

## **BLOOMINGTON BOARD OF PUBLIC SAFETY**

The Bloomington Board of Public Safety held a Regular Session on **Tuesday, August 15, 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 6:06 p.m. Board Members Rachel Guglielmo, Natalia Galvan, Shruti Rana and Isak Asare Nti were present.

Also in attendance were Interim Fire Deputy Chief Max Litwin, Fire Assistant Chief Tania Daffron, Fire Chief Jason Moore, Police Captain Myrick Williams, Police Captain Ryan Pedigo, Police Deputy Chief Scott Oldham, Police Sergeant Joseph Henry, Police Chief Michael Diekhoff, Assistant City Attorney Christopher Wheeler, City Attorney Mike Rouker, and Board Secretary Ashley Sparks. See sign-in sheet for full list of attendees.

### **APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES**

Board Member Isak Nti Asare moved to approve the meeting minutes from the July 18, 2023, regular session. Board Member Natalia Galvan seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously, 5-0.

### **VERBAL CERTIFICATION OF PAYROLL**

Police Chief Michael Diekhoff and Fire Chief Jason Moore both affirmed the payroll claims for July 18, 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 Rachel Guglielmo commented on the rise in call volume versus decrease in overall comparison of crime from the years 2021 to 2023. Police Deputy Chief Oldham answered.

Police Chief Michael Diekhoff commented on an additional community engagement event at Fairview Elementary School for a Welcome Back presentation.

#### **Letters of Appreciation/Commendation:**

Police Deputy Chief Scott Oldham presented one letter of commendation.

#### **General Business:**

Police Chief Michael Diekhoff presented General Business matters, including budget preparations and the anticipation of programs for temporary part-time employees to assist with downtown issues to relieve stress from all public safety 911 calls.

Board President Kim Gray asked if the Department was working with Devta Kidd. Police Chief Michael Diekhoff answered.

Board Member Natalia Galvan asked if Police Social Workers have alleviated the need for officers to go beyond the call of duty, for example buying supplies for families in crisis situations. Police Chief Michael Diekhoff answered.

#### Purchases: Expenditures/Procurements:

Police Chief Michael Diekhoff confirmed that there were no upcoming purchases or expenditures.

#### Personnel:

Police Chief Michael Diekhoff stated that there are currently 21 openings for officers, 2 officers out on extended sick or light duty status, 2 in the FTO program, 2 applicants graduating on August 18 from the Police Academy, 2 applicants awaiting the medical portion of the hiring process, and still have openings for Community Service Specialist and Social Worker positions in dispatch.

Board Member Natalia Galvan asked if the 4 applicants that are getting ready to join the Department brings the number of open positions to 17 or if the 21 openings include those individuals. Police Chief Diekhoff answered.

Board Member Isak Nti Asare made a motion to approve the promotion of Detective Joseph Henry to the rank of Sergeant. Board Member Natalia Galvan seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously, 5-0.

Board Member Rachel Guglielmo made a motion to approve the conditional hiring of applicant Taylor Walden. Board Member Isak Nti Asare seconded the motion. Board Member Natalia Galvan commented on the great write up for the hiring memo. Board Member Isak Nti Asare commented on Ms. Walden's stated research of departments throughout the State of Indiana and her choice to work in Bloomington and would like to hear the story. Motion passed unanimously, 5-0.

Board Member Isak Nti Asare made a motion to approve the conditional hiring of applicant Solomon Morris. Board Member Natalia Galvan seconded the motion. Board Member Natalia Galvan commented on the great write up for the hiring memo. Motion passed unanimously, 5-0.

Board Member Isak Nti Asare made a motion to issue a Notice of Intent to Terminate Employment due to Incapacity to Lieutenant John Kovach. Board Member Natalia Galvan seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously, 5-0.

#### CIRT/ARV REPORT

Police Chief Michael Diekhoff discussed one CIRT/ATV Deployments for this reporting period, a request for assistance in Greene County.

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**FIRE DEPARTMENT BUSINESS****Report on Monthly Statistics, Training and Incident Reports:**

Fire Chief Jason Moore presented the monthly statistics.

Board Member Isak Nti Asare asked if the MIH is the only unit looking at the groups of super users for solutions. Fire Chief Jason Moore answered.

Board Member Shruti Rana asked questions about reading the new heat map graphic. Fire Chief Jason Moore answered.

Board Member Isak Nti Asare asked about alternatives to alleviate issues of call volume, such as ways to mitigate pressures on already taxed departments. Fire Chief Jason Moore responded.

