TOWN OF SCHERERVILLE SCHERERVILLE, INDIANA

BOARD OF SAFETY MEETING June 2, 2022

The Board of Safety Meeting was called to order by Chairman Eric Graf at 6:30 p.m., in the Schererville Police Department Meeting and Training Facility, 25 E. Joliet Street, Schererville, IN.

Attendance was taken with the following Board Members present: Eric Graf, David Eenigenburg, and George Kouros. Staff members present: Police Chief Pete Sormaz, Deputy Chief of Police Steven McNamara, Fire Chief Robert Patterson, Deputy Fire Chief David Meyer, and Recording Secretary Stephanie Bottiger. Also present: Attorney Alfredo Estrada and Schererville Town Council Liaison Thomas Schmitt. Absent: Rich Pietrzak and Mike O'Rourke.

THEREUPON, Approval of the Minutes

Mr. Eenigenburg made a motion to approve the minutes of the May 26, 2022 Public Meeting, seconded by Mr. Kouros. Motion carries (3 – 0).

THEREUPON, Amendment of the Agenda

Attorney Estrada reminded Chairman Graf of the recommendation made during the Study Session by Chief Sormaz to amend the Agenda under New Business. Under New Business, letter B will the request to change the Police Personnel Uniform Dress Code. Motion made by Mr. Eenigenburg, seconded by Mr. Kouros. Motion carries (3 – 0).

THEREUPON, Correspondence

ITEM A. PD – NONE

ITEM B. FD – NONE

THEREUPON, Old Business

ITEM A. PD – Emergency Hire Update

Chief Sormaz advised the Board that since the meeting on May 26, 2022, the department had extended the conditional offers of employment to candidates Sean Leto and Jacob Bermingham. Both candidates signed their conditional offers and their transfer paperwork has been sent to the Indiana Public Retirement System (INPRS) program. Chief Sormaz informed the Board the tentative swearing in date is June 27, 2022 at 9 am.

ITEM B. FD – New Hire Update

Chief Patterson notified the Board that their two new hires were going through the Public Employee Retirement Fund (PERF) disability and psychological processes. Once this is completed they will move forward with the swearing in.

THEREUPON, New Business

ITEM A. FD – NONE

ITEM B. PD – Uniform Policy Change

Chief Sormaz made the Board aware of the uniform change to the Command Staff at the Police Department, from a navy shirt to a white shirt. He further explained that a survey was taken and the officers also requested a uniform change. Chief Sormaz requested permission from the Board to change the uniform colors from navy to black for the rank and file. Motion made by Mr. Eenigenburg, seconded by Mr. Kouros. Chairman Graf asked the Chief if the change would be a gradual change to which he responded it would be a two year transition. Motion carries (3 – 0).

THEREUPON, Reports

ITEM A. Police Chief

The Patrol Division reports were unavailable at the time of the meeting.

The Criminal Investigations Division reports were unavailable at the time of the meeting.

For the month of May, 2022, Schererville Police Officers attended 686 hours of training.

The Animal Control Division reports were unavailable at the time of the meeting.

ITEM B. Fire Chief

Chief Patterson advised the reports were in the packet.

For the month of May, 2022, the Schererville Fire Department performed 46 inspections, responded to 337 incidents, and attended 709.5 hours of training.

ITEM C. Attorney NONE

THEREUPON, Board Members NONE

THEREUPON, Business from the Floor Schererville Town Councilman Schmitt

Mr. Schmitt offered his congratulations to Board of Safety Attorney Alfredo Estrada to his election as the President of the Lake County Bar Association. Attorney Estrada thanked those present and stated he was grateful the Town was gracious enough to sponsor a table at the event and he was thankful for the support.

THEREUPON, Adjournment

There being no further business, Mr. Eenigenburg made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mr. Kouros. Motion carries (3-0). The meeting was adjourned at 6:36 p.m.

ERIC GRAF
SCHERERVILLE BOARD OF SAFETY CHAIRMAN
A TRUE COPY

DAVID EENIGENBURG
SCHERERVILLE BOARD OF SAFETY VICE CHAIRMAN
A TRUE COPY