

BLOOMINGTON BOARD OF PUBLIC SAFETY

The Bloomington Board of Public Safety held a Regular Session on **Tuesday, September 19, 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 and Natalia Galvan were present.

Also in attendance were Interim Fire Deputy Chief Max Litwin, Fire Chief Jason Moore, Police Deputy Chief Scott Oldham, Assistant City Attorney Christopher Wheeler, and Board Secretary Ashley Sparks. See sign-in sheet for full list of attendees.

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES

Board Member Natalia Galvan moved to approve the meeting minutes from the August 15, 2023, regular session. Board Member Rachel Guglielmo seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously, 3-0.

VERBAL CERTIFICATION OF PAYROLL

Police Deputy Chief Scott Oldham and Fire Chief Jason Moore both affirmed the payroll claims for August 11, August 25, and September 6, 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 asked if the rise in service calls was projected. Police Deputy Chief Oldham answered.

Board Member Rachel Guglielmo asked if other police departments in Indiana are experiencing similar increases in service call volume. Police Deputy Chief Scott Oldham answered.

Board Member Natalia Galvan asked if the Monroe County Sheriff and Indiana State Police help with service calls. Police Deputy Chief Scott Oldham answered.

Board President Kim Gray asked if there was a hypothesis regarding the reason(s) for the rise in service call volume. Police Deputy Chief Scott Oldham answered.

Board President Kim Gray asked if the police department tracks calls between Bloomington residents and tourists. Police Deputy Chief Scott Oldham answered.

Board Member Natalia Galvan asked if there was an increase after IU classes commenced. Police Deputy Chief Scott Oldham answered.

Board President Kim Gray asked if the increase in call volume fed into the budget requests for 2024. Police Deputy Chief Scott Oldham answered.

Board Member Rachel Guglielmo asked if the call volume has had a practical impact on the Department's ability to answer or respond to calls. Police Deputy Chief Scott Oldham answered.

Board Member Natalia Galvan asked if noise complaints always get addressed. Police Deputy Chief Scott Oldham answered.

Board Member Natalia Galvan commented on the likeliness of officers being tired. Police Deputy Chief Scott Oldham responded.

Board President Kim Gray asked if citizens were worried about homeless or other people holding signs on sidewalks. Police Deputy Chief Scott Oldham responded.

Board President Kim Gray asked if some of the calls could be used as educational opportunities with the public regarding the Constitutional rights of people. Police Deputy Chief Scott Oldham answered.

Board President Kim Gray commented that some of the crime statistic categories are down and yet the totals are at a 40% increase. Police Deputy Chief Scott Oldham responded.

Board President Kim Gray commented on her interest to see month to month statistics for each year to track. Police Deputy Chief Scott Oldham responded.

Board Member Natalia Galvan asked if the rape/forcible sex offenses were people on dates or strangers. Police Deputy Chief Scott Oldham answered.

Board Member Natalia Galvan asked if a lot of the statistics were IU adjacent. Police Deputy Chief Scott Oldham answered.

Board Member Natalia Galvan informed the Board of public safety funds available for educational opportunities. Police Deputy Chief Scott Oldham responded.

Board President Kim Gray asked what organization was providing public safety funds. Board Member Natalia Galvan responded.

Board Member Rachel Guglielmo asked if traffic stops were part of the reason call volume had increased. Police Deputy Chief Scott Oldham answered.

Board President Kim Gray commented that the violent crime statistics being shown were not reflecting the full year yet. Police Deputy Chief Scott Oldham answered.

Board President Kim Gray asked if there have been a lot of public intoxication arrests. Police Deputy Chief Scott Oldham answered.

Board President Kim Gray asked what Moyer is. Police Deputy Chief Scott Oldham answered.

Board President Kim Gray asked how long the Department has been utilizing Moyer. Police Deputy Chief Scott Oldham answered.

Board Member Natalia Galvan asked if Zoom meetings count for community engagement hours or opportunities for officers. Police Deputy Chief Scott Oldham answered.

Board Member Natalia Galvan commented that counting Zoom meetings for community engagement hours might help with grants.

Board President Kim Gray asked if the Citizens Police Academy is to take place at headquarters. Police Deputy Chief Scott Oldham answered.

Board President Kim Gray asked if Project Lifesaver was a free resource. Police Deputy Chief Scott Oldham answered.

Letters of Appreciation/Commendation:

None.

General Business:

None.

Purchases: Expenditures/Procurements:

Police Deputy Chief Scott Oldham stated that there are still vehicle purchases coming through and a Taser purchase order will be coming soon.

Board President Kim Gray asked if vehicle purchases were being done by patch work. Police Deputy Chief Scott Oldham answered.

Board Member Natalia Galvan asked if officers have take-home cars. Police Deputy Chief Scott Oldham answered.

