

*Sycamore Fire and Police Commission
Regular Meeting Minutes*

January 12, 2009

ROLL CALL

Chairman Petersen called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. Present at the meeting were: Commissioner Samantha Dailey, Commissioner Ronald Short, Police Chief Don Thomas, Fire Chief Bill Riddle and City Attorney Kevin Buick.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Recording Secretary Tritle requested that the item "B" Communications be amended to read "End of Probationary Period for Police Officer Dana Allen", as Police Officer Neuman's probationary period will not end until March, 2009.

Motion

Commissioner Dailey moved to approve the agenda, as amended, and Commissioner Short seconded the motion.

Vote

All Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried 3 - 0.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Open Session

Motion

Commissioner Short moved to approve the minutes from the open session of the October 22, 2008 meeting, as written, and Commissioner Dailey seconded the motion.

Vote

All Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried 3 - 0.

Closed Session

City Attorney Kevin Buick recommended that the third paragraph in the closed session minutes be struck as this paragraph is not pertinent to reconstructing the intent of the Commissioners discussions.

Motion

Commissioner Dailey moved to approve the minutes from the closed session of the October 22, 2008 meeting, as amended, and Commissioner Short seconded the motion.

Vote

All Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried 3 - 0.

COMMUNICATIONS

A. Approval of Bills

Chairman Petersen reported that the Commission had received the following bills for payment:

Illinois Fire and Police Commission annual dues:	\$375.00
Braden Counseling (psych exam for Police candidate)	\$400.00
I/O Solutions (Promotional testing)	\$2,650.00
I/O Solutions (psych exam for Fire candidate)	\$345.00
Daily Chronicle (Notice of Exam)	\$58.86
TOTAL	\$3,828.86

Motion

Commissioner Short moved to approve the payment of the bills totaling \$3,828.86 and Commissioner Dailey seconded the motion.

Vote

All Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried 3 - 0.

B. End of Probationary Period for Police Officer Dana Allen

Chairman Petersen read a letter sent to the Commission by Chief Thomas in which he informs the Commission that Police Officer Allen had successfully completed her probationary period on January 7, 2009. Chief Thomas stated that Officer Allen is doing well in the Department; she is friendly but tough minded.

Recording Secretary Tritle informed the Commissioners that a congratulatory letter would be sent to Officer Allen on their behalf.

OLD BUSINESS

A. Update on the Hiring of New Police Officers

Chief Thomas reported that Bradley Caldwell and Christie Haas started with the Department on December 15, 2008. Officer Caldwell is currently in the third step of the FTO program. Officer Haas started her training at the Academy on January 4, 2009.

Motion

Commissioner Dailey moved that the Commissioners ratify the hiring of Bradley Caldwell and Christie Haas as Police Officers for the City of Sycamore and Commissioner Short seconded the motion.

Vote

All Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried 3 - 0.

B. Certification of the New Police Officer Eligibility List

Chief Thomas stated that there was one name remaining on the current eligibility list – Tynisa Gordon. She will be integrated with the three candidates from the second tier who are on the new list, which now includes a certified Police Officer. This list will expire on November 1, 2009. Chief Thomas said that there will be no new hires in the remainder of this fiscal year and he was not aware of any Police Officers who were intending to retire this year, though, even if they did, they may not be replaced due to budget constraints.

Motion

Commissioner Dailey moved that the Commissioners approve the newly integrated Police Officer Eligibility List and Commissioner Short seconded the motion.

Vote

All Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried 3 - 0.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Acknowledgement of the Retirement of Police Lieutenant Tom Scott

Chief Thomas reported that, after twenty-seven years of service to the Police Department, Lt. Tom Scott retired on October 31, 2008.

Recording Secretary Tritle informed the Commissioners that a letter of appreciation would be sent to Lt. Scott on their behalf.

B. Police Chief

Chief Thomas reiterated that the current Police Officer Eligibility List expires on November 1, 2009 and that the Commission would be testing new candidates this summer. He asked the Commissioners to consider adding a physical agility test as a requisite exam after a conditional offer of employment is extended to a candidate. He explained that this would be the best time to perform this examination as it would be in close proximity to the time the candidate would be attending training at PTI. Chief Thomas added that, if someone were to sue the Department over this test, it would be the first time it would happen in the State of Illinois. City Attorney Buick said that there is no prohibition against testing for physical fitness as long as the test is not based upon gender, ages, etc. The Department can devise its own physical fitness test as long as it is

not based upon the power test. He also added that the physical fitness test should not be a requirement that is mandated in the Commission's Rules and Regulation, as this is what the attorney for the Illinois Police and Fire Commissioners has stated is discriminatory and in violation of the ADA.

Chief Thomas informed the Commissioners that he would be meeting with members of Kishwaukee Corporate Health, the firm that performs all of the City's pre-employment medical exams, to see if they have ideas or suggestions for conducting a physical fitness examination of Police candidates. He would report the results of their discussion to the Commissioners at their next meeting.

C. Fire Chief

Chief Riddle informed the Commissioners that he did not expect to have any new hires for his department in the upcoming year.

CLOSED SESSION

Motion

Commissioner Dailey moved that the Commissioners go into closed session to discuss personnel issues and to review Closed Session Minutes. Commissioner Short seconded the motion.

Vote

All Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried 3 - 0.

Closed session began at 1:45 p.m.

Motion

Commissioner Dailey moved that the Commissioners return to open session and Commissioner Short seconded the motion.

Vote

All Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried 3 - