

**MINUTES OF A SPECIAL MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF FIRE & POLICE COMMISSIONERS
AS HELD ON JULY 31, 2023 AT 6:00 P.M.
IN THE BELVIDERE CITY HALL**

CALL TO ORDER: 6:00 PM

ROLL CALL: Commissioners John Hunter, Michael Phillips & Carlos Villareal appeared in person in the Meeting room. No Commissioner appeared through electronic means. Also present was the Fire Chief, the Police Chief, Deputy Police Chiefs Wallace and Smaha, and Police Detective Sergeant Michael Ball. There were no members of the public present.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

APPROVING OF THE MINUTES: None presented

COMMUNICATIONS:

A. Bills Payable. *NONE.*

B. Police Chief's Report. The Police Chief presented a short verbal report to the Board as to the current status of the Probationary Police Officers:

- (1) Probationary Police Officers Ochoa and Venegas will graduate from the Suburban Law Enforcement Academy ("SLEA") on August 18, 2023;
- (2) Probationary Police Officer Bendel will graduate from Police Training Institute ("PTI") on August 21, 2023; and
- (3) Probationary Police Officer Jonathan Hernandez remains in Step II of the Field Training Officer ("FTO") Program.

C. Fire Chief's Report. The Fire Chief made a short verbal Fire Chief Report as follows:

- (1) Firefighter Trujillo has failed the National Paramedics Test each time he has taken it even though the Fire Chief gave him an extra six months (beyond the four year period) to pass this required test. After his most recent failed test attempt, Firefighter Trujillo told the Fire Chief that he may resign as an employee of the Fire Department;
- (2) Tyler Schlaf, Candidate #12 on the Final Eligibility Register, has requested that at this time the Board "pass him over" and allow him to remain on the Final Eligibility Register;
- (3) Jason Jankowski, Candidate #3 on the Final Eligibility Register, does not currently possess a CPAT Card so he/she is not eligible to be hired;
- (4) Candidate #5 Luis Herrera currently works for the Aurora Fire Department;
- (5) Candidate #8 Sean Rushing has passed the Background Investigation and is awaiting the scheduling of the required Polygraph Examination; and
- (6) Two of the last three candidates who were considered asked to be passed over.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS:

A. Police – Approve Entry Level Candidate Psychological and Medical

The Board then reviewed the written Medical and Psychological Reports of Police Entry-Level Candidates Jesus Lara-Para and Ashley Hauser. Commissioner Phillips made a Motion To Find That Police Entry-Level Candidates Jesus Lara-Para and Ashley Hauser had successfully passed the Medical and Psychological Examination as required by the Board’s current Rules and Regulations. Commissioner Villareal verbally seconded that Motion. A Roll Call Vote was held with the following results:

Commissioner Phillips	Aye
Commissioner Villareal	Aye
Commissioner Hunter	Aye

Commissioner Hunter declared the Motion as Passed on a 3 – 0 Roll Call Vote and that Entry Level Police Candidates Jesus Lara-Para and Ashley Hauser have each successfully passed the required Medical and Psychological Examinations required by the Board’s current Rules and Regulations.

(B) Police – Waiver of Position on Entry Level Register.

The Police Chief announced that this situation had resolved itself without the need for Board action. The issue is thus moot. The Board thus took no action on this Agenda Item.

(C) Police – Appointment of entry level candidate as a Probationary Police Officer.

Commissioner Phillips verbally made a Motion To Appoint Jesus Lara-Para as a Probationary Police Officer for the City of Belvidere. Commissioner Hunter verbally seconded that Motion. A Roll Call Vote was held with the following results:

Commissioner Phillips	Aye
Commissioner Villareal	Aye
Commissioner Hunter	Aye

Commissioner Hunter declared the Motion as Passed on a 3 – 0 Roll Call Vote and Jesus Lara-Para is hereby appointed as a Probationary Police Officer for the City of Belvidere.

Commissioner Phillips verbally made a Motion To Appoint Ashley Hauser as a Probationary Police Officer for the City of Belvidere contingent on the approval of the Mayor of the City of Freeport (no current vacancy exists). Commissioner Villareal verbally seconded that Motion. A Roll Call Vote was held with the following results:

Commissioner Phillips	Aye
Commissioner Villareal	Aye
Commissioner Hunter	Aye

Commissioner Hunter declared the Motion as Passed on a 3 – 0 Roll Call Vote and Ashley Hauser is hereby appointed as a Probationary Police Officer for the City of Belvidere contingent upon the existence of a vacancy in the authorized ranks of Police Officer and contingent upon the approval of the Mayor of the City of Belvidere.

OTHER BUSINESS: NONE.

ADJOURNMENT: Commissioner Phillips made a verbal Motion to Adjourn the Meeting. Commissioner Villareal verbally seconded the Motion. A Voice Vote was held with Commissioner Hunter declared the Motion To Adjourn as Passed. The Meeting was adjourned at 6:42 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

/s/ Michael J. Phillips

Michael J. Phillips, Secretary

Minutes Approved by the Board on September 26, 2023.