

VILLAGE OF OAK LAWN, ILLINOIS
9446 S. Raymond Ave.
FIRE & POLICE COMMISSION
Wednesday, August 2, 2023

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES #23-08

Commissioner Baker called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Roll call was taken. PRESENT: Alan Moyzis
Robert Crosby, Secretary
Robert Cook
Thomas Henehan
William Egan
Jim Baker

ABSENT: John Rolence, Chairman

ALSO PRESENT: Karen Borgman, Secretary to the Board
Cary Horvath, Attorney
Janie Vulich, HR Director

Commissioner Crosby moved, seconded by Commissioner Moyzis to appoint Commissioner Baker as temporary chairman of the meeting. Roll call: All voted aye. Passed unanimously.

Members of the audience began disrupting the meeting and were told that if they continued, they would ask the officers to remove them from the room. The disruption continued. Commissioner Egan moved seconded by Commissioner Henehan to recess the meeting and have the Oak Lawn Police remove anyone who is interrupting the meeting. A recess was taken at 6:32 p.m. Roll call: All voted aye. Passed unanimously. Commissioner Egan moved, seconded by Commissioner Moyzis to reconvene the Fire & Police Commission meeting for August 2nd at 6:40 p.m. Roll call: All voted aye. Passed unanimously.

Commissioner Crosby took a moment to thank the officers for clearing the room in a quick manner. Commissioner Baker commented that the meeting room is under construction and by order of the Oak Lawn Bureau Chief of Fire Prevention the room occupancy has been set at sixty-two persons. The Fire & Police Commission has made accommodations so that everyone who wants to be in attendance to hear and comment at the meeting can. Sign-up sheets were circulated both inside and outside of the meeting room and speakers were placed outside and the speakers will remain on for the remainder of the meeting.

The Board reviewed the minutes from their last meeting. Commissioner Crosby moved, seconded by Commissioner Egan to approve Regular Meeting Minutes 23-06 dated Wednesday, June 7, 2023. Roll call: All voted aye. Passed unanimously.

The Board reviewed Honorable Mention Certificates for Robert Schmidt and Joseph Dunn of the Oak Lawn Police Department. The Board congratulated them on their dedication to duty and directed the Secretary to the Board to place the Honorable Mention Certificates in their personnel folders.

Commissioner Baker read a letter dated July 20, 2023, from Evergreen Park Police Chief Michael Saunders expressing their department's appreciation for officers of the Oak Lawn Police Department's assistance on July 13, 2023, when an active shooter situation occurred at the Evergreen Park Mariano's Grocery Store. The Oak Lawn Police Department's assistance allowed them to quickly secure the location, locate the victim who was tragically shot and killed by an offender who fled the scene. An arrest was made within an hour of the incident in Chicago. The letter specifically named the following officers: Sgt. Acke, Sgt. Carlson, Det. Scannell, Det. Wiora, Det. Bess, Ofc. Capron, Ofc. Farrar, Ofc. Koutsoumbas, Ofc. Lackey and Officer McLernon. Each of these officers responded without hesitation and displayed the highest excellence in their profession in both courage and determination. Ms. Borgman was asked to make sure a copy of the letter in each of the above-named officers files.

The Board reviewed the following invoices:

- A. Trans Union LLC Invoice No. 07300255 dated July 25, 2023, in the amount of \$400.69 for our regular monthly fee and pre-employment reports for Firefighter/Paramedic candidates.
- B. Odelson, Sterk, Murphey, Frazier & McGrath, Ltd. Invoice No. 37099 dated July 10 2023, in the amount of \$1202.50 for legal services provided during June 2023.
- C. CLS Background Investigations Invoice No. 12353 dated July 31, 2023, in the amount of \$870.85 for pre-employment background investigations on firefighter/paramedic candidates.
- D. IL State Police Invoice No. 20230606272 dated June 30, 2023, in the amount of \$299.25 for fingerprinting of fire candidates.
- E. The Blue Line Invoice No. 45204 dated July 25, 2023, in the amount of \$397 for police officer recruitment advertising.

Commissioner Cook moved, seconded by Commissioner Henahan, to approve the above listed invoices. Roll call: All voted aye. Passed unanimously.

On June 7, 2023, an eligibility list for Firefighter/Paramedic was posted with eighteen (18) candidates on the list. Ms. Borgman has reached out to all candidates on the list in an effort to fill eight (8)

openings. A few of the candidates will not have the required certifications needed to move forward. Some other candidates have accepted jobs in other municipalities or have decided to stay with their current departments. A list of these candidates has been provided to the commissioners. Commissioner Cook moved, seconded by Commissioner Egan to remove Candidate 1, Candidate 2, Candidate 4, Candidate 6, Candidate 9, Candidate 10, Candidate 14, Candidate 15 and Candidate 18. Roll call: All voted aye. Passed unanimously. After a review of preliminary reports Commissioner Crosby moved, seconded by Commissioner Moyzis to ratify the vote not to hire Candidate 12 and Candidate 13 and to remove their names from the eligibility list. Roll call: All voted aye. Passed unanimously. The Board has reviewed pre-employment reports for Joseph Braasch, Jacob Ruffolo, Thomas O'Malley and Timothy Desmond. Commissioner Cook moved, seconded by Commissioner Crosby to appoint Joseph Braasch, Jacob Ruffolo, Thomas O'Malley and Timothy Desmond to the rank of Firefighter/Paramedic effective August 14, 2023. Roll call: All voted aye. Passed unanimously. Ms. Borgman advised that there are additional reports for other candidates on the eligibility list she is still waiting on.

A request was received from Firefighter Paramedic Justin Cerniglia for a one-time pass. The candidate by law is allowed a pass and will remain on the list. Only seven of the eight requested openings can be filled from the current list and another testing process will need to be completed to establish a new eligibility list to fill the last opening.

The process to start testing for Fire Captain was started by the Fire & Police Commission. IAFF Local 3405 and management are in discussions regarding the reading list and a list has not been agreed upon at this time. Once a list has been agreed to testing will move forward.

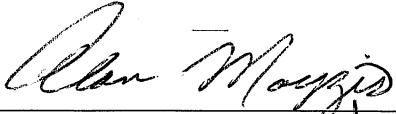
The Board discussed Chief Vittorio's previous request to fill one (1) police patrol officer opening in the police department. The current eligibility list was recently exhausted, and the Commission is accepting applications through August 18, 2023. This vacancy will be filled from the new list once one is established.

The next regular meeting of the Board was scheduled for Wednesday, September 6, 2023, at 6:30 p.m. in the Auditorium.

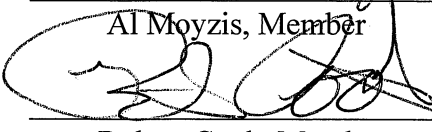
Commissioner Baker read the names of the people who were signed up for public comment. None of the five (5) named individuals responded and were no longer in the room so there would be no additional public comment unless anyone else in the room wanted to speak. No one else indicated a desire to speak.

There being no further business to come before the Board, Commissioner Crosby moved, seconded by Commissioner Egan to adjourn meeting. Roll call: All voted aye. Passed unanimously.


The meeting was adjourned at 6:56 p.m.



Al Moyzis, Member




Robert Cook, Member




William Egan, Member

Robert Crosby, Secretary



Thomas Henehan, Member



John Rolence, Chairman



Jim Baker, Member