

**MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF FIRE & POLICE COMMISSIONERS OF THE CITY OF BELVIDERE
HELD ON JUNE 24, 2021 IN THE CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
OF THE BELVIDERE CITY HALL**

CALL TO ORDER: Chair Hunter called this Special Meeting of the Board of Fire and Police Commissioners to Order at 6:05 P.M.

ROLL CALL: All Commissioners were personally and physically present in the meeting room. No Commissioner attended by electronic or remote methods. Police Chief Shane Woody was not personally present, but Deputy Police Chief Wallace and Deputy Police Chief Gardner represented the Police Department. The Fire Chief was not present. No members of the general public were present.

PUBLIC COMMENT: There was no Public Comment presented to be discussed at this Special Meeting.

READING OF THE MINUTES: There were no Minutes distributed for the Board's consideration and approval. By consensus, consideration of any Minutes was deferred to the next Board Meeting.

COMMUNICATIONS:

A. *Bills Payable.*

An Invoice #40316 for \$ 40.00 dated May 31, 2021 from Personnel Evaluation, Inc. for Administering two Pre-Employment Psychological Tests ("PEP Tests) to Candidates LaPointe and Rooney was presented for the Board's consideration. Commissioner Phillips made a verbal Motion To Pay this Invoice As Presented. Commissioner Gonzalez verbally seconded this Motion. A Roll Call Vote ensued with the following results:

Commissioner Gonzalez	Aye
Commissioner Phillips	Aye
Commissioner Hunter	Aye

Chair Hunter declared the Motion had passed and the Invoice was approved for payment.

An Invoice #299491 for \$ 933.75 from Holmstrom & Kennedy for legal services rendered at the Board's request was presented for the Board's consideration. Commissioner Phillips made a verbal Motion To Pay this Invoice As Presented. Commissioner Gonzalez verbally seconded this Motion. A Roll Call Vote ensued with the following results:

Commissioner Gonzalez	Aye
Commissioner Phillips	Aye
Commissioner Hunter	Aye

Chair Hunter declared the Motion had passed and the Invoice was approved for payment.

B. *Police Chief's Report.* Deputy Police Chief Matthew Wallace reported there was nothing new to report to the Commission.

C. *Fire Chief Report.* Fire Chief Al Hyser was not present so there was no report presented.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: NONE.

NEW BUSINESS:

(A) *Police – Amend Fire & Police Commission Rules – Lateral Eligibility.*

Commissioner Phillips made a verbal Motion To Amend Section 3.17 of the Rules of Regulations of the Board of Fire & Police Commissioners as to Lateral Eligibility for the Police Department. Commissioner Gonzalez verbally seconded this Motion. A Roll Call Vote ensued with the following results:

Commissioner Gonzalez	Aye
Commissioner Phillips	Aye
Commissioner Hunter	Aye

Chair Hunter declared the Motion had passed and the Rules of Regulations of the Board of Fire and Police Commissioners are hereby amended, effective ten (10) days after publication.

(B) *Police – Review Lateral Candidate Interviews.*

The Board then reviewed the written reports of the interviews of the Lateral Hiring Candidates as conducted by the Police Department.

(C) *Police – Request Approval/Removal of Officers to Lateral List.*

Commissioner Phillips made a verbal Motion To Find that the presented Lateral Candidates had successfully passed the Departmental Interview step of the Hiring Process as required by the Board's Rules and Regulations, as amended. Approve As Presented the Promotional Eligibility Register for the Belvidere Police Department. Commissioner Gonzalez verbally seconded this Motion. A Roll Call Vote ensued with the following results:

Commissioner Gonzalez	Aye
Commissioner Phillips	Aye
Commissioner Hunter	Aye

Chair Hunter declared the Motion had passed and the Lateral Hiring Candidates shall proceed to the next step of the Hiring Process as required by the Board's Rules and Regulations, as amended.

(D) Police – Review/Take Action on Backgrounds of Lateral Candidates. .

The Board then removed the written background reports on the three remaining Lateral Candidates: Dillon Rackley (Rockford PD), Steve Golden (Rockford PD) and Zachary Smith (Stone Park PD). Commissioner Gonzalez made a verbal Motion To Find that Lateral Candidate Dillon Rackley had successfully completed the Background Investigation step of the Hiring Process as required by the Board’s Rules and Regulations, as amended. Commissioner Hunter verbally seconded this Motion. A Roll Call Vote ensued with the following results:

Commissioner Gonzalez	Aye
Commissioner Phillips	Nay
Commissioner Hunter	Aye

Chair Hunter declared the Motion had passed and Lateral Candidate Dillon Rackley had successfully completed the required Background Investigation step as required by the Board’s Rules and Regulations as amended.

Commissioner Phillips made a verbal Motion To Find that Lateral Candidate Steve Golden had successfully completed the Background Investigation step of the Hiring Process as required by the Board’s Rules and Regulations, as amended. Commissioner Gonzalez verbally seconded this Motion. A Roll Call Vote ensued with the following results:

Commissioner Gonzalez	Aye
Commissioner Phillips	Aye
Commissioner Hunter	Aye

Chair Hunter declared the Motion had passed and Lateral Candidate Steve Golden had successfully completed the required Background Investigation step as required by the Board’s Rules and Regulations as amended.

Commissioner Phillips made a verbal Motion To Find that Lateral Candidate Zachary Smith had successfully completed the Background Investigation step of the Hiring Process as required by the Board’s Rules and Regulations, as amended. Commissioner Gonzalez verbally seconded this Motion. A Roll Call Vote ensued with the following results:

Commissioner Gonzalez	Aye
Commissioner Phillips	Aye
Commissioner Hunter	Aye

Chair Hunter declared the Motion had passed and Lateral Candidate Zachary Smith had successfully completed the required Background Investigation step as required by the Board’s Rules and Regulations as amended.

(E) Police – Approve Lateral Candidates for Polygraph Examination.

Commissioner Phillips made a verbal Motion To Invite all three Lateral Candidates to submit to a Polygraph Examination as required by the Board’s Rules and Regulations, as

amended. Commissioner Gonzalez verbally seconded this Motion. A Roll Call Vote ensued with the following results:

Commissioner Gonzalez	Aye
Commissioner Phillips	Aye
Commissioner Hunter	Aye

Chair Hunter declared the Motion had passed and Lateral Candidate Donald E. Stephens III is hereby removed from consideration to be appointed as a Police Officer.

OTHER BUSINESS:

(A) The Board, by consensus, scheduled a Special Meeting to be held on July 7 or 8, 2021 which will be determined after the return of Police Chief Woody to the City; and

(B) The Board then discussed whether to seek a legal opinion from its Board Counsel as to whether the Board’s Conditional Offer of Employment to Police Officer Candidate Sunette Winsler expires after six months. The Police Department is awaiting an available slot in a certified training academy for Ms. Winsler before the Board officially appoints her as a Police Officer for the City of Belvidere.

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 7:01 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Michael J. Phillips

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