

TOWN OF SCHERERVILLE

SCHERERVILLE, INDIANA

BOARD OF SAFETY MEETING

June 1, 2023

The Board of Safety Meeting was called to order by Chairman David Eenigenburg 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: David Eenigenburg, Mike O'Rourke, George Kouros, and Eric Graf. Staff members present: Police Chief Peter Sormaz, Deputy Chief of Police Steven McNamara, Deputy Fire Chief David Meyer, and Recording Secretary Stephanie Bottiger. Also present: Attorney Alfredo Estrada and Director of Operations Andy Hansen. Absent: Rich Pietrzak, Fire Chief Robert Patterson.

THEREUPON, Approval of the Minutes

Mr. Graf made a motion to approve the minutes of the May 11, 2023 Public Meeting, seconded by Mr. Kouros. Motion carries (4 – 0).

THEREUPON, Correspondence

ITEM A. PD – NONE

ITEM B. FD – NONE

THEREUPON, Old Business

ITEM A. PD – New hire Process Update

Chief Sormaz updated the Board on the New Hire Process stating all results were done and calculated by Stanard and Associates. He further advised the Board the register for the New Hire List was completed and recommended the Board accept the register as presented. The register is effective June 1, 2023 and expires December 1, 2024 – 18 months. Motion made by Mr. O'Rourke, seconded by Mr. Graf. Motion carries (4 – 0).

ITEM C. FD – NONE

THEREUPON, New Business

ITEM A. FD – NONE

ITEM B. PD – Time Promotions

Chief Sormaz requested approval from the Board for the Time Promotions from 3<sup>rd</sup> Class Patrolman to 2<sup>nd</sup> Class Patrolman for Officers Dennis Jashenski, #222, and Martin Spizewski, #223, effective June 12, 2023. Chief Somaz further advised the Board all the letters from their respective supervisors as well as the Commander recommending their advancements were in the packet, and he too, recommends the Board advance these officers. Motion made by Mr. Graf, seconded by Mr. O'Rourke. Motion carries (4 – 0).

ITEM C. PD – Policy – Police Vehicle Operation and Pursuits/Roadblocks/Notifications  
#9.06

Chief Sormaz advised the Board several months ago the Department received a mandatory policy from the Law Enforcement Training Board and the Indiana Law Enforcement Academy in reference to Police Vehicle Operation and Pursuits/Roadblocks/Notifications. He stated he has been working with the Board of Safety Attorney, Alfredo Estrada, to blend the CALEA (Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies) Policy and the State Policy. Chief Sormaz requested the Board approve the policy as presented contingent on a final review by Attorney Estrada. Motion made by Mr. O'Rourke, seconded

by Mr. Kouros. Mr. Graf asked Chief Sormaz why not wait for approval until the final review was made by the attorney. Discussion continued for a short time as to what parts of the policy were being updated. Mr. Graf asked if the update was time sensitive to which Attorney Estrada responded that it was. He advised the Board that the State Law had already been passed. He went on to add that other communities have simply adopted the State Law. Schererville, wanting to keep their CALEA certification, have been working to blend the two policies. Attorney Estrada stated further that they are mandated by State Law to have the policy passed as soon as possible. Attorney Estrada clarified for the Board, the changes being made to the policy were non-substantive and were mostly formatting. Chief Sormaz interjected that the final review would occur next week, meaning they would then need to wait three more weeks for the Boards final approval. Motion carries (4 – 0).

THEREUPON, Reports

ITEM A. Police Chief

Chief Sormaz advised the Board he received a resignation letter from Officer Arvanitis. His last day was May 21, 2023, with his final paycheck being June 2, 2023. He wished him well on his next endeavor.

Chief Sormaz informed the Board that the festival begins next Wednesday, June 7<sup>th</sup> and runs through Sunday, June 11<sup>th</sup>. He requested if the members had time, to come out and visit the officers working the event.

Mr. O'Rourke asked Chief Sormaz if he had the results from the Cop-On-A-Rooftop event. Chief Sormaz stated the Town of Schererville, once again, came in first for the entire state collecting \$6,593.00. Second place was the Town of Dyer, collecting just over \$6,100.00. Chief Sormaz wished Dyer good-luck at next year's event. Chief Sormaz thanked everyone for their support by coming out to the event that day. Chief Sormaz went on to add that there was a bit of a challenge that day as Dunkin Donuts had no lobby access as they were remodeling. Chairman Eenigenburg asked Chief Sormaz if he believed the donations would have been higher if the lobby would have been open, to which the Chief replied yes.

For the month of May, 2023 the Patrol Division Reports were unavailable at the time of the meeting.

For the month of May, 2023, the Criminal Investigations Division Reports were unavailable at the time of the meeting.

For the month of May, 2023, Schererville Police Officers attended 809 hours of training.

For the month of May, 2023, the Animal Control Division reports were unavailable at the time of the meeting.

ITEM B. Fire Chief

For the month of May, 2023, the Schererville Fire Department Reports were unavailable at the time of the meeting.

ITEM C. Attorney – NONE

THEREUPON, Board Members NONE

THEREUPON, Business from the Floor Patrol Commander Michael Bork

Patrol Commander Michael Bork, addressed the Board on behalf of the Northwest Regional SWAT. He informed the Board that the past week the SWAT team had their annual week long training and two things that made the training great were the role players and locations. Commander Bork advised the Board that Chairman Eenigenburg and Mr. O'Rourke volunteered both the location, Aqua Tots, and themselves as role players. He went on to add that their team is better because of their participation. He thanked them for their dedication to the town.

THEREUPON, Adjournment

There being no further business, Mr. Graf made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mr. O'Rourke. Motion carries (4 – 0). The meeting was adjourned at 6:42 p.m.

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DAVID  
SCHERERVILLE  
SAFETY  
A TRUE COPY

EENIGENBURG  
BOARD OF  
CHAIRMAN

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RICHARD PIETRZAK  
SCHERERVILLE BOARD OF  
SAFETY VICE CHAIRMAN  
A TRUE COPY