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## **BLOOMINGTON BOARD OF PUBLIC SAFETY**

The Bloomington Board of Public Safety held a Regular Session on **Wednesday, September 16th, 2020, at 6:00 p.m.**, Teleconference/Virtual Meeting.

### **CALL TO ORDER**

Board president Susan Yoon called the meeting to order at approximately 6:02 p.m.. Other Board members present were: Kim Gray, Luis Fuentes-Rohwer and Rafi Hasan. Board member Maqubé Reese was not present.

Members of the public throughout the meeting included: Cathi Crabtree, Molly S. Stewart and Heather Lake.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Board members unanimously approved the minutes from August 18, 2020 through a roll-call vote by board recording secretary, Nikki Mosier. The motion was made by board member Kim Gray and seconded by Luis Fuentes-Rohwer.

### **FIRE DEPARTMENT BUSINESS**

#### **Report on Monthly Statistics, Training and Incident Reports:**

Fire Chief Jason Moore gave a report on the monthly statistics.

#### **Letters of Appreciation and Commendation:**

Chief Jason Moore said there were none that he knew of.

#### **General Business and Personnel Issues:**

Fire Chief Jason Moore said they are moving into their new lease space. He then updated them about the replacement fire engine.

Board member Rafi Hasan asked if the City of Bloomington had been asked to help with wildfires out west.

Chief Jason Moore said the only deployable team they belong to is Indiana Task Force One. He said their firefighters are not certified for that level of wildland firefighting. That agreement is for up to 10 percent of the department for a state level or national level emergency as long as they are certified for it.

#### **Purchases: Expenditures/Procurements:**

Chief Moore said the new engine will be around \$600,000. He said for the lease space there will be around \$20,000 for the lease space. He then said there is about \$70,000 for 25 sets of gear. Finally he

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said that they should see about \$4,000 for testing, which will be reimbursed by those who took the test unless they had a fiscal impact waiver.

Personnel:

Chief Jason Moore said they are currently down four positions. He then updated the board on the hiring process. He said they had 222 applicants to start with and 105 of those applicants that tested. He said the initial diversity numbers for that group was at about 17 percent and that the current diversity for those still in the applicant pool is 16.7 percent. He said test results are expected within the next two weeks. He also anticipates starting a new recruit school by March.

Board member Luis Fuentes-Rohwer asked about the ranking system, and Fire Chief Jason Moore explained the process some.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Verbal Certification of Payroll:

Police Chief Mike Diekhoff stated that the police payroll is correct.

Fire Chief Jason Moore stated that the fire payroll is correct.

**POLICE DEPARTMENT BUSINESS**

New Hire Candidate:

Captain Scott Oldham requested that the board move forward with approving the hire of Franklin Jake Yost.

Board member Luis Fuentes-Rohwer inquired about current staffing levels.

Chief Mike Diekhoff said that they are currently down 10 individuals.

Board members unanimously approved moving forward with the hiring process for Franklin Jake Yost through a roll-call vote by board recording secretary, Nikki Mosier. The motion was made by board member Kim Gray and seconded by Rafi Hasan. Board member Maqubé Reese abstained from the vote.

Board recording secretary Nikki Mosier added that board member Maqubé Reese had joined the meeting.

Report on Monthly Statistics, Training and Incident Reports:

Chief Mike Diekhoff presented on the monthly statistics and an update on the Stride Center, which is a crisis diversion center.

Letters of Appreciation and Commendation:

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Chief Mike Diekhoff said there was one from July and another from a young person who wanted to thank officers for what they do. He said there was an email that commended officer Andrew Dawson for an investigation that he did.

Board member Maqubé Reese said that the chief came to talk to people at the NAACP and commended him on that.

Board member Luis Fuentes-Rohwer also commended a police officer who spoke at the national Latin X Heritage Month Kickoff.

#### General Business:

Chief Mike Diekhoff said he was going to talk about the NAACP meeting. He said it is something he is willing to do for different groups and that all they have to do is ask.

#### Purchases: Expenditures/Procurements:

Chief Mike Diekhoff said there might still be one more for the storage building.

Captain Scott Oldham said that they will start to see some trickle through for vehicle replacements.

#### Personnel Issues:

Chief Mike Diekhoff said they have three getting ready to start in October.

Board member Luis Fuentes-Rohwer asked about the piece that was published in the IDS (Indiana Daily Student) about police officers wearing masks.

Chief Mike Diekhoff said that they bought all of their officers masks. He then proceeded to address the concern.

Board member Luis Fuentes-Rohwer then asked about the use of no-knock warrants.

Chief Mike Diekhoff said they have been done in the past in high risk situations that mostly involve violent felons. He said that it is a misnomer because they do still have to knock and announce themselves. He said they are rare and require additional approval. He said most of the time they have the CIRT team serve them. He said that they take every precaution to make sure that there is no one in harm's way. He said they do a lot of surveillance before serving those warrants. He then addressed how the situation in Louisville is not one that would happen in Bloomington.

#### CIRT/ARV Deployment Report:

There was no CIRT/ARV deployment.

### **PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS**

Molly Stewart wanted to comment on the student interfering with police regarding the mask issue.

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**ADDITIONAL POLICE BUSINESS****Pillar of 21<sup>st</sup> Century Policing Report**

Captain Scott Oldham went through the fourth pillar of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Policing initiative, specifically community policing.

Board member Rafi Hasan asked what the three most pressing public safety concerns in the community are right now.

Chief Mike Diekhoff said that violent crimes and gun crimes are a top pressing concern for them.

Board member Rafi Hasan then asked about how the community and the police can work together given COVID to reduce violent crime.

Chief Mike Diekhoff said he had reached out to a couple of different organizations at the beginning of the year. He said a lot of those crimes occur behind closed doors. He listed several examples of partnerships that he had been working to start.

Captain Scott Oldham said that COVID has been a challenge but that it has also introduced some things that they had never used before.

Board member Rafi Hasan then added some comments.

Board member Maqubé Reese asked about what happened when the officers found the suicide homicide incident from a mental health standpoint.

Chief Mike Diekhoff said they do critical incident debriefings. He said there is the police social worker as well as a police chaplain and other services contracted out of Indianapolis.

Captain Scott Oldham said that they also have a peer monitoring system.

**PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS**

Heather Lake submitted a comment in the chat function that Board Recording Secretary Nikki Mosier read out loud. The comment was about the conditions of the jail and COVID 19 conditions and procedures.

City Attorney Mike Rouker responded. He noted that the jail is under the jurisdiction of the Monroe County Government. He suggested going to a county commissioners meeting or the county council.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Board member Rafi Hasan made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

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

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**The minutes of the September 16th, 2020 Board of Public Safety Meeting were approved this 21st day of October, 2020.**

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