

**MINUTES OF THE ZION BOARD OF FIRE & POLICE COMMISSIONERS  
MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2015, AT 5:37 P.M.  
IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS AT ZION CITY HALL  
ZION, ILLINOIS**

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Chairman Lewis called the meeting to order.

On call of the roll the following answered present: Commissioners White and Idleburg and Chairman Lewis.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A motion was made by Commissioner White, seconded by Chairman Lewis, to approve the minutes of a Zion Board of Fire & Police Commissioners meeting held on May 12, 2015. The vote on roll call was: Commissioner White, aye, Commissioner Idleburg, pass, and Chairman Lewis, aye. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Commissioner White, seconded by Chairman Lewis, to approve the minutes of a Zion Board of Fire & Police Commissioners special meeting held on June 25, 2015, and approval but not release of Closed Session minutes held on June 25, 2015. The vote on roll call was: Commissioner White, aye, Commissioner Idleburg, pass, and Chairman Lewis, aye. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Commissioner White, seconded by Commissioner Idleburg, to approve the minutes of a Zion Board of Fire & Police Commissioners meeting held on September 8, 2015. The vote on roll call was: Commissioner White, aye, Commissioner Idleburg, aye, and Chairman Lewis, pass. Motion carried.

**UPDATE/POLICE LIEUTENANT PROMOTIONAL TESTING**

Diane Burkemper stated that the Police Lieutenant promotional testing process is progressing on schedule. She stated that the oral board interviews are scheduled for Friday, October 23<sup>rd</sup>. Six candidates will participate. It was noted that no posting of scores will be done until the Initial Eligibility Register is prepared so as to keep the merit points assigned as confidential as possible. Ms. Burkemper stated that the final list is scheduled to be distributed on December 10, 2015.

**ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

A motion was made by Commissioner White, seconded by Commissioner Idleburg, that Debrah Lewis continue as Commission Chairman. The vote on roll call was: Commissioner White, aye, Commissioner Idleburg, aye, and Chairman Lewis, aye. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Commissioner White, seconded by Chairman Lewis, that John Idleburg be elected Commission Secretary. The vote on roll call was: Commissioner White, aye, Commissioner Idleburg, aye, and Chairman Lewis, aye. Motion carried.

**OTHER MATTERS**

Commissioner White stated that he would like to see the Commissioners participate in parades and special events in order to establish their presence in the community. He would like the Commissioners to be invited to attend the annual Police and Firefighter of the Year Awards dinner. He proposed that the Commissioners host an open house at the Police and Fire/Rescue Departments and suggested such an event be coordinated through the Chiefs.

Chairman Lewis welcomed Commissioner Idleburg to the Commission.

Diane Burkemper stated that once the Police Lieutenant Promotional testing process is completed in December 2015, the Commission will not engage in a testing process again until May 2016.

Diane Burkemper distributed an update from Attorney Bill Franks regarding the status of a FOIA request from Joshua Marshall, a 2015 original entry police officer candidate. Mr. Marshall made a FOIA request to the Commission on July 7, 2015. His request was denied on July 8, 2015, citing exemptions (140/7 (1) (f) & (j)). Mr. Marshall appealed the Commission's denial to the Attorney General's Office on July 31, 2015. On August 5, 2015 Zion received the appeal from the Attorney General's office, and Mr. Franks responded on August 18, 2015. The Attorney General's office then requested that the Commission send the documents withheld, which included the background investigation and the integrity interview form signed by the two voting Commissioners. The Attorney General's office then requested all documents that were used for the background check. All documents used by the Zion Police Department in preparing the background report were a series of e-mails provided by Mr. Marshall. Attorney Franks pointed this fact out to the Attorney General's Office, but they requested that the Commission should send them anyway, and Attorney Franks complied. The Attorney General's Office has now requested to waive the exemptions. Based on Attorney Franks' research on recent published opinions, it appears that the Commission will have to disclose the background report from the Zion Police Department, and possibly the signed integrity review sheets by the Commissioners. It was Attorney Franks' opinion that he is concerned that this trend will create a "chilling effect" on receiving any advice from other police departments or employers when doing a background check on an applicant. Attorney Franks will keep the Commission posted on this matter.

**ADJOURN**

There being no further business to come before the Board at this time, it was moved by Commissioner White, seconded by Commissioner Idleburg and unanimously approved the meeting be adjourned at 5:48 p.m. Motion carried.

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Diane Burkemper, Recording Secretary