
BLOOMINGTON BOARD OF PUBLIC SAFETY

The Bloomington Board of Public Safety held a Regular Meeting on **Tuesday, April 21st, 2020, at 6:00 p.m.**, Teleconference/Virtual Meeting.

CALL TO ORDER

Board member Susan Yoon called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Other Board members present were: Maqubé Reese, Kim Gray, Luis Fuentes-Rohwer and Rafi Hasan.

Board member Susan Yoon announces that at the start of the meeting they will have a moment of silence for fallen Indianapolis Officer Breann Leath at the request of board member Maqubé Reese.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Board members unanimously approve minutes from February 18, 2020 through a roll-call vote by board recording secretary, Nikki Mosier.

POLICE DEPARTMENT BUSINESS

Vote on Promotion Candidate:

Captain Joseph Qualters requests that Officer Matt Lucas be promoted from Officer First Class to Senior Patrol Officer effective March 23 and that it be applied retroactively because the March meeting was canceled.

Board member Rafi Hasan inquires if the request being implemented retroactively impacts the officer's pay, to which Captain Joseph Qualters states that it will provide a pay increase and allow for it to be from the March date onward.

Board members unanimously approve the promotion of Officer Matt Lucas to Senior Patrol Officer with the status being retroactively applied to March 23, 2020. The vote was completed through a roll-call vote by board recording secretary, Nikki Mosier.

Report on Monthly Statistics, Training and Incident Reports:

Captain Joseph Qualters reviews new monthly statistics and training saying that there is an overall decline in the number of cases but anecdotally seemed to be an increase in disturbances, domestic batteries and mental health crisis calls during the shutdown. Some trainings were changed due to COVID-19. COVID-19 had a significant impact on the community engagement events and the ability to have some.

Letters of Appreciation and Commendation:

Captain Joseph Qualters announces there was a letter of appreciation for Officer Nolan Penter from a citizen who did a ride along with Officer Penter and had a great experience.

General Business:

Police Chief Michael Diekhoff states the department is roughly down 30 percent on calls for service. He states it seems like there are more domestics and robberies but those calls seem more prevalent in the absence of other calls. He states there is success in solving those robberies.

Police Chief Michael Diekhoff describes changes during COVID-19 such as increasing online and phone reports, officers wearing masks when entering a small space, and officers not going to the station unless necessary.

Board member Rafi Hasan asks about hate crimes or discrimination against Asians or Asian-Americans in the community. He also inquired if there was something that could be on the BPD Facebook page to explain what victims of bias or hate incidents can do to report those incidents.

Police Chief Michael Diekhoff addresses his concerns and offers to put something on the website on how to report that.

Board member Maqubé Reese asks about people protesting the stay at home order in Bloomington and the police involvement in that.

Police Chief Michael Diekhoff addresses her concerns.

Purchases: Expenditures/Procurements:

Police Chief Michael Diekhoff states he is not sure of timing but that there are some large ones for the building project for the evidence storage facility.

Personnel Issues:

Police Chief Michael Diekhoff states they have eight openings and that they had their first virtual swear-in of an officer who is already certified through the academy. Police Chief Michael Diekhoff states there are three they are wanting to hire.

Resolution 20-01: Extending the one year probationary period for the Bloomington Police Department due to the ongoing public health emergency:

City Attorney Mike Rouker states that with COVID-19 the Indiana Law Enforcement Academy (ILEA) has closed down and that the resolution extends the probationary status for officers until they can complete the academy and the FTO program.

Board member Susan Yoon inquires about the open-ended nature of the resolution.

City Attorney Mike Rouker addresses her concerns.

Police Chief Michael Diekhoff states that the state has extended that requirement from within one year of hiring to within two years.

Board members unanimously approve Resolution 20-01 through a roll-call vote by board recording secretary, Nikki Mosier.

CIRT/ARV Deployment Report:

There was no CIRT/ARV deployment.

FIRE DEPARTMENT BUSINESS

Report on Monthly Statistics, Training and Incident Reports:

Fire Chief Jason Moore states they have had an increase in calls, particularly fires, which are related to people being home. He states inspections are down and that the department is only doing emergency inspections.

