

CITY OF LAWRENCE
Police Merit Commission
August 12, 2024
Public Assembly Room
Regular Meeting

MEMBERS PRESENT: Charles Wheeler, Gail Gartin, and Ronald Christensen

MEMBERS BY MICROSOFT TEAMS: None

MEMBERS ABSENT: Bob Hendrickson and Karen Horth Powers

ALSO PRESENT: Amber Baldwin

STAFF PRESENT: Lieutenant Scott Evans

STAFF BY MICROSOFT TEAMS: None

Commission President Wheeler called the meeting to order at 6:03pm and announced a quorum was present.

COMMENTS OF COMMISSION MEMBERS: None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Mr. Christensen moved to approve the minutes of the regular meeting June 10, 2024. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Gartin. By a roll call vote, the motion was carried 3-0.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS: Lt. Scott Evans recommending that 6 applicants be placed on eligibility list for 2024 (Session 1) and based on favorable background results to the next phase of hiring process (Medical & Psychological Exams). Mrs. Gartin moved to deem recommendation be approved. The motion was seconded by Mr. Christensen. By a roll call vote, the motion carried 3-0.

Lt. Evans recommending that 11 candidates be removed on unfavorable background results. Mr. Christensen moved to deem recommendation be approved. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Gartin. By roll call vote, the motion carried 3-0.

Lt. Evans requested that the applicants having the highest scores (in order) and are still of “good character” be given a conditional offer of employment. If said applicants pass an updated background investigation and pass all requirements of the INPRS 1977 Fund, those said applicants become Probationary Officers to fill 2 of 2 vacancies within the Department. Mrs. Gartin moved to deem the request be approved. The motion was seconded by Mr. Christensen. By roll call vote, the motion carried 3-0.

President Wheeler made mention of speaking with Chief Bigsbee regarding bringing back officer recognition ceremonies again and that is something the Chief will be working on reimplementing.

CITIZEN COMMENTS: None

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business to come before the Commission, the meeting was adjourned at 6:08pm, by unanimous vote of the Commission.

Charles Wheeler, President

Amber Baldwin, Executive Assistant

These minutes are not intended to be verbatim. They are a summary of discussions held, except for the motions. An audiotape is made which provides a detailed record.