

BLOOMINGTON BOARD OF PUBLIC SAFETY

The Bloomington Board of Public Safety held a Regular Session on **Tuesday, April 16, 2024 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 Barbara McKinney called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Board Members Maquè Reese, and Philip Amerson were present in person. Board Member Jon Barada was absent.

Also in attendance were Fire Chief Roger Kerr, Fire Deputy Chief Max Litwin, Police Chief Michael Diekhoff, Police Captain Ryan Pedigo, Assistant City Attorney Christopher Wheeler, Assistant City Attorney Enedina Kassamanian, and Legal Administrative Assistant Ashley Sparks. See sign-in sheet for full list of attendees.

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES

Board Member Maquè Reese made a motion to approve the minutes from the March 19, 2024 meeting. Board Member Philip Amerson seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously, 3-0.

VERBAL CERTIFICATION OF PAYROLL

Police Captain Ryan Pedigo and Fire Chief Roger Kerr both affirmed the payroll claims for March 22 and April 5, both in the year of 2024.

POLICE DEPARTMENT BUSINESS

Report on Monthly Statistics, Training and Incident Reports:

Police Captain Ryan Pedigo presented the monthly statistics and training. Police Chief Michael Diekhoff added additional information throughout the presentation regarding training courses currently underway and upcoming community engagement activities.

Board President Barbara McKinney asked if this hate crime reporting period held the reported homicides of 2 unhoued individuals. Police Captain Ryan Pedigo responded that one of the homicides was in December and one was in 2024.

Board Member Reese asked if there are opportunities for graduate students studying social work to get involved in the Police Social Worker program. Police Chief Michael Diekhoff responded that, while PSWs are required to have a Master's level education, there are internship opportunities.

Letters of Appreciation/Commendation:

Police Captain Ryan Pedigo presented an email string showing appreciation from the Mayor and Deputy Mayor for the increased presence of officers at City Hall following a tense Council meeting. Police Captain Ryan Pedigo also presented an email from the Deputy Chief of IUPD, thanking the Department for covering emergency calls during a protest on campus.

Board Member Maquabè Reese asked if there were community assessments occurring following the recent influx in racially charged events. Police Chief Michael Diekhoff stated that the police department does not do the research. Police Captain Ryan Pedigo stated that the Department does analyze data surrounding the incidents, even if they do not initiate or conduct research. Additional discussion surrounding the topic was held between Board members.

General Business:

Police Chief Michael Diekhoff spoke of the recent and upcoming events that have affected and will affect hours worked by officers, including the solar eclipse, Little 500 race, and a concert on campus. Discussion was held regarding the volume of visitors for the total solar eclipse and concert versus the anticipated volume.

Purchases: Expenditures/Procurements:

Police Chief Michael Diekhoff discussed the purchase of computer replacements.

Personnel:

Police Captain Ryan Pedigo indicated that the Department has 1 officer pending Academy graduation and the start of field training, 1 in Phase Four of field training, 2 certified officers joining the Department from other areas, and 6 candidates currently in the hiring process. This brings the total number of sworn officers to 87 out of the 105 authorized to employ.

Police Captain Ryan Pedigo informed the Board of National Public Safety Tele-Communicators Week and encouraged thank-you notes for Dispatch personnel to be sent to him for distribution.

Police Chief Michael Diekhoff informed the Board of the cancellation of the \$100k housing incentive program for police and fire personnel announced by Mayor Hamilton in February 2023.

Board Member Maquabè Reese asked what impact the housing incentive program's cancellation will have on candidates wanting to come to Bloomington for police and fire departments. Police Chief Michael Diekhoff explained there were more applicants and employees interested in the rental assistance program, which is still in effect, than the down payment assistance.

CIRT/ARV REPORT

Police Chief Michael Diekhoff indicated no deployments of the CIRT vehicle.

FIRE DEPARTMENT BUSINESS

Report on Monthly Statistics, Training and Incident Reports:

Fire Deputy Chief Max Litwin presented the monthly statistics.

Fire Deputy Chief Max Litwin presented 2 letters of appreciation.

General Business:

Fire Deputy Chief Max Litwin indicated that the Department is getting ready for the Little 5 race.

Board Member Philip Amerson asked if the changes to the Safe Streets and Roads program will affect response times. Police Captain Ryan Pedigo and Fire Chief Roger Kerr both indicated the possibility of delayed response times, as well as a working relationship with Engineering to discuss the mechanics of maneuvering emergency vehicles. Police Chief Michael Diekhoff discussed the section in front of Duke Energy on West 2nd Street being a particular issue when the hospital was located nearby.

Purchases: Expenditures/Procurements:

Fire Deputy Chief Max Litwin indicated a significant amount of turnout gear that will be purchased and then refunded via insurance claim. The currently owned gear was significantly damaged in a fire.

Personnel:

Fire Deputy Chief Max Litwin indicated that there are 3 vacancies after the new recruits swear in in May, leaving 4 vacancies for the Department, 2 employees on long term medical leave, and interviews currently underway for an Assistant Chief of Operations. There is also an open hiring process posted this month which will close in May.

Board Member Maqubè Reese asked for a clarification on the number of vacancies. Fire Deputy Chief Max Litwin indicated that the 4 vacancies are after the new recruits begin later this month. Fire Chief Roger Kerr stated that this number does not include any MIH vacancies.

Assistant City Attorney Christopher Wheeler read the Board of Public Safety Resolution 2024-03, which indicated the appointment of Interim Fire Chief Roger Kerr to the position of Fire Chief. Board Member Philip Amerson moved to adopt the resolution. Board Member Maqubè Reese seconded the motion, asking how the Board can further support the departments for which it serves. Fire Chief Roger Kerr indicated the availability of station visits and ride-alongs. The motion to officially adopt Resolution 2024-03 passed unanimously with a vote of 3-0.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business presented.

NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business presented.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

ADJOURNMENT

Board Member Barbara McKinney adjourned the meeting at 6:38 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ashley Sparks, Recording Secretary
Board of Public Safety

The minutes of the April 16, 2024 Board of Public Safety Meeting were approved this 18th day of June, 2024.



