

POLICE & FIRE COMMISSION MEETING
March 23, 2021 at 5:00 p.m.

***Please note that due to the ongoing COVID-19 public health emergency, some or all members of this governing body may attend via telephone or internet. The City Council Chambers will be open to the public but limited to 10 attendees or less due to social distancing. (To access, use the lower level doors.)*

If you wish to watch the meeting, for your personal safety and the safety of our community, you are invited to do so from your home. You can see the meeting by visiting this link: <https://tinyurl.com/RFPFC32321>

NOTE: OFFICIAL ACTION MAY BE TAKEN ON ANY AGENDA ITEM

Agenda

Call Meeting to Order

Roll Call

Approval of Minutes: January 27, 2021 Regular Meeting

Police Department

- 1) Action on Removal from Probation for Officer Cody Tomlinson (effective March 31, 2021)

Adjournment

Posted: March 18, 2021 at 5:00 pm

POLICE & FIRE COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

January 27, 2021 @ 5:30 p.m.

River Falls City Hall
Foster Conference Room
222 Lewis Street
River Falls, WI

Commission Members Present: Mark Sams, Grant Hanson, Jon Longsdorf, Gary Donath

Staff Present: Gordon Young, Scott Nelson IT Specialist Jon Smits

Absent: Dick Rinehart

Police and Fire Commission President Mark Sams called the meeting to order at 5:36 PM in a virtual meeting format due to the Covid-9 pandemic. The Foster Conference Room was open for public to attend.

Approval of Minutes: Regular Meeting Minutes from December 9, 2020

MSC Donath/Hanson. Unanimous by roll call vote.

1) Authorization to end current Police Officer Eligibility List

Chief Young explained the current list was started in January of 2019. The list comprised of eight individuals; we have hired four candidates from that list. Chief is authorized to hire two candidates right away to replace the vacancy left by Officer Bryant Ekstrom last May and the upcoming retirement of Deputy Chief Aubart. The remaining candidates on our current list will be advised they can go through the process again. **MSC Longsdorf/Hanson to end current police officer eligibility list. Unanimous by roll call vote**

2) Authorization to create a new Police Officer Eligibility List

Chief Young has been working with Human Resources on creating a timeline for the hiring process. The application process would open on or around February 15 and be open for a month. Physical agility testing would take place at the end of March, with the written exam to follow. Interviews of the applicants would be in mid-April, with one Commissioner participating on the interview panel. **MSC Hanson/Donath to end current police officer eligibility list. Unanimous by roll call vote**

3) Authorization to create a new Police Sergeant Eligibility List

Chief Young explained a new police sergeant will be needed when a current sergeant is promoted to the Deputy Chief position. The Police Sergeant process would be posted internally in late March, with a two-week application timeline. The written exam to follow in mid-April. Interviews of the applicants would follow, with one Commissioner participating on the interview panel. **MSC Longsdorf/Hanson to create a new Police Sergeant Eligibility List. Unanimous by roll call vote**

4) Authorization to create a new Deputy Chief Eligibility List

Chief Young explained four of our five current patrol sergeants meet the criteria to apply for Deputy Chief so he is looking to promote from within the department to fill the position that will be open upon the retirement of Jon Aubart. His retirement date has not been officially announced; but he is expected to be in the late spring of 2021 after 28 years in law enforcement. The application announcement will be posted internally on or around February 8, with a two-week application period, with written exam and interviews to follow. **MSC Donath/Longsdorf to create a new Deputy Chief Eligibility List. Unanimous by roll call vote**

5) Fire Department Membership Update

Fire Chief Nelson shared up update to the volunteer roster at the Fire Department. He stated the organizational structure that was approved by the Commission in March of 2019 has been working well for the department.

Chief Nelson also stated he will be working with the city staff regarding a change in leadership at the Fire Department as he looks to retire within the next 12 months.

Adjournment: **MSC Donath/Hanson**. Meeting adjourned at 6:05 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Ailene Splittgerber
Recording Secretary