Isak Asare Nti were present.

Board Member Shruti Rana was not present.

Also in attendance were Deputy Mayor Mary Catherine Carmichael, Board Secretary Ashley Sparks, Fire Chief Jason Moore, Fire Deputy Chief Jayme Washel, Fire Assistant Chief Tania Daffron, Police Chief Michael Diekhoff, Police Captain Myrick Williams, Police Captain Ryan Pedigo, Police Deputy Chief Scott Oldham and Assistant City Attorney Christopher Wheeler (ZOOM). Members of the Public, including Fire Captain Max Litwin and Firefighter 1st Class Josh Blackwell were also present. See sign-in sheet for full list of attendees.

CERTIFICATION OF EXECUTIVE SESSION

Board President Kim Gray certified the executive session held earlier that evening.

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES

Board Member Isak Nti Asare moved to approve the meeting minutes from the May 16, 2023, regular session. Board Member Natalia Galvan seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously by roll call vote, 4-0.

VERBAL CERTIFICATION OF PAYROLL

Police Chief Michael Diekhoff and Fire Chief Jason Moore both affirmed the payroll claims for May 21, May 19, and June 2, all in the year of 2023.

POLICE DEPARTMENT BUSINESS

Report on Monthly Statistics, Training and Incident Reports:

Police Deputy Chief Scott Oldham presented the monthly statistics and training. Board Member Natalia Galvan commented on the consistency between the statistics and the cycle that has been developing. Police Deputy Chief Scott Oldham answered.

Board Member Isak Nti Asare asked about reasons for the rise in crime. Police Deputy Chief Scott Oldham answered.

Board Member Rachel Guglielmo asked if the suspect from the reported armed robbery had been identified. Police Deputy Chief Scott Oldham answered.

Board Member Rachel Guglielmo asked about the armed robbery and the shooting from the prior day in regards to available resources in tracking the origination point of the weapon's seller. Police Deputy Chief Scott Oldham answered.

Board Member Rachel Guglielmo asked if there was a penalty for the seller of the gun if it is used in a crime. Police Deputy Chief Scott Oldham answered.

Board Member Isak Nti Asare asked for clarification on statistics. Police Deputy Chief Scott Oldham answered.

Letters of Appreciation and Commendation:

Police Deputy Chief Scott Oldham spoke on one Letter of Appreciation.

Police Deputy Chief Scott Oldham spoke on the nomination of several officers for the Mental Health Champions Award.

Police Deputy Chief Scott Oldham spoke on the award presented to Sergeant Amy Romoser. Board Member Isak Nti Asare commended Sergeant Romoser on her accomplishments.

General Business:

Police Chief Michael Diekhoff passed out taser report and presented on the contents. Board President Kim Gray asked if there are current policies surrounding the use of tasers. Police Chief Michael Diekhoff answered.

Police Chief Michael Diekhoff requested the board review the policies and provide timely feedback on implementing tasers in the department. Board Member Isak Nti Asare asked if the provided policy was the same as the policy implemented months ago. Police Chief Michael Diekhoff answered.

Board President Kim Gray asked when the policy is desired to be put in place. Police Chief Michael Diekhoff answered.

Board Member Natalia Galvan requested confirmation that the requested feedback on the taser policies should be submitted by July. Police Chief Michael Diekhoff answered.

Board President Kim Gray asked what the impetus was for this taser policy. Police Chief Michael Diekhoff answered.

Board Member Natalia Galvan asked what departments currently carry tasers. Police Chief Michael Diekhoff answered.

Board Member Isak Nti Asare asked about the tasers in relation to the budget. Police Chief Michael Diekhoff answered.

Board Member Natalia Galvan asked additional budget questions regarding the tasers in regards to fiscal year and agency responsible. Police Chief Michael Diekhoff answered.

Purchases: Expenditures/Procurements:

Police Deputy Chief Scott Oldham spoke on expenditures, including equipment for vehicles.

Personnel:

Police Chief Michael Diekhoff spoke on 21 openings within the department and the lack of response to position openings.

Board Member Isak Nti Asare asked why there are fewer candidates interested in joining the Department. Police Chief Michael Diekhoff answered.

