

TOWN OF SCHERERVILLE  
BOARD OF SAFETY MEETING

SCHERERVILLE, INDIANA  
March 4, 2021

The Board of Safety Meeting was called to order by Chairman Rich Pietrzak at 7:00 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: Rich Pietrzak, Eric Graf, Michael

O'Rourke, and George Kouros. Absent: David Eenigenburg. Staff members present: Police Chief Pete

Sormaz, Deputy Police Chief Jeffrey Cook, Fire Chief Robert Patterson, Deputy Fire Chief David Meyer,

and Attorney Alfredo Estrada, Recording Secretary Stephanie Bottiger.

THEREUPON, Approval of the Minutes

Mr. Graf made a motion to approve the minutes of the February 4, 2021 Public Meeting, seconded

by Mr. O'Rourke. Motion carries (4-0).

THEREUPON, Correspondence

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ITEM A. PD NONE

ITEM B. FD

Chief Patterson received a thank you card from the family of East Chicago retired Fire fighter Joe

Rizzardo. On January 29, 2021, Schererville Fire Fighters stood out front to pay respect as Mr. Rizzardo's

funeral procession went past the station.

Chief Patterson also received a thank you card and a donation of food from the Riechers Family,

thanking them for the work they do.

THEREUPON, Old Business

ITEM A. PD—Emergency/Traditional Hire Process—Update

Chief Sormaz reported to the Board the Emergency Hire process continues and will end on March

9, 2021, with a current total of 34 applicants. The Traditional Hire process closed today at 4 pm, with a

total of 39 applicants. He will continue to update the board in regards to interviews. The physical agility

test will take place on Saturday, March 13, 2021 at 9 am at the Police Department.

ITEM B. PD—Supervisor/Sergeant Testing Process—Update

Chief Sormaz advised the board they were working closely with Stanard and Associates in regards

to developing the testing and interview processes for supervisors. The issuance of the list of reading

materials to the officers will begin next week with a two month study period for them. The Chief will

update the Board with an exact date for the test soon.

ITEM C. FD NONE

THEREUPON, New Business

ITEM A. PD—Reserve Officers Program

Chief Sormaz requested approval from the Board to research and compile information necessary to

initiate a reserve officer program. Mr. Graff made the motion, seconded by Mr. O'Rourke. Discussion—

Mr. Kouros noted a reserve program would be a good asset to the town. Motion carries (4-0). Mr. Pietrzak

advised that Mr. Graf and Mr. Kouros will be on the committee to assist with research.

ITEM B. PD—Time Promotion of Officer Jeffrey Wozniak

Chief Sormaz- requested approval from the Board for the time promotion of Officer Jeffrey Wozniak from the rank of 31 Class Patrolman to 1"Class Patrolman to be effective April 4,2021. Motion

made by Mr. Graf, seconded by Mr. O'Rourke. Motion carries(4-0).

ITEM C. FD NONE

THERUPON,Reports

ITEM A. Police Department

Chief Sormaz reported to the Board the National Drug Take Back Day is scheduled for April 24, 2021 from 10 am to 3 pm, in the Police Department lobby,with two(2)officers in attendance.

Chief Sormaz recounted to the Board the annual on line assessment for CALEA was completed

February 19 through 26,2021, earlier due to this being a recertification year.He further advised the Board

the accreditation would take place virtually in April and invited Sergeant Timothy Arvanitis, the

Accreditation Manager, come forward and bring the Board up to date on the process.

Sergeant Arvanitis advised the Board after the February assessment with CALEA Representative

Jay Murphy, there were no issues found; the department received 100 % for the initial assessment. He

further explained that on April 5, 6, 7,2021,the final assessment would take place.

Chief Sormaz reported to the Board that there are two officers on extended sick leave, Detective

Timothy Mele and Officer Damian Murks.

Chief Sormaz reported to the Board that for the month of January, 2021, the Patrol Division had

1,159 calls for service, 102 accidents,90 traffic citations,and 16 arrests.

Chief Sormaz reported that for the month of February,2021,the CID filed 88 criminal charges, 13

thefts, 0 thefts from motor vehicles,and 0 burglaries.

ITEM B. Fire Department

Chief Patterson reported to the Board that the Fire Department is accepting applications for one i

full time Fire Fighter/Paramedic from March V to April 301,2021.

Chief Patterson also recounted to ,the Board they are moving forward with the Fire Station 3

renovations and remodeling.

Chief Patterson reported that for the month of February, 2021, the Schererville Fire Department

performed 27 inspections,responded to 307 incidents and attended 477.5 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.Graf made a motion to adjourn the meeting,seconded by Mr.

Kouros. Motion carries(4-0). The meeting was adjourned at 7:12 p.m.

RICH  
SCHERERVILLE  
SAFETY  
A TRUE COPY

PIETRZAK  
BOARD OF  
CHAIRMAN

ERIC GRAF  
SCHERERVILLE BOARD OF  
SAFETY VICE CHAIRMAN  
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