Board Member Shruti Rana asked about the volume of IU Fire calls and whether those calls are included in this map next to Kroger and IU. Fire Chief Jason Moore responded.

Board Member Isak Nti Asare asked why the total number of fires on the Response Time/Goals (1<sup>st</sup> Arriving) is smaller than the first slide graphic for Response Times. Fire Chief Jason Moore responded.

Board Member Isak Nti Asare commented on the helpfulness of the new graphics.

Board Member Isak Nti Asare asked if we have seen any declines over time or improvement in the yellow area of the charts. Fire Chief Jason Moore responded.

Fire Chief Jason Moore thanked the Sanitation Department for their assistance in cleaning human waste from the home of a patient for MIH.

**General Business:**

Fire Chief Jason Moore discussed bond projects and station renovation updates for Stations 1 and 3.

Fire Chief Jason Moore indicated adjustments made to the Station 1 design.

Fire Chief Jason Moore indicated that all renovations have completed the design process, 75% of construction documents are completed, and groundbreaking is expected in the September or October range, due to the need to extend bids on the projects.

Fire Chief Jason Moore indicated that Station 3 has completed the conceptual design stage.

Fire Chief Jason Moore indicated that all renovations are expected to come in under budget.

**Purchases: Expenditures/Procurements:**

Fire Chief Jason Moore indicated that this is the heavy season for purchases and commented on the new process for invoicing the purchases.

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Fire Chief Jason Moore indicated larger purchases for uniforms, badges, and gear for the new recruit class.

Fire Chief Jason Moore indicated that there is a purchase for \$134,000 for an air cart to bring breathing air to the scene, which was ordered in 2021 and just arrived.

Personnel:

Fire Chief Jason Moore indicated that the Department is now 97% staffed, with 3 firefighter positions and 1 chauffeur position still vacant.

Fire Chief Jason Moore discussed the new ability to over-hire, allowing the Department to train new recruits prior to known departures of existing employees to prevent the Department from getting behind in staffing again.

Board President Kim Gray asked if the over-hire process will be a permanent allowance or if it is only temporary. Fire Chief Jason Moore answered.

Board Member Natalia Galvan commented on the hard work of both the Police and Fire Departments while being so understaffed. Fire Chief Jason Moore responded.

**OLD BUSINESS**

There was no old business presented.

**NEW BUSINESS**

There was no new business presented.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Nejla Routsong and Sophia Gloria Amos addressed the Board on behalf of the Community Advisory on Public Safety (CAPS), requesting support for the creation of a new Department of Community Safety and Resilience, which would report to the Mayor and be overseen by the CAPS Commission and providing expected statistics that would improve the call volume currently affecting the Police and Fire Departments.

Board President Kim Gray thanked Ms. Routsong and Ms. Amos for their presentation and commentary.

Board Member Isak Nti Asare asked how to find the qualitative and quantitative data for the research presented. Ms. Routsong responded.

**ADJOURNMENT**

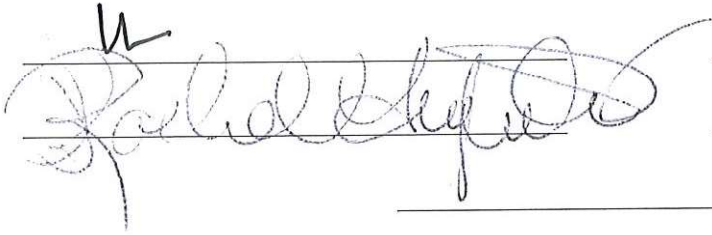
Meeting adjourned at 6:44 p.m.

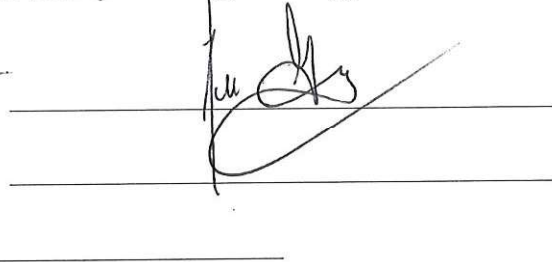
Respectfully submitted,

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Ashley Sparks, Recording Secretary  
Board of Public Safety

The minutes of the August 15, 2023 Board of Public Safety Meeting were approved this 19<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2023.

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A smaller, cursive handwritten signature in black ink, written over a horizontal line. The signature is also stylized but appears to be the name of the Recording Secretary.