

The Board of Safety Meeting was called to order by Chairman Eric Graf at 5:15 p.m., in the Schererville Town Hall Meeting Room, 10 E. Joliet Street, Schererville, IN.

Attendance was taken with the following Board Members present: Eric Graf, David Jaroszewski, David Eenigenburg, George Kouros, and Robert Volkmann (remote). Staff members present: Chief of Police Peter Sormaz, Deputy Chief of Police Steven McNamara, Fire Chief Robert Patterson, Deputy Fire Chief David Meyer, and Recording Secretary Stephanie Bottiger. Also present: Attorney Christian Bartholomew, Town Manager James Gorman, Director of Operations Andrew Hansen, and Town Council Liaison Tom Schmitt.

THEREUPON, Approval of the Minutes

Mr. Jaroszewski made a motion to approve the minutes of the August 7, 2025, Regular Public Meeting, seconded by Mr. Eenigenburg. Due to Mr. Volkmann Attending remotely, a roll call vote was called for by Chairman Graf. The Board voted as follows:

- Eric Graf: “Yes”
- George Kouros: “Yes”
- David Eenigenburg: “Yes”
- David Jaroszewski: “Yes”
- Robert Volkmann: “I”

Motion carries (5 – 0).

THEREUPON, Correspondence

ITEM A. FD – Annual Open House

Chief Patterson made the Board aware that the annual Fire Department Open House would take place on October 4, 2025, from 11am to 2pm at Fire Station #2, located at 280 Plum Creek Drive.

ITEM B. PD – Thank-you note for Officer Ruzga

Chief Sormaz notified the Board, that Officer Thomas Ruzga received a thank-you note from Nina Borom. Ms. Borom thanked Officer Ruzga for his investigation of a hit & run accident that had occurred in October, 2023.

ITEM C. PD – Note from St. John Police Chief

Chief Sormaz informed the Board he had received a thank-you note from St. John Police Chief Steve Flores. Chief Flores thanked the Schererville Police Officers for their assistance in handling calls during the unexpected loss of Detective Aaron Amptmeyer.

ITEM D. PD – National Night Out Bike Winner

Chief Sormaz advised the Board he had received a thank-you note from Víctor, the winner of the Boys’ Bike Raffle at the National Night Out, held in August, 2025.

THEREUPON, Old Business

ITEM A. FD – NONE

ITEM B. PD – NONE

THEREUPON, New Business

ITEM A. FD – NONE

ITEM B. PD – Emergency Leave Detective David Nangle

Chief Sormaz advised the Board he received a letter from Detective Nangle requesting emergency leave due to an unexpected medical situation with a family member. Chief Sormaz recommended the Board approve twenty (20) working days of leave for Detective Nangle. Motion made by David Jaroszewski, seconded by Mr. Eenigenburg. The Board voted as follows:

- Eric Graf: “Yes”
- George Kouros: “Yes”
- David Eenigenburg: “Yes”
- David Jaroszewski: “Yes”
- Robert Volkmann: “I”

Motion carries (5 – 0).

ITEM C. PD – CALEA Accreditation

Chief Sormaz informed the Board that on August 9, 2025, he and Corporal Ryan Staley, the Training Coordinator and CALEA Manager, traveled to Little Rock, Arkansas, for the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA) conference. During the conference, the Schererville Police Department was awarded Law Enforcement Accreditation for the fifth time. Chief Sormaz thanked everyone for their participation in the annual assessment.

ITEM D. PD – Time Promotions

Chief Sormaz requested approval from the Board for the time promotions from Probationary Patrolman to 1st Class Patrolman for Officers Devin Watkins, effective August 31, 2025, and Stephen Hawkins, effective September 14, 2025. He went on to add that both officers were hired during the Emergency Hire Process and joined Schererville with prior law enforcement experience. Additionally, he stated they had completed all necessary requirements during their probationary period. Motion made by Mr. Jaroszewski, seconded by Mr. Eenigenburg. The Board voted as follows:

- Eric Graf: “Yes”
- George Kouros: “Yes”
- David Eenigenburg: “Yes”
- David Jaroszewski: “Yes”
- Robert Volkmann: “I”

Motion carries (5 – 0).