Fire Chief Jason Moore states that they have moved to online platform.

Letters of Appreciation and Commendation:

There are none to report at this time.

General Business:

Fire Chief Jason Moore states that they have five probationary fire fighters in training.

Board member Maqubé Reese thanks firefighters for support for Monroe County food train

Purchases: Expenditures/Procurement:

Fire Chief Jason Moore states there has been about \$25,000 for Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) due to COVID-19. He states they have held off on the other large expenditures for the moment. He states there will be some for new apparatus for about \$540,000 for a new engine and \$1.5 million for another aerial.

Personnel Issues:

Board member Susan Yoon requests an amendment to the agenda to allow for the board to promote some probationary fire fighters to the rank of first class.

Board members unanimously approve the amendment to the agenda through a roll-call vote by board recording secretary, Nikki Mosier.

Fire Chief Jason Moore recommends Bill Abram for promotion from probationary fire fighter to the rank of first class, effective April 21, 2020.

Board members unanimously approve the promotion of Bill Abram through a roll-call vote by board recording secretary, Nikki Mosier.

Fire Chief Jason Moore recommends Logan Deck for promotion from probationary fire fighter to the rank of first class, effective April 21, 2020.

Board members unanimously approve the promotion of Logan Deck through a roll-call vote by board recording secretary, Nikki Mosier.

Fire Chief Jason Moore recommends Jaime Hodges for promotion from probationary fire fighter to the rank of first class, effective April 21, 2020.

Board members unanimously approve the promotion of Jaime Hodges through a roll-call vote by board recording secretary, Nikki Mosier.

Fire Chief Jason Moore recommends Shaun Huttenlocker for promotion from probationary fire fighter to the rank of first class, effective April 21, 2020.

Board members unanimously approve the promotion of Shaun Huttenlocker through a roll-call vote by board recording secretary, Nikki Mosier.

Fire Chief Jason Moore recommends Kody Waggoner for promotion from probationary fire fighter to the rank of first class, effective April 21, 2020.

Board members unanimously approve the promotion of Kody Waggoner through a roll-call vote by board recording secretary, Nikki Mosier.

Fire Chief Jason Moore states that they have two firefighters on light duty and two openings as well as five probationary firefighters in training.

OLD BUSINESS

There were no items under Old Business.

NEW BUSINESS

Verbal Certification of Payroll:

Fire Chief Jason Moore states that fire payroll is correct.

Police Chief Michael Diekhoff states that police payroll is correct.

PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS

Board recording secretary Nikki Mosier states there are no public comments.

CONDITIONAL OFFER OF EMPLOYMENT

Police Captain Ryan Pedigo requests an addendum to the agenda so he can offer the conditional offer of employment to three applicants.

Board member Susan Yoon requests the agenda be amended to consider the conditional offers of employment.

Board members unanimously approve request to amend the agenda through a roll-call vote by board recording secretary, Nikki Mosier.

Police Captain Ryan Pedigo requests the ability to extend a conditional offer of employment of Javier Charlier, effective April 7, 2020.

Board members unanimously approve request to extend a conditional offer of employment effective April 7, 2020 for Javier Charlier through a roll-call vote by board recording secretary, Nikki Mosier.

Police Captain Ryan Pedigo requests the ability to extend a conditional offer of employment of Elijah Britton, effective April 7, 2020.

Board members unanimously approve request to extend a conditional offer of employment effective April 7, 2020 for Elijah Britton through a roll-call vote by board recording secretary, Nikki Mosier.

Police Captain Ryan Pedigo requests the ability to extend a conditional offer of employment of Jonathan Hoppe, effective April 7, 2020.

Board members unanimously approve request to extend a conditional offer of employment effective April 7, 2020 for Jonathan Hoppe through a roll-call vote by board recording secretary, Nikki Mosier.

ADJOURNMENT

Board member Kim Gray made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Meeting adjourned at 7:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Nicole DeCriscio Bowe, Recording Secretary
Board of Public Safety

The minutes of the April 21st, 2020 Board of Public Safety Meeting were approved this 19th day of May, 2020.

