

CITY OF LAWRENCE
Police Merit Commission
March 13, 2023
Regular Meeting

MEMBERS PRESENT: Charles Wheeler, Gail Gartin, and Ronald Christensen

MEMBERS PRESENT BY MICROSOFT TEAMS: Bob Hendrickson, and Karen Horth Powers

ALSO PRESENT: Clerk Kathleen Walton

STAFF PRESENT: Police Chief Woodruff, Chief of Staff Hofmann, Captain Steele, Sergeant Raftery and Officer Sharp

STAFF BY MICROSOFT TEAMS: None

Commission President Wheeler called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. and announced a quorum was present.

COMMENTS OF COMMISSION MEMBERS: None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Mrs. Gartin moved to approve the minutes of the special meeting on January 30, 2023. The motion was seconded by Mr. Christensen. By a roll call vote, the motion carried 5-0.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS: Police Chief Woodruff requested approval of the 2023 (Session 2) hiring process 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.

Police Chief Woodruff 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.

Police Chief Woodruff requested approval of those applicants passing an updated background investigation and passing all requirements of the INPRS 1977 Fund, become probationary officers to fill 1 of 7 vacancies within the Department. Mr. Christensen moved to approve the request. The motion was seconded by Ms. Powers. By a roll call vote, the motion carried 5-0.

Police Chief Woodruff recommends the promotion of certified Candidate ID # 0622 (Sergeant Timothy Christie) to the rank of Lieutenant effective March 19, 2023. Mrs. Gartin moved to promote Sergeant Timothy Christie to the rank of Lieutenant. Mr. Christensen seconded the motion. By a roll call vote, the motion carried 5-0.

Police Chief Woodruff recommends the promotion of certified Candidate ID # 1717 (Sergeant Brandon Raftery) to the rank of Lieutenant effective March 19, 2023. Ms. Powers moved to promote Sergeant Brandon Raftery to the rank of Lieutenant. Mrs. Gartin seconded the motion. By a roll call vote, the motion carried 5-0.

Police Chief Woodruff requested to certify the top three (3) candidates with the highest scores for Sergeant: Candidate ID #0532, Candidate ID #0529, and Candidate ID #0443. Mr. Christensen moved to certify the candidates with the 3 highest scores for Sergeant. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Gartin and carried 5-0 by a roll call vote.

Police Chief Woodruff recommends the promotion of certified Candidate ID # 0443 (Officer Matthew Weber) to the rank of Sergeant effective March 19, 2023. Mr. Christensen moved to promote Officer Matthew Weber to the rank of Sergeant. Mrs. Gartin seconded the motion. By a roll call vote, the motion carried 5-0.

Police Chief Woodruff requested to certify the top three (3) candidates with the highest scores for Sergeant: Candidate ID #0532, Candidate ID #0529, and Candidate ID #0240. Mr. Christensen moved to certify the candidates with the 3 highest scores for Sergeant. The motion was seconded by Ms. Powers and carried 5-0 by a roll call vote.

Police Chief Woodruff recommends the promotion of certified Candidate ID # 0240 (Officer Stuart Bishop) to the rank of Sergeant effective March 19, 2023. Ms. Powers moved to promote Officer Stuart Bishop to the rank of Sergeant. Mrs. Gartin seconded the motion. By a roll call vote, the motion carried 5-0

Police Chief Woodruff requested to certify the top three (3) candidates with the highest scores for Sergeant: Candidate ID #0532, Candidate ID #0529, and Candidate ID #0371. Mr. Christensen moved to certify the candidates with the 3 highest scores for Sergeant. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Gartin and carried 5-0 by a roll call vote.

Police Chief Woodruff recommends the promotion of certified Candidate ID # 0371 (Officer Aaron Clegg) to the rank of Sergeant effective March 19, 2023. Mrs. Gartin moved to promote Officer Aaron Clegg to the rank of Sergeant. Ms. Powers seconded the motion. By a roll call vote, the motion carried 5-0

PERFORMANCE RECOGNITION: Police Chief Woodruff recognized Lieutenant Raftery and Office Sharp, the FOP president and vice president, for their efforts in planning for last Friday's FOP recognition and retirees banquet. This included not only the preparations for such an event but also the preparation of awards that were presented. Besides these two individuals, several other members of the department assisted in many of the details and in recognizing the achievements of their peers over the past year. All this work was accomplished in addition to their regular duties.

ADMINISTRATION COMMENTS: Police Chief Woodruff also announced that the department is accepting applications for new police officers at joinlawrencepd.com. Interested individuals can learn more about the Lawrence Police Department and the competitive benefits available by going to that website.

CITIZEN COMMENTS: None

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ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business to come before the Commission, the meeting was adjourned at 7:05 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.