

CITY OF ZION
BOARD OF FIRE AND POLICE COMMISSIONERS
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
FROM MEETING HELD ON OCTOBER 28, 2021

Opening Protocol

- Call to Order:
Charmain Lewis call the meeting to order at 5:35pm.

- Attendance:
Present were Charmain Lewis, Commissioner Idleburg. Also present were Police Chief Barden, via telephone were Attorney's Jimmy Vasselli and Mike and Recording Secretary Darlene Pickett. Not present Commissioner Long.

Police Original Entry List

Discussions were held regarding the Police Final Eligibility List. Recording Secretary Darlene Pickett reported 32 candidates out of 42 should be scheduled for oral interviews. There were 2 candidates removed from list who failed test, 7 candidates removed from list who did not take the written exam test (confirmed from Stanard 7 candidates did not take the written exam). Charmain Lewis asked about the preference points added to the remaining candidates. Recording Secretary Darlene Pickett stated that she solicited the preference point and several applicants claimed to use their preference points. Also, 70% of the score is from the written exam and 30% is from the oral interviews therefore the preference points will be added at the end of the process.

Chief Barden stated there should be a correction it's not the final list it's the initial list.

Commissioner Idleburg motioned to approve the Initial Eligibility List of 32 candidates and seconded by Chairman Lewis. Vote: Chairman Lewis aye; and Commissioner Idleburg aye.

After the vote, Chief Barden stated that this list shows the overall score written score only and it's not the composite score.

Oral Examinations for Police Original Entry

Recording Secretary Darlene Pickett discussed 32 Entry Police candidates must be scheduled for oral interviews. It was agreed that the oral interviews will take place on Thursday November 11th from 5:30pm - 9:00pm; Friday November 12th 5:30pm-9:00pm and November 13th from 11:30am to 1:00pm 2021.

Chief Barden requested to be apart of the oral examinations. Chairman Lewis stated normally in the past it was not done for the fireman and Chairman Lewis asked Commissioner Idleburg how he felt and Commissioner Idleburg stated we haven't in the past and we need to continue to be consistent. Chairman Lewis stated because this is short notice we can review it for in the future. It was discussed and decided by Chairman Lewis and Commissioner Idleburg that Chief Barden can share his opinion or information prior or afterwards to the interview and review applications. It was agreed that Chief Barden would inform the board if he has information of concern to share regarding a candidate. Chairman Lewis stated they will review in the

future if Chief can sit in on oral interviews. Chairman Lewis stated they had a bad experience with someone sitting in on oral interviews.

Chief Barden asked for the rules and regulations to be written clearer regarding participation during oral interviews because right now how the rules and regulations are written are silent regarding if someone can or cannot sit in during oral interviews.

Academy date January 9, 2021 so he needs approval to hire 2 from this list with intent for them to go to the academy. With the background checks, medical and psychological exam the oral interviews should be done soon.

Release of the Police Lieutenant Promotion candidates

Recording Secretary Darlene Pickett submitted the lieutenant promotion list. Also, preference points were solicited and responses to claim preference points are due from candidates on November 6, 2021.

A motion was made to release the initial lieutenant promotion list by Commissioner Idleburg and second by Chairman Lewis. Vote: Chairman Lewis aye; and Commissioner Idleburg aye.

Lateral Entry Transfer Policy-Police Department

Chief of Police Eric Barden stated he is down one candidate and closing the to finalize the lieutenant promotion process November 6, 2021 and would like to do it on a monthly basis and present applications to board for approval. Will start background check and next month with any additional applicants will be added to the police lateral list, provided they pass the background, with the intent to hire 3 candidates from the lateral list. There is one applicant from the area took job in Michigan city and wants to move closer to home because he misses his family and friends and he saw the job for Zion and applied for job. Chairman Lewis asked Chief Barden how short is now regarding the need to hire. Chief Barden down 3, 3 left lateral and one was replaced, one officer Jessie Clinton resigned because he decided this job was not for him. Two officers stated they plan to retire next year (2022) so he will be down five positions.

Adjourn

This meeting was adjourned at 5:50pm. This was motioned by Commissioner Long and seconded by Chairman Long.