

CITY OF LAWRENCE
Police Merit Commission
January 9, 2023
Regular Meeting

MEMBERS PRESENT: Charles Wheeler, Gail Gartin, Karen Horth Powers, and Ronald Christensen were present

MEMBERS BY MICROSOFT TEAMS: Bob Hendrickson

ALSO PRESENT: Clerk Kathleen Walton

STAFF PRESENT: Police Chief Woodruff, Captain Schneider, and Lieutenant Evans

STAFF BY MICROSOFT TEAMS: None

Commission President Wheeler called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and announced a quorum was present.

COMMENTS OF COMMISSION MEMBERS: None

ELECTION OF OFFICERS: The election of President of the Police Merit Commission was opened for nominations. Mrs. Gartin nominated Charles Wheeler for President. Mr. Wheeler three times called for any additional nominations. Mr. Wheeler closed nominations for President. Thereupon, Mr. Wheeler, as the only nominee, was elected unanimously by acclamation.

The election of Vice President of the Police Merit Commission was opened for nominations. Ms. Powers nominated Gail Gartin for Vice President. Commission President Wheeler three times called for any additional nominations. Mr. Wheeler closed nominations for Vice President. Thereupon, Mrs. Gartin, as the only nominee, was elected unanimously by acclamation.

The election of Secretary of the Police Merit Commission was opened for nominations. Mrs. Gartin nominated Ms. Karen Horth Powers for Secretary. Commission President Wheeler three times called for any additional nominations. Mr. Wheeler closed nominations for Secretary. Thereupon, Ms. Powers, as the only nominee, was elected unanimously by acclamation.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Mr. Christensen moved to approve the minutes of the regular meeting on December 12, 2022. The motion was seconded by Ms. Powers. By a roll call vote, the motion carried 5-0.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS: Captain Schneider requested approval of the 2022 (Session 1) hiring process eligibility list. There are 4 applicants on the eligibility list. Ms. Powers moved to approve the request. The motion was seconded by Mr. Christensen. By a roll call vote, the motion carried 5-0.

Captain Schneider requested approval to provide conditional offers of employment to applicants having the highest score (in order) and is still of "good character". Mrs. Gartin moved to approve the request. The motion was seconded by Mr. Christensen. By a roll call vote, the motion carried 5-0.

Captain Schneider requested approval of those applicants passing an updated background investigation and passing all requirements of the INPRS 1977 Fund, become probationary officers to fill 4 of 8 vacancies within the Department. Mr. Christensen moved to approve the request. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Gartin. By a roll call vote, the motion carried 5-0.

PERFORMANCE RECOGNITION: None

ADMINISTRATION COMMENTS: Police Chief Woodruff congratulated the officers of the Police Merit Commission on their elections. He said they are accepting application for the hiring process. They can be submitted on the website: joinlawrencepd.com.

CITIZEN COMMENTS: None

Mr. Wheeler said there will be a special meeting of the Police Merit Commission on January 30, 2023, at 6pm for agenda items for the hiring process. The February 13, 2023, regular meeting will be cancelled.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business to come before the Commission, the meeting was adjourned at 6:21 p.m., by the unanimous vote of the Commission.

Charles Wheeler, President

Kathleen Walton, City Clerk

These minutes are not intended to be verbatim. They are a summary of discussions held, except for the motions. An audiotape is made which provides a detailed record.