

**CITY OF LAWRENCE**  
**Police Merit Commission**  
**September 18, 2023**  
**Public Assembly Room**  
**Special Meeting**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Charles Wheeler, Gail Gartin, Bob Hendrickson, and Ronald Christensen were present

MEMBERS BY MICROSOFT TEAMS: None

MEMBERS ABSENT: Karen Horth Powers

ALSO PRESENT: Clerk Kathleen Walton

STAFF PRESENT: Deputy Chief of Police Schneider, Deputy Chief of Police Cline, and Lieutenant Evans

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: Mr. Christensen moved to approve the minutes of the regular meeting on July 10, 2023. The motion was seconded by Mr. Hendrickson, and it carried 4-0.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS: Deputy Chief of Police Cline requested the Police Merit Commission to allow Lieutenant Scott Evans to be the acting agent for the 2023-04 hiring process. Mrs. Gartin moved to approve the request. The motion was seconded by Mr. Christensen, and it carried 4-0.

Lieutenant Evans filed the results of the written examination with a level 3 CSEM (70%). Nine candidates will proceed to the oral interview minimum passing standards. Zero candidates will be removed. Mr. Hendrickson moved to set the cut-off at 3 CSEM 70% for the minimum passing standard for the written exam. The motion was seconded by Mr. Christensen, and it carried 4-0.

Lieutenant Evans filed the Oral Interview results of acceptable or outstanding (100-60%) to determine the minimum passing standards. Eight candidates will proceed to the background phase and 1 candidate will be removed. Mrs. Gartin moved to accept acceptable or outstanding levels in the oral interview with a score of 100-60% for the minimum standard. The motion was seconded by Mr. Christensen, and it carried 4-0.

Lieutenant Evans discussed the recommended selection criteria for the 2023 hiring process – if applicable: Recommend giving 0.5 point for each section – these points will be added when determining the eligibility list. (weight given applicants based on IC 5-10-10-2 and IC 36-8-4-11), a war veteran; mother or father who was a firefighter of a unit, municipal police officer or county police officer, died in the line of duty (as defined in IC 5-10-10-2); a police officer, firefighter, county police officer or a full-time or part-time employee by a township to provide

fire protection and emergency services; who has been laid off (IC 36-8-4-11); and/ or a Tier 1 graduate from the Indiana Law Enforcement Academy (ILEA) from the basic law enforcement certification and maintained in-service training hours for the certification. Mr. Hendrickson moved to approve the selection criteria to add 0.5 points to the totals of applicants for specified categories. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Gartin, and it carried 4-0.

Lieutenant Evans requested that the designated professional service company be Fire and Police Selection, Inc. (FPSI) for both written exam and oral interview from 11-21-2023 until 365 days at the time of first written exam is administered. Mr. Christensen moved to approve the request. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Gartin, and it carried 4-0.

Lieutenant Evans requested the Police Aptitude and Character Test (PACT) be adopted as the aptitude test for 365 days at the time of first written exam is administered. Mr. Hendrickson moved to approve the request. The motion was seconded by Mr. Christensen, and it carried 4-0.

PERFORMANCE RECOGNITION: None

COMMENTS OF THE POLICE CHIEF: Deputy Chief of Police Schneider thanked the Commission for having this special meeting. Deputy Chief of Police Schneider said K-9 Chedo passed away on September 3, 2023. A memorial service was held September 14, 2023.

CITIZEN COMMENTS: None

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business to come before the Commission, the meeting was adjourned at 6:38 p.m., by the unanimous vote of the Commission.

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Charles Wheeler, President

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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.