

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS OF THE VILLAGE OF WILLOWBROOK HELD ON FRIDAY, DECEMBER 17, 2021 AT 8:00 A.M. AT THE WILLOWBROOK POLICE DEPARTMENT, 7760 QUINCY STREET, WILLOWBROOK, DUPAGE COUNTY, ILLINOIS

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chief Schaller at the hour of 8:00 a.m.

2. ROLL CALL

Those present at roll call were Chairman Joseph Heery and Commissioner Mark Astrella.

Also present were Chief of Police Robert Schaller, Deputy Chief Lauren Kaspar and Executive Secretary Christine Mardegan.

ABSENT: Commissioner Thomas Sailer.

A QUORUM WAS DECLARED

3. VISITORS' BUSINESS

None presented.

4. OMNIBUS VOTE AGENDA:

- a. Review and Approve Minutes - Regular BOPC Meeting - September 17, 2021 - (APPROVE)
- b. Review and Approve Minutes - Special BOPC Meeting - October 29, 2021 - (APPROVE)

The Commission reviewed the Omnibus Agenda.

MOTION: made by Chairman Heery, and seconded by, Commissioner Astrella to approve the Omnibus Vote Agenda as presented.

UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE

MOTION DECLARED CARRIED

5. COMMUNICATIONS

- a. Ordinance - Amending the Village Code - Title 5, Chapter 1, Section 5-1-1 - Police; Creation and Composition of Department.

Chief Schaller presented an ordinance that will be on the next Village Board Agenda on Monday, December 20, 2021, amending the composition of the police department. If passed this will bring the Police department staffing back up to twenty-seven (27) for a limited time until the retirement of a sergeant in March of 2022.

The next step is to hire two officers from the lateral list.

Deputy Chief Kaspar added that one of the main concerns is that there is no space for new officers at any of the police academies in the area. I have asked to be added to a list for 2022 but have not heard back from the academy. I have sent many emails to different training academies but have not been able to find an opening. We are on waitlists for SELA and Decatur but do not have a spot yet.

Chief Schaller added that once the ordinance is amended, there is a resolution to move away from what the order of BOPC rules and regulations state for one lateral hire verses the eligibility roster. We will take two candidates off the lateral list which will comply with the DOJ grant.

Chief Schaller shared that Sergeant Handzik will be retiring on Thursday, January 6, 2022. This retirement will bring us back to the lateral list. It is difficult to hire officers since they are on multiple lists. Many other communities are facing the same issues with a shortage of officers. The concern is we are losing seasoned officers with the knowledge and experience. In the January meeting we will be discussing some rules and regulation changes within BOPC.

6. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None presented.

7. NEW BUSINESS

- a. DISCUSSION - Probationary Police Officers Update
- b. DISCUSSION/MOTION -Psychological Pre-Employment Screening; MATRIX System

Deputy Chief Kaspar shared that the probationary officers are doing very well. We lost Sandra Blaylock to another Police Department. Twenty percent of the department is on probation due to low seniority which can make things difficult in staffing the midnight shift. The lateral hires bring years of experience and institutional knowledge which aids the new officers.

Chief Schaller would like another Deputy Chief on staff.

Chairman Heery asked if this could be a part-time position. Chief Schaller said the hiring of a Deputy Chief as a part-time employee would have to be negotiated and discussed with the collective bargaining unit.

Deputy Kaspar added that the two lateral officers are doing fantastic. They are an asset to the department.

Chief Schaller discussed Dr. Allen Friedman's use of the Matrix screening system across the county. Staff is recommending that the Police Department hire Matrix Incorporated.

MOTION: made by Chairman Heery and seconded by Commissioner Astrella to approve the hiring of Matrix Incorporated as presented.

UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE

MOTION DECLARED CARRIED

8. CLOSED SESSION

Consideration of the Appointment, Employment, Compensation, Performance, or Dismissal of a Specific Village Employee in Accordance with 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1)

RECESS INTO CLOSED SESSION

MOTION: Made by Commissioner Astrella and seconded by Chairman Heery to recess into Closed Session at the hour of 8:25 a.m.

UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE

MOTION DECLARED CARRIED

The Commission reconvened the Regular Meeting at the hour of 8:29 a.m.

9. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Made by Chairman Heery, seconded by Commissioner Astrella, to adjourn the meeting at the hour of 8:29 a.m.

UNANIMOUS VOICE VOTE

MOTION DECLARED CARRIED

PRESENTED, READ and APPROVED,

Chairman

Minutes transcribed by Executive Secretary Christine Mardegan.