Board Member Natalia Galvan commented that there is a big difference between a pool car and a take-home car. Police Deputy Chief Scott Oldham responded.

Board Member Natalia Galvan asked if the new vehicle usage system is working well for officers. Police Deputy Chief Scott Oldham answered.

Board Member Natalia Galvan asked what could be done to help get the staffing issue under control. Police Deputy Chief Scott Oldham answered.

Board Member Natalia Galvan asked how the Police Academy was doing. Police Deputy Chief Scott Oldham answered.

Board Member Natalia Galvan asked if there were not as many people pursuing a career in law enforcement. Police Deputy Chief Scott Oldham answered.

Board Member Natalia Galvan asked if the infrastructure was good with the current car policy. Police Deputy Chief Scott Oldham answered.

Board Member Natalia Galvan asked when Tasers would be operational. Police Deputy Chief Scott Oldham answered.

Board Member Natalia Galvan asked if Tasers have already been ordered. Police Deputy Chief Scott Oldham answered.

Personnel:

Police Deputy Chief Scott Oldham stated that there are currently 21 vacancies, 4 officers on sick leave, 2 in the Academy, and 4 on FTO, leaving 74 officers actively working.

Board Member Rachel Guglielmo asked if there was only 1 officer involved in the open hiring process. Police Deputy Chief Scott Oldham answered.

CIRT/ARV REPORT

None.

FIRE DEPARTMENT BUSINESS

Report on Monthly Statistics, Training and Incident Reports:

Fire Chief Jason Moore presented the monthly statistics.

Board Member Natalia Galvan asked for examples of MIH referrals. Fire Chief Jason Moore answered.

Board Member Natalia Galvan asked for information on referring people of concern. Fire Chief Jason Moore answered.

General Business:

Fire Chief Jason Moore indicated that the Showers West project is in the conceptual design phase.

Fire Chief Jason Moore indicated that the bid documents for Station 1 will be out soon.

Board Member Natalia Galvan asked for clarification on the location of Station 1. Fire Chief Jason Moore responded.

Board President Kim Gray asked for information on the changes in design for Station 1. Fire Chief Jason Moore responded.

Board Member Natalia Galvan asked for an expected completion timeline for Station 1. Fire Chief Jason Moore responded.

Board Member Natalia Galvan asked if Station 1 would house the same number of crew members as it did prior to the flood damage. Fire Chief Jason Moore answered.

Board Member Natalia Galvan asked if Station 1 will look like the fire station on the west side of town. Fire Chief Jason Moore answered.

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

Board Member Natalia Galvan asked for clarification on the location of Station 3. Fire Chief Jason Moore responded.

Board President Kim Gray asked about IU's involvement in the land ownership of Station 3. Fire Chief Jason Moore responded.

Board President Kim Gray asked if site surveys and environmental reports were for a location near the solid waste management. Fire Chief Jason Moore answered.

Fire Chief Jason Moore indicated that there will be upcoming public engagement opportunities.

Board President Kim Gray asked if the Department gets feedback from the neighboring residents for all stations. Fire Chief Jason Moore answered.

Fire Chief Jason Moore indicated that Interim Fire Deputy Chief Max Litwin is fully online with his responsibilities and is ready to move forward with projects temporarily halted.

Purchases: Expenditures/Procurements:

Interim Fire Deputy Chief Max Litwin indicated that there are no large purchases in August.

Fire Chief Jason Moore indicated that there would be several purchases in the near future, including the payment to engineers for Station 1.

Board President Kim Gray asked if the Department was utilizing local engineers for Station 1. Fire Chief Jason Moore answered.

Personnel:

Fire Chief Jason Moore indicated that there are 10 firefighters in training and 1 recent resignation, leaving the Department down 5 employees.

Fire Chief Jason Moore discussed known departures from the Department in the near future, prompting another hiring process in the first or second quarter of 2024.

Board Member Rachel Guglielmo asked if the upcoming hiring process was to help recover from expected retirements. Fire Chief Jason Moore answered.

Board President Kim Gray asked for an update on the firefighter who had not passed the test and was trying again. Fire Chief Jason Moore responded.

Fire Chief Jason Moore indicated that there are 2 employees out on paid family leave.

Board President Kim Gray asked if paid family leave was a new process. Fire Chief Jason Moore answered.

Board President Kim Gray asked if Interim Fire Deputy Chief Max Litwin is currently holding 2 positions. Interim Fire Deputy Chief Max Litwin and Fire Chief Jason Moore both responded.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business presented.

NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business presented.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 6:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ashley Sparks, Recording Secretary
Board of Public Safety

The minutes of the September 19, 2023 Board of Public Safety Meeting were approved this 17th day of October, 2023.