Board Member Isak Nti Asare asked if the housing incentive is needing reassessed. Police Chief Michael Diekhoff answered.

Board Member Natalia Galvan asked about Governor Holcomb's raise in wages for police. Police Chief Michael Diekhoff answered.

Board Member Natalia Galvan asked when negotiations start for police salaries. Police Deputy Chief Scott Oldham answered.

Board Member Natalia Galvan expressed concern at the staffing issues the Department is facing. Police Chief Michael Diekhoff responded.

Board President Kim Gray and Board Member Natalia Galvan commented on officer's getting tired.

Board President Kim Gray asked if the Department has a Plan B regarding staffing. Police Chief Michael Diekhoff answered.

Board Member Isak Nti Asare commented on the recruiting efforts of other departments surrounding Monroe County. Police Chief Michael Diekhoff responded.

Board President Kim Gray asked if there were time restrictions on addressing salary/benefit disparities. Police Chief Michael Diekhoff answered.

Board President Kim Gray asked if corrections prior to the two year contract end date were allowed. Police Chief Michael Diekhoff answered.

CIRT/ARV REPORT

Police Deputy Chief Scott Oldham presented CIRT Deployment Report. There was one deployment this month for a person who was a known violent offender in conjunction with a search warrant for felony drug possession.

FIRE DEPARTMENT BUSINESS

Report on Monthly Statistics, Training and Incident Reports:

Fire Chief Jason Moore presented the monthly statistics.

Board President Kim Gray asked if there is a way to look at statistics in trend format. Fire Chief Jason Moore answered.

Board President Kim Gray commented on the efficiency of the new reporting program. Fire Chief Moore responded.

Board Member Natalia Galvan commented on the increased effectiveness of the Mobile Integrated Healthcare system.

Board Member Member Natalia Galvan commended the Department on the great work they've done in the Mobile Integrated Healthcare system.

Letters of Appreciation and Commendation:

Fire Chief Jason Moore presented two letters of appreciation.

Board Member Natalia Galvan thanked the officers present in the meeting for their work.

General Business:

Fire Chief Jason Moore spoke on the progress being made on station renovations at Stations 1 and 3.

Board President Kim Gray asked if there will be a groundbreaking ceremony for Station 3. Fire Chief Jason Moore answered.

Fire Chief Jason Moore spoke on the efforts the Department is putting forth to be "nicer neighbors" to those residing near fire stations.

Purchases: Expenditures/Procurements:

Fire Deputy Chief Jayme Washel spoke on a \$20,000 payment for new masks and thermal imaging cameras.

Fire Deputy Chief Jayme Washel spoke on a \$30,000 payment for the Station 1 remodel.

Fire Deputy Chief Jayme Washel spoke on a pension payment that will be coming for the recruits.

Fire Deputy Chief Jayme Washel spoke on a \$52,000 payment for 2 new vehicles to be used in the Mobile Integrated Healthcare program.

Personnel:

The promotion of Joshua Blackwell to the rank of Captain was voted on by Roll Call Vote. Board Member Isak Nti Asare made the motion to promote, Board Member Natalia Galvan seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously with a Roll Call Vote 4-0.

The reinstatement of firefighter Jaime Hodges was voted on by Roll Call Vote. Board Member Isak Nti Asare made the motion to promote, Board Member Natalia Galvan seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously with a Roll Call Vote 4-0.

Board President Kim Gray and Board Member Natalia Galvan voiced their congratulations.

Fire Chief Jason Moore informed the Board of the Mayoral Appointment of Max Litwin to Fire Captain.

Board President Kim Gray, Board Member Natalia Galvan, Board Member Isak Nti Asare, and Board Member Rachel Guglielmo congratulate Fire Captain Max Litwin.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business presented.

NEW BUSINESS

Assistant Mayor Mary Catherine Carmichael presented a Proclamation to Fire Deputy Chief Jayme Washel.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 6:51 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ashley Sparks, Recording Secretary
Board of Public Safety

The minutes of the May 16, 2023 Board of Public Safety Meeting were approved this 18th day of July, 2023.




