

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
BLOOMINGTON BOARD OF FIRE AND POLICE COMMISSIONERS
May 5, 2014

Attendees: Charles Witte, Dean Messinger, Diane Hollister, David Penn and Keith Rich, Commissioners; Brendan Heffner, Police Chief; Clay Wheeler Asst. Police Chief; Eric Vaughn Deputy Chief of Administration; Rosalee Dodson, Asst. Corporation Counsel; Angie Brown, Human Resources (HR) Specialist, and Renee Gooderham, Chief Deputy Clerk.

Staff Absent: Mike Kimmerling Fire Chief.

The regular meeting of the Bloomington Fire and Police Commission was called to order at 4:00 p.m. on May 5, 2014 at the Bloomington City Hall, Conference Room.

Commissioner Witte introduced the new Commissioners Diane Hollister and David Penn.

Minutes of Previous Meeting: Motion by Commissioner Messinger, seconded by Commissioner Rich to approve Regular Meeting minutes of March 21, 2014, Additional Meeting of March 21, 2014 and Executive Session minutes of March 3, 21, 2014.

Ayes: Commissioners Witte, Messinger and Rich.

Abstain: Commissioners Hollister and Penn.

Motion carried.

Fire Department: Angie Brown, HR Specialist, addressed the Commission. She reminded the Board that she was given authority to make conditional offers of employment for the position of entry level Firefighter candidates to fill four (4) vacancies. Two (2) firefighters were hired. There were three (3) vacancies due to disabilities and/or resignations. Ms. Brown requested the ability to hire five (5) entry level Firefighters and to go on to the next candidates should an individual take a by.

Eric Vaughn, Deputy Chief of Administration, addressed the Commission. He explained that there were two (2) firefighters who were currently on disability. It was anticipated that they would not be returning. Chief Kimmerling had received authority from David Hales, City Manager to replace three (3). Academy would commence in July 2014.

Ms. Brown stated that Andrew Coe and Christopher McFarland entry level Firefighters, were currently attending Academy. She noted that Jonathon Powell and James Ellis requested a by. John Caldwell was hired then withdrew. Brennan Kennedy was removed from further consideration. Eight (8) individuals remained on the Eligibility List.

Commissioner Penn questioned the entry level firefighter testing process. Ms. Brown explained same. Deputy Chief Vaughn added that there was a state statute which directs firefighter candidate hiring. Ms. Brown noted that the Board rules need to be updated.

Commissioner Penn questioned an errors and omissions policy. Commissioner Witte believed the Board had immunity. He requested that Ms. Dodson research same.

Motion by Commissioner Messinger, seconded by Commissioner Penn to make a conditional offer of employment for the position of entry level Firefighter candidates to fill five (5) vacancies.

Motion carried, (viva voce).

Deputy Chief Vaughn noted that the FY 2015 budget authorized three (3) additional entry level Firefighters. Hiring same would exhaust the entry level Firefighter Eligibility List. There was one (1) vacancy for Assistant Chief. The testing process should begin in fall 2014.

Commissioner Hollister questioned the eligibility list expiration. Ms. Brown responded that a list was valid for two (2) years.

Police Department: Clay Wheeler, Asst. Police Chief, addressed the Commission. He requested hiring two (2) Experienced police patrol officers. He explained the Experienced Officer Hiring Program (EOHP) program.

Brendan Heffner, Police Chief, left the meeting.

Motion by Commissioner Rich, seconded by Commissioner Messinger to recess to Executive Session for Personnel matters, section 2 (c) (1). Time: 4:16 p.m.

Motion carried, (viva voce).

Motion by Commissioner Penn, seconded by Commissioner Hollister to return to Regular Session. Time: 5:03 p.m.

Motion carried, (viva voce).

Motion by Commissioner Messinger, seconded by Commissioner Rich to notify Zachary Randich that his oral interview score was insufficient to proceed.

Motion carried, (viva voce).

Motion by Commissioner Rich, seconded by Commissioner Messinger to respond to Brennan Kennedy that there were no procedures for further review; and a second opinion was not authorized. He could reapply.

Motion carried, (viva voce).

Motion by Commissioner Penn, seconded by Commissioner Hollister to place on file Joshua Nechkash's letter.

Motion carried, (viva voce).

Motion by Commissioner Messinger, seconded by Commissioner Penn to make offers of conditional employment to: Ryan Gross and Jeffrey Widmere, EOHP candidates, for the position of Police Patrol Officer.

Motion carried, (viva voce).

New Business: Commissioner Hollister requested organizational charts and demographics for uniformed police and fire under personnel. She questioned availability of Board rules. Ms. Brown responded that the Board rules were currently in review. She anticipated completion of same before hiring.

Motion by Commissioner Rich, seconded by Commissioner Penn to appoint Commissioner Witte chair.

Motion carried, (viva voce).

Public Comment: No one came forward to address the Commission.

Motion by Commissioner Penn, seconded by Commissioner Messinger to adjourn. Time: 5:21 p.m.

Motion carried, (viva voce).

The next Board regular meeting is June 9, 2014 at 4:00 p.m. at the City Hall, Conference Room.

Respectfully submitted:

Renee Gooderham
Chief Deputy Clerk