



City of Rolling Meadows

Board of Fire and Police Commissioners

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City of Rolling Meadows Board of Fire & Police Commissioners

Minutes of Regular Meeting on October 10, 2022

Present: Tom Callard, John Loesch, Dave Walter, John Freese

Absent: Mary Sheahen

Also Present: Pete Sutter, Fire Chief; John Nowacki, Police Chief; John Sircher, Deputy Police Chief; Lisa Norton, Fire Department; Deb Austerlade, Administrative Assistant

Call to Order: Having established a quorum, Chairman Callard called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Approval of Minutes: Commissioner Walter made a motion to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting held on September 12, 2022, seconded by Commissioner Loesch. With no further discussion, a vote was taken. All in favor; motion carried.

Swearing in of New Commissioners: Welcome to John Freese.

Public Comment: None.

Communications: The Illinois Board of Fire & Police Commissioners will be holding a training seminar November 4 in Naperville. Chairman Callard explained the benefits of training and made suggestions on which training modules to take. Another training opportunity will be held on May 5 and 6, 2023, in Springfield.

Unfinished Business

Fire: Update on Fire Department Hiring – New firefighter/paramedic, Justin Kim, begins his career with the Rolling Meadows Fire Department on October 17.

Police: Certify Entry Level Police Officer Final Eligibility List – After the Commissioners had an opportunity to reviewed the Entry Level Police Officer Final Eligibility List, Commissioner Loesch made a motion to certify the list, seconded by Commissioner Walter. With no further discussion, a vote was taken. All were in favor of certifying the list. A copy of the list will be posted and sent to each of the candidates.

Select Dates for Interview for Lateral Hiring Process – Deputy Chief Sircher explained that the based on the number of advertisements he has seen posted on The Blue Line, lateral hiring is very competitive. We have received seven applications, and the cutoff date is October 15. Interviews will be held on November 1-3. While Commissioner Callard stated that a Commissioner is not required to participate in the lateral hiring process, he said he would like attend and extended an invitation to the other Commissioners to also attend.

New Business

Fire: Discuss Fire Department Testing – The current Entry Level Firefighter list expires on May 23, 2023, and Commissioner Callard urged Chief Sutter to begin considering whether or not modifications need to be made to our prerequisites to take the test, such as required training. Commissioner Loesch asked Chief Sutter if attendance at Entry Level Fire Department testing is also falling as it is for Police testing. Chief Sutter stated that Mount Prospect recently had 130 applicants take their test.

Chief Sutter stated he is also considering entering into a consortium with other departments for testing similar to what the Police Department is considering. Commissioner Callard suggested that we may want to consider testing soon since the number of viable candidates remaining on our current list are so few.

Police: Discuss participation in Entry Level testing Consortium with Northbrook, Niles, Roselle, Morton Grove and Park Ridge – Deputy Chief Sircher announced that the consortium will be conducting Entry Level Police Officer testing on January 7, 2023, and IO Solutions will be conducting the test. Applicants will not be charged a fee to apply, and the participating cities/villages will share in the cost of the test. It is anticipated that up to 200 people will take the test at that time.

Items Not on the Agenda: In light of a recent question that arose, Chief Nowacki clarified that Police Officer applicants must be under 35 years of age at the time of application. If they celebrate their 35th birthday anytime during the testing process, they are still eligible to be placed on the list; however, according to State law, if a candidate celebrates their 36th birthday before time of appointment, they are no longer considered a viable candidate and must be removed from our list.

Chief Sutter reported that the Fire Department Open House, which was held on Saturday, October 8, was one of the largest events ever held. Many visitors stopped by to learn about fire safety, see demonstrations and meet the Fire Department staff.

In discussing Agenda items for the November 14 meeting of the Board of Fire & Police Commissioners, it became apparent that a quorum will not be met. Subsequently, Commissioner Callard requested a motion to move the November 14, 2022, meeting to Tuesday, November 8, 2022. A motion made by Commissioner Loesch, seconded by Commissioner Walter. With no further discussion a vote was taken. All were in favor, and the motion carried.

Adjournment: Having no further business to discuss, Commissioner Loesch made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Walter. All in favor; motion carried. The meeting was

adjourned at 9:35 a.m. The next regularly scheduled meeting will be conducted on Tuesday, November 8, 2022, at 9 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by Deb Austerlade.



David Walter, Secretary
Board of Fire & Police Commissioners