

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, George Kouros, David Jaroszewski, David Eenigenburg, 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, and Town Council Liaison Tom Schmitt.

THEREUPON, Approval of the Minutes

Mr. Eenigenburg made a motion to approve the minutes of the February 5, 2026, Regular Public Meeting, seconded by Mr. Volkmann. 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: “Yes”

Motion carries (5 – 0).

THEREUPON, Correspondence

ITEM A. FD – Thank you letter

Chief Patterson informed the Board he had received a thank-you note and a one-hundred-dollar donation from Mary Mathews.

ITEM B. PD – NONE

THEREUPON, Old Business

ITEM A. FD – NONE

ITEM B. PD – NONE

THEREUPON, New Business

ITEM A. FD – NONE

ITEM B. PD – Policy Updates

Chief Sormaz presented the Board with two policy updates, both of which had been reviewed by Board Attorney Christian Bartholomew. Chief Sormaz summarized the changes in regards to Fiscal Management and Agency Property, advising those present the town ordinance increased the amount for purchases for necessary goods and services without additional authorization from one thousand five hundred (\$1,500.00) to five thousand (\$5,000.00). The in-car video and audio systems and body-worn cameras were added into property management, while the receipting of monies taken was updated to align with CALEA policies. Concerning the Department Complaint and Disciplinary Procedure, two lines were updated to include the rank of Deputy Chief to review and recommend preliminary investigations. Chief Sormaz requested the Board approve the policy change updates. Chairman Graf inquired of Attorney Bartholomew if a single motion could cover both policies, to which he replied it could. 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: “Yes”

Motion carries (5 – 0).

ITEM C. Annual Awards

Detective Commander Kevin Wagner recognized Detective Savich as the 2025 Schererville Police Department’s Investigator of the Year.

Corporal Anthony Rubino, on behalf of the Schererville Police Department, honored Officer Ashlee Tancos with the Life Saving Award for medical aid rendered on October 25, 2025.

Patrol Commander Michael Bork recognized Officer Ashlee Tancos as the 2025 Schererville Police Department’s Officer of the Year.

Patrol Commander Michael Bork, in the absence of Southcom Supervisor Kelly Wynkoop, recognized Dispatcher Kara Ralowski-Rak as the 2025 Southcom Dispatcher of the Year.

Patrol Commander Michael Bork recognized Administrative Assistant Stephanie Bottiger as the 2025 Schererville Police Department’s Civilian of the Year.

THEREUPON, Reports

ITEM A. Police Chief

Chief Sormaz advised the Board that all the reports were in the packet.

For the month of January, 2026, the Patrol Division responded to 1,424 incidents and took 115 accident reports. There were 133 total arrests. The Patrol Division filed 222 charges of which 85 were Class A Misdemeanors, 49 were Class B Misdemeanors, 61 were Class C Misdemeanors, as well as 27 Level 6 Felonies. The Patrol Division served 61 total warrants. They performed 626 traffic stops resulting in 407 citations issued of which 106 were local ordinances and 301 were state infractions. 454 warnings were also issued. The Patrol Division performed 120 vehicle searches, of which 15 were K9 vehicle searches. There were 122 Proactive Patrols.

For the month of January, 2026, the Criminal Investigations Division (CID) filed 52 criminal charges which were the result of 20 cases. Of these charges, 26 were felony, 25 were misdemeanor, and 1 was Federal. 41 were filed in Lake County Court, 9 were filed in Schererville Town Court, 1 was filed in Federal Court, and 1 was filed in juvenile court. The CID is investigating 47 incidents from the month of January. Detective Mendez and CTD (Crossed Trained Detective) Paprocki were the detectives of the month.

For the month of February, 2026, Officers attended 333 hours of training.

For the month of February, 2026, the Animal Control Division had 30 calls for service, 2 bite reports and took in 0 animals. There were 0 adoptions for month. 2026 year-to-date adoption total is 3 animals.

ITEM B. Fire Chief

Fire Chief Patterson informed the Board that in addition to the items in the packet, his Battalion Chief, Joseph Konicek, had applied for and received the Enbridge Fuel Futures Grant in the amount of six thousand dollars (\$6,000.00). This grant will enable the Department to replace the fire suppression nozzles on all the trucks. Chief Patterson thanked the Enbridge Corporation.

For the month of February, 2026, the Schererville Fire Department performed 107 inspections, responded to 325 incidents of which 258 were EMS related, 29 were Fire related, 34 were

Alarms/Investigations, and 4 were Fire Prevention/Inspections/Trainings. They also attended 700.8 total hours of training of which 329.3 were Fire Trainings, 361.5 were EMS Trainings, and 10 were Leadership Trainings.

ITEM C. Attorney – NONE

THEREUPON, Board Members NONE

THEREUPON, Business from the Floor Georgianne Glavas

Georgianne Glavas, on behalf of Logan’s Love, and Logan’s mother, Nicole, thanked both the Fire and Police Departments for attending and advocating for their initiatives. She also desired to publicize their upcoming 2026 itinerary beginning with the Easter Egg Hunt on March 28, followed by the Golf Outing in June, ending with the Autism Walk in August, 2026.

THEREUPON, Adjournment

There being no further business, Mr. Jaroszewski made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mr. Eenigenburg. The Board did not hold a roll call vote for this motion. Motion carries (5 – 0). The meeting was adjourned at 5:40 pm. No motion nor roll call vote was held.

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ERIC SCHERERVILLE BOARD OF SAFETY  
A TRUE COPY

GRAF OF CHAIRMAN

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GEORGE KOUROS SCHERERVILLE BOARD OF SAFETY VICE CHAIRMAN  
A TRUE COPY