

**MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF FIRE & POLICE COMMISSIONERS OF THE CITY OF BELVIDERE
HELD ON JULY 7, 2020 IN THE CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
OF THE BELVIDERE CITY HALL**

CALL TO ORDER: Commissioner Hunter called this Special Meeting of the Board of Fire and Police Commissioners to Order at 6:00 PM.

ROLL CALL: All Commissioners were personally and physically present in the meeting room. Commissioner Phillips arrived at approximately 6:12 PM. No Commissioner attended by electronic or remote methods. Also present was Board Counsel Roberta Holzwarth.

PUBLIC COMMENT: There was no Public Comment presented.

APPROVING OF THE MINUTES: No proposed Minutes of prior Meetings of the Board were distributed. By consensus, the Board decided to Postpone Consideration of these proposed Minutes until the next Board Meeting.

COMMUNICATIONS:

- A. *Bills Payable.* NONE
- B. *Police Chief's Report.* Police Chief Shane Woody made a short verbal report.
- C. *Fire Chief Report.* Fire Chief Al Hyser made a short verbal report.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: NONE.

[Commissioner Phillips arrives].

NEW BUSINESS:

- (A) *Police – Review of medical exam for Recruit Lerch.*

The Board then reviewed the written report of the medical examination of Police Officer Candidate Jonathan Lerch. After some discussion, Commissioner Gonzalez made a verbal Motion Finding that Police Officer Candidate Jonathan Lerch had successfully passed the required Medical Examination. Commissioner Hunter verbally seconded this Motion. A Roll Call Vote was held with the following results:

Commissioner Phillips	Aye
Commissioner Gonzalez	Aye
Chair Hunter	Aye

Chair Hunter declared the Motion as Passed and Police Officer Candidate Jonathan Lerch has successfully passed the mandatory medical examination.

- (B) *Police – Review of psychological exam for Recruit Lerch.*

The Board then reviewed the written report of the psychological examination of Police Officer Candidate Jonathan Lerch. After some discussion, Commissioner Gonzalez made a verbal Motion Finding that Police Officer Candidate Jonathan Lerch had successfully passed the required Psychological Examination. Commissioner Hunter verbally seconded this Motion. A Roll Call Vote was held with the following results:

Commissioner Phillips	Aye
Commissioner Gonzalez	Aye
Chair Hunter	Aye

Chair Hunter declared the Motion as Passed and Police Officer Candidate Jonathan Lerch has successfully passed the mandatory psychological examination.

(C) *Police – Employment offer for Recruit Lerch.*

The Board then discussed that Police Officer Candidate Jonathan Lerch had successfully passed all of the mandatory tests in the Board's Rules and Regulations and is now eligible to be hired as a probationary Police Officer for the City of Belvidere. There being a current funded vacancy in the position of Police Officer for the City, Commissioner Gonzalez made a verbal Motion To Appoint Jonathan Lerch as a probationary Police Officer for the City of Belvidere, effective immediately. Commissioner Hunter verbally seconded this Motion. A Roll Call Vote was held with the following results:

Commissioner Phillips	Aye
Commissioner Gonzalez	Aye
Chair Hunter	Aye

Chair Hunter declared the Motion as Passed and Police Officer Candidate Johnathan Lerch is hereby appointed as a probationary Police Officer for the City of Belvidere.

(D) *Police – Discussion about creating a lateral list with Attorney Holzwarth.*

The Police Department wants to hire experienced police officers currently certified in Illinois without going through all of the mandatory testing procedures as required by the Board's Rules and Regulations. Many other Illinois municipalities currently allow for such "Lateral Hiring of Police Officers". After some discussion, the Board by consensus authorized Attorney Holzwarth to work with the Police Department and to draft a written proposal for such a Lateral Hiring Program and to present such written proposal to the Board at a future Board Meeting.

(E) *Fire – Review of psychological exam for Candidate Gunsteen.*

The Board Members then reviewed the written report o the Psychological Examination of Fire Officer Candidate Robert J. Gunsteen. After some discussion, Commissioner Gonzalez made a verbal Motion Finding that Fire Officer Candidate Robert J. Gunsteen had successfully passed the required Psychological Examination. Commissioner Phillips verbally seconded this Motion. A Roll Call Vote was held with the following results:

Commissioner Phillips Aye
Commissioner Gonzalez Aye
Chair Hunter Aye

Chair Hunter declared the Motion as Passed and Fire Officer Candidate Robert J. Gunsteen has successfully passed the mandatory psychological examination.

(F) Fire – Review and Approval of Fire Candidate Final Eligibility List.

The Board then reviewed the proposed Final Eligibility Register of Candidates to be originally hired as Fire Fighters for the City of Belvidere. Commissioner Gonzalez made a verbal Motion To Approve As Presented the Final Eligibility Register of Candidates to be originally hired as Fire Fighters for the City of Belvidere . Commissioner Phillips verbally seconded this Motion. A Roll Call Vote was held with the following results:

Commissioner Phillips Aye
Commissioner Gonzalez Aye
Chair Hunter Aye

Chair Hunter declared the Motion as Passed and the Final Eligibility Register of Candidates to be originally hired as Fire Fighters for the City of Belvidere is hereby approved.

OTHER BUSINESS: Fire Chief Hyser informed the Board that the current Final Eligibility Register of Candidates to be originally hired as Fire Fighters for the City of Belvidere expires on July 11, 2020 and thus will be then replaced by the new Final Eligibility Register as approved by the Board tonight. Employment physicals for candidates to be hired to fill vacancies will be conducted sometime between August 10th and August 13th (i.e., next month).

ADJOURNMENT:

Commissioner Gonzalez made a verbal Motion To Adjourn. Commissioner Phillips verbally seconded this Motion. A voice vote was held and Chair Hunter declared the Motion as Passed and the Meeting as adjourned. The Meeting adjourned at about 6:26 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Michael J. Phillips

Michael J. Phillips
Secretary of the Board of Fire and
Police Commissioners

APPROVED by Vote of the Board of Fire and Police Commissioners on April 1, 2020

