

TOWN OF SCHERERVILLE

SCHERERVILLE, INDIANA

BOARD OF SAFETY MEETING

December 13, 2021

The Board of Safety Meeting was called to order by Chairman Richard Pietrzak at 6:00 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: Richard Pietrzak, David Eenigenburg, Michael O'Rourke, 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 John Bushemi from Burke Costanza & Carberry in lieu of Attorney Alfredo Estrada, Schererville Town Council Liaison Thomas Schmitt. Absent: Vice Chairman Eric Graf, Attorney Alfredo Estrada

THEREUPON, Approval of the Minutes

Mr. O'Rourke made a motion to approve the minutes of the November 11, 2021 Public Meeting, seconded by Mr. Eenigenburg. Motion carries (4-0).

THEREUPON, Correspondence

ITEM A. FD

Fire Chief Patterson advised the Board that the Fire Department had received a donation of over fifty handmade black and red scarves from St. Michael's Labor of Love Ministry.

ITEM B. PD - NONE

THEREUPON, Old Business

ITEM A. PD – Corporal Promotional Process Update

Chief Sormaz advised the Board that all phases of the Corporal Promotional Process have been completed. Chief Sormaz presented the Board with the 2021 Corporal Promotion List and requested the Board approve the list. Mr. Eenigenburg made a motion to accept the 2021 Corporal list, seconded by Mr. Kouros. Motion carries (4-0). Chief Sormaz gave Chairman Pietrzak the original for signatures.

ITEM B. PD – Traditional Hire Process Update

Police Chief Sormaz reported to the Board that at 9 a.m. on December 13, 2021, the last two officers the Board extended conditional offers of employment to were sworn in. They will join the other four that were sworn in on November 15, 2021 at the academy which begins January 18, 2022. Chief Sormaz requested the Board remove the Traditional Hire Process. Mr. Eenigenburg made the motion to remove the Traditional Hire Process, seconded by Mr. O'Rourke. Motion carries (4-0).

ITEM C. PD – Reserve Program

Chief Sormaz advised the Board that the committee that was created in March of 2021 to explore and gather information for a Reserve Program for the Police Department had finished the policy which was sent to the Board last week. Chief Sormaz recommended to the Board to accept the recommendation and send a resolution to the Town Council to put into formation and operation for the Reserve Program.

Attorney John Bushemi advised the Board the matter calls for a motion, a second, and approval of the preparation of a Safety Board resolution to be presented at the January meeting which would then call on the Town Council to approve the formation and operation of new Schererville Police Department Reserve Program. Motion made by Mr. Eenigenburg, seconded by Mr. Kouros. Motion carries (4-0).

ITEM D> FD – NONE

THEREUPON, New Business

ITEM A. FD – Official Firefighter Swearing in Ceremony

Town of Schererville Clerk Treasurer Michael Troxell assisted with the official swearing in of:

- Firefighter/EMT Dominic Zuccarelli Badge #55
- Firefighter/EMT Jacob Thornton Badge #56
- Firefighter/EMT Noah Wells Badge #57
- Firefighter/EMT Collin Zackavec Badge #58
- Firefighter/EMT Enrique Pulido Badge #59

ITEM B. FD – Approval to roll 2021 vacation into 2022

Fire Chief Patterson stated, according to the town authorized leave policy, any staff member that has not used their time is allowed to roll up to forty-eight hours of vacation time over. He requested approval of the Board to roll over vacation that was not used by the Fire Department in 2021 into 2022. Motion made by Mr. Eenigenburg, seconded by Mr. O'Rourke. Motion passed (4-0).

ITEM C. PD – Time Promotion of Josette Quiroga

Chief Sormaz requested approval from the Board for the time promotion of Josette Quiroga from 2<sup>nd</sup> Class Patrolman to 1<sup>st</sup> Class Patrolman, effective December 26, 2021. Motion made by Mr. Eenigenburg, seconded by Mr. Kouros. Motion carries (4-0).

ITEM D. PD – Time Promotion of Thaddeus Spyrnal

Chief Sormaz requested approval from the Board for the time promotion of Thaddeus Spyrnal from 2<sup>nd</sup> Class Patrolman to 1<sup>st</sup> Class Patrolman, effective December 26, 2021. Motion made by Mr. Eenigenburg, seconded by Mr. O'Rourke. Motion carries (4-0).

ITEM E. PD – Retirement Letter of Jeffrey Ahrens

Chief Sormaz requested the Board accept the retirement letter of Officer Jeffrey Ahrens. Motion made by Mr. Eenigenburg, seconded by Mr. O'Rourke. Motion carries (4-0).

THERUPON, Reports

ITEM A. Police Department

Chief Sormaz advised the Board the reports were in the packets. He also congratulated the newly sworn in Firefighters.

For the month of October, 2021, the Patrol Division had 1,241 calls for service, 106 accidents, 413 traffic citations, and 121 adult arrests. For the month of November, 2021, the Patrol Division had 1,158 calls for service, 120 accidents, 388 traffic citations and 157 adult arrests.

For the month of November, 2021, the Criminal Investigations Division filed 43 criminal charges, 24 thefts, 1 thefts from motor vehicles, and 1 burglary.

For the month of November, 2021, the Animal Control Division had 34 calls for service, 1 bite report, 8 animals were taken in, 9 animals were adopted, 3 were returned to owner/guardian, and 4 were transferred out.


ITEM B. Fire Department

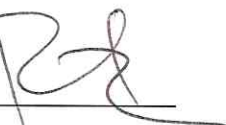
Fire Chief Patterson stated that all reports were in the packet.


For the month of November, 2021, the Schererville Fire Department performed 19 inspections, responded to 359 incidents, and attended 543 hours of training.

ITEM C.	Attorney	NONE
	THEREUPON, Board Members	NONE
	THEREUPON, Business from the Floor	NONE
	THEREUPON, Adjournment	

There being no further business, Mr. Eenigenburg made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mr. O'Rourke. Motion carries (4-0). The meeting was adjourned at 6:16 p.m.

  
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RICH SCHERERVILLE  
SAFETY  
A TRUE COPY

  
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PIETRZAK  
BOARD OF  
CHAIRMAN

  
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ERIC GRAF *David Eenigenburg*  
SCHERERVILLE BOARD OF  
SAFETY VICE CHAIRMAN  
A TRUE COPY