

October 21, 2010

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Fire and Police Commissioners was held on the above date, commencing at 6:05 P.M.

PRESENT: Commissioners: Richard C. Cox, Chair
Carolina M. Stark
Kathryn A. Hein
Paoi X. Lor
Sarah W. Morgan
Michael M. O'Hear

ALSO PRESENT: Mark Rohlfig, Chief, Milwaukee Fire Department; and Joel Plant, Chief of Staff, representing the Milwaukee Police Department.

The Chair reconvened the Board in Regular Session, having previously met in Executive Session from 5:31 p.m. to 6:02 p.m. pursuant to Section 19.85 (1)(c) Wis. Stats. to consider employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation data of any public employee over whom the Board has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility, to wit: Promotion to Fire Dispatch Supervisor.

The Director presented for adoption minutes of the Regular Meeting of October 7, 2010. He noted at that meeting the Board approved Chief Rohlfig's request to reorganize the Fire Department. Commissioner Stark moved approval of the minutes as presented, seconded by Commissioner Lor. The motion carried unanimously.

1. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

a) The following promotion, as presented by Chief Rohlfig, was approved by the Board:

TO FIRE DISPATCH SUPERVISOR, from Fire Dispatcher, effective October 31, 2010:

MELISSA K. KRESSMER-JONES.

2. NEW BUSINESS:

a) The Director presented a letter dated October 18, 2010, from Budget and Management Director Mark Nicolini requesting a reduction in salary in the form of four furlough days for sworn management and all civilian positions in the Police Department, and management employees, non-Local 215 represented and non-represented personnel in the Fire Department. The proposed budget will be adopted by the Common Council on November 5th. It is unknown how many furlough days the Common Council will authorize until the budget is approved. Commissioner Stark asked if it was possible to approve up to four furlough days and who decides how many days are actually approved. The Director recommends approving up to four so the Board does not have to reconvene to amend their action taken. Commissioner O'Hear asked how many furlough days were approved last year. The Director stated that it varied by position and contract. Commissioner Morgan approved up to four furlough days, seconded by Commissioner Hein. The motion carried unanimously.

3. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

a) Commissioner Hein presented the report of the Committee on Testing and Recruiting. The Committee met on Tuesday, October 19th. The Police Department reported on the status of their recruit classes. Chief Flynn's request for a polygraph examination and the cost associated with implementation was discussed. Also the Police Telecommunicator job announcement bulletin was presented, and there was discussion about the difference between Seasonal and Regular appointments. An update on the Police Officer Physical Ability Test (PAT) was given. There was a 25% turn out for the PAT practice sessions which added to the

success of candidates passing the PAT. Commissioner Stark asked about the Police Aide recruiting efforts. Commissioner Hein stated that was not discussed at this meeting, but at the previous one they talked about where they were going to recruit and how to attract more minority and female applicants. Commissioner O'Hear asked about the polygraph examination. Commissioner Hein stated Chief Flynn submitted a letter requesting the addition of a polygraph for Police Officer and Police Aide testing. The Director stated the request has been resubmitted to the City Attorney's office for an opinion. Commissioner Hein suggested having a closed session to discuss the polygraph. Commissioner O'Hear asked if this was a policy decision that would come before the full Board. The Director stated this is something that needs the Board's approval before it can be enacted. A decision would need to be made relatively soon because the Police Officer testing process has already begun and a decision should be made before these candidates get to the background process.

4. EXAMINATIONS:

a) The Director presented for adoption an eligible list for the position of Police Buildings & Fleet Manager in the Police Department, consisting of 8 names. Commissioner Morgan moved approval of the list, seconded by Commissioner Lor. The motion carried unanimously.

5. FIRE DEPARTMENT:

a) The Director presented a letter dated October 4, 2010, from Chief Rohlfing, wherein he informs the Board that Probationer Firefighter John C. Przybylla has been terminated effective October 4, 2010.

b) The Director presented a letter dated October 4, 2010, from Chief Rohlfing, wherein he notifies the Board that Firefighter Anthony Guehlstorf returned from his unpaid military leave of absence effective October 1, 2010, granted on March 8, 2010.

c) The Director presented a letter dated October 8, 2010, from Chief Rohlfing, wherein he requests that Battalion Chief Gerard M. Washington serve as Acting Assistant Chief for more than 30 days until three permanent promotions are made to Assistant Chief. Commissioner Stark moved approval, seconded by Commissioner Hein. The motion carried unanimously.

6. POLICE DEPARTMENT:

a) The following appointments, as presented by Chief Flynn, were approved by the Board:

TO OFFICE ASSISTANT I, from a Department of Employee Relations eligible list, contingent upon successful completion of a medical examination and drug screening, with effective dates:

SAMANTHA PAIGE (11/15/2010); THEODORE CROSS (11/1/10); and ROBERTA ROBINSON (11/1/10).

b) The Director presented a letter dated October 13, 2010, from Chief Flynn, wherein he requests that the probationary period of Police Officer Bradley Tremblay be extended for a period of three months. Commissioner Morgan asked what the plan was for Officer Tremblay and how extending the probation period would help. Val Williams, Personnel Administrator of the Milwaukee Police Department stated she did not know the specifics of the plan, but that the work location was working with him to bring him to the level that he needs to be at. Commissioner O'Hear asked if the amount of time is typical. Ms. Williams stated it depends, but the work location determined three months would be sufficient time to bring him up to speed. Commissioner Stark asked if there has been any communication with Officer Tremblay about his probation extension. Ms. Williams responded Office Tremblay is aware of the request and received a copy of the letter sent to the Board. Commissioner O'Hear moved approval of the request, seconded by Commissioner Lor. The motion carried unanimously.

c) The Director presented a letter dated October 4, 2010, from Chief Flynn, wherein he notifies the Board that David Heard has been granted a one year extension to his leave of absence for the purpose of continuing to assume an exempt position as Community Relations Manager for the City of Milwaukee Fire and Police Commission. The leave shall expire November 14, 2011, and may be renewed upon request.

d) The Director presented a letter dated October 5, 2010, from Chief Flynn, wherein he notifies the Board that probationary Police Dispatcher Pamela Huff has been terminated under Personnel Order 2010-160 dated October 5, 2010.

7. PUBLIC COMMENT:

There was no comment made from the public present.

8. ADJOURNMENT:

Commissioner Stark moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Commissioner Lor. The motion carried unanimously.

The meeting concluded at 6:23 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael G. Tobin
Executive Director

MGT:mk