

The Board of Safety Meeting was called to order by Chairman Eric Graf at 5:23 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, 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 March 5, 2026, 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: “Yes”

Motion carries (5 – 0).

THEREUPON, Correspondence

ITEM A. FD – NONE

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 – Resignation Letter of Jacob Bermingham

Chief Sormaz notified the Board he had received the resignation letter of Officer Jacob Bermingham whom was furthering his career by joining the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI). His final day working was March 19, 2026, while his final day on the books will be April 25, 2026. Chief Sormaz wished him luck in his future endeavors.

ITEM C. PD – Tow Service Provider Agreement

Chief Sormaz requested the Board recommend the Tow Service Provider Agreement for submission to the Town Council. This is the second part of the schedule of tow fees that was updated a few months ago. Incorporation of the reasonable operating hours of 8 am to 5pm, as well as the bond amount and insurance limits to be set forth by the town attorney and insurance carrier will be added to the agreement. Motion made by Mr. Jaroszewski, seconded by Mr. Volkmann, with clarification. Mr. Volkmann stated the business hours would be Monday through Friday, to which Chief Sormaz thanked him. 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 D. PD – Hire Process – Update

Chief Sormaz recommended the Board temporarily suspend the current eligibility list and initiate an emergency hire process in order to secure lateral transfers. Chairman Graf stated they would vote on the requests separately. Motion made by Mr. Volkmann to suspend the current eligibility list, seconded by Mr. Jaroszewski. The Board voted as follows:

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

Motion carries (5 – 0). Motion made by Mr. Volkmann to establish an emergency hire list, seconded by Mr. Jaroszewski. The Board votes as follows:

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

Motion carries (5 – 0).

THEREUPON, Reports

ITEM A. Police Chief

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

For the month of February, 2026, the Patrol Division responded to 1,259 incidents and took 70 accident reports. There were 139 total arrests. The Patrol Division filed 182 charges of which 64 were Class A Misdemeanors, 42 were Class B Misdemeanors, 54 were Class C Misdemeanors, as well as 22 Level 6 Felonies. The Patrol Division served 78 total warrants. They performed 715 traffic stops resulting in 431 citations issued of which 115 were local ordinances and 316 were state infractions. 557 warnings were also issued. The Patrol Division performed 129 vehicle searches, of which 16 were K9 vehicle searches. There were 112 Proactive Patrols.

For the month of February, 2026, the Criminal Investigations Division (CID) filed 59 criminal charges which were the result of 20 cases. Of these charges, 37 were felony, 20 were misdemeanor, and 2 were Federal. 51 were filed in Lake County Court, 4 were filed in Schererville Town Court, 2 were filed

in Federal Court, and 2 were filed in juvenile court. The CID is investigating 52 incidents from the month of February. Detective Buonadonna and Detective Mendez were the detectives of the month.

For the month of March, 2026, Officers attended 236 hours of training.

For the month of March, 2026, the Animal Control Division had 43 calls for service, 2 bite reports and took in 0 animals. There was 1 adoption for month. 2026 year-to-date adoption total is 4 animals.

ITEM B. Fire Chief

Fire Chief Patterson informed the Board that in addition to the items in the packet, he invited those present to the swearing in of their new officer, Donald Jones III on April 7, 2026, at 1pm, in the current location. Chairman Graf requested Chief Patterson send them an email as a reminder.

For the month of March, 2026, the Schererville Fire Department performed 52 inspections, responded to 357 incidents of which 295 were EMS related, 33 were Fire related, 24 were Alarms/Investigations, and 4 were Fire Prevention/Inspections/Trainings. They also attended 663.5 total hours of training of which 378 were Fire Trainings, 275.5 were EMS Trainings, and 10 were Leadership Trainings.

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. Jaroszewski. Motion carries (5 – 0). The meeting was adjourned at 5:29 pm. No roll call vote was held.

ERIC SCHERERVILLE BOARD OF SAFETY
A TRUE COPY
GRAF OF CHAIRMAN

GEORGE KOUROS SCHERERVILLE BOARD OF SAFETY VICE CHAIRMAN
A TRUE COPY