ITEM E. PD – Proclamation National Rail Safety Week

Chief Sormaz informed those in attendance that National Rail Safety Week will be held September 15 – September 21, 2025. In addition, he stated the Department works closely with the Rail Police and thanks them for all the support they have provided over the years. Chairman Graf subsequently elaborated, stating Indiana was one of the first to implement a Rail Safety Week in the United States. He went on to present a condensed statistical data summary of railway accidents. Chairman Graf thanked all the local communities for their support for promoting railroad safety and awareness.

THEREUPON, Reports

ITEM A. Police Chief

Chief Sormaz informed the Board in addition to the reports submitted in the packet, he had been given a resignation letter from Keith Hickok, whom had unexpectedly resigned last month due to personal matters. Chief Sormaz wished him luck in his future endeavors. Chairman Graf requested Chief Sormaz convey the Board’s gratitude for his service.

For the month of June, 2025, the Patrol Division responded to 1,553 incidents and took 85 accident reports. There were 113 total arrests. The Patrol Division filed 155 charges of which 63 were Class A Misdemeanors, 24 were Class B Misdemeanors, 45 were Class C Misdemeanors, and 23 were Level 6 Felonies. The Patrol Division served 72 total warrants. They performed 505 traffic stops resulting in 340 citations issued of which 115 were local ordinances and 225 were state infractions. 327 warnings were also issued. The Patrol Division performed 92 vehicle searches, of which 10 were K9 vehicle searches. There were 129 Proactive Patrols.

For the month of July, 2025, the Patrol Division responded to 1,770 incidents and took 85 accident reports. There were 139 total arrests. The Patrol Division filed 196 charges of which 69 were Class A Misdemeanors, 44 were Class B Misdemeanors, 49 were Class C Misdemeanors, and 34 were Level 6 Felonies. The Patrol Division served 97 total warrants. They performed 573 traffic stops resulting in 367 citations issued of which 99 were local ordinances and 268 were state infractions. 501 warnings were also issued. The Patrol Division performed 136 vehicle searches, of which 22 were K9 vehicle searches. There were 122 Proactive Patrols.

For the month of July, 2025, the Criminal Investigations Division (CID) filed 53 criminal charges which were the result of 19 cases. Of these charges, 23 were felony and 30 were misdemeanor. 34 were filed in Lake County Court, and 19 were filed in Schererville Town Court. The CID is investigating 67 incidents for the month of July. Detective Corporal Ian Segovia was the Detective of the month along with Officers Gerardo Garza and Scott Karras, whom are part of the Cross Trained Detective (CTD) program.

For the month of June, 2025, Schererville Police Officers attended 266 hours of training.

For the month of July, 2025, Schererville Police Officers attended 312.5 hours of training.

For the month of August, 2025, Schererville Police Officers attended 236 hours of training.

For the month of August, 2025, the Animal Control Division had 36 calls for service, 1 bite report and took in 7 animals.

ITEM B. Fire Chief

Fire Chief Patterson informed the Board he had no additional reports other than what was in the packet.

For the month of August, 2025, the Schererville Fire Department performed 61 inspections, responded to 342 incidents of which 279 were EMS related, 25 were Fire related, 35 were Alarms/Investigations, and 03 were Fire Prevention, Inspection and/or training. They also attended 693.01 total hours of training of which 351.15 were Fire Trainings, 265.86 were EMS Trainings, 16 were Leadership Trainings, and 60 were Community Training hours. 14 members recertified in Advanced Cardiac Life Support (ACLS), and 13 members recertified in Cardio Pulmonary Resuscitation (CPR).

ITEM C. Attorney – NONE

THEREUPON, Board Members NONE

THEREUPON, Business from the Floor NONE

THEREUPON, Adjournment

There being no further business, Mr. Jaroszewski made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mr. Eenigenburg. There was no roll call vote for the adjournment. Motion carries (5 – 0). The meeting was adjourned at 5:26 pm.

ERIC	GRAF	GEORGE KOUROS
SCHERERVILLE	BOARD OF	SCHERERVILLE BOARD OF
SAFETY	CHAIRMAN	SAFETY VICE CHAIRMAN
<u>A TRUE COPY</u>		<u>A TRUE COPY</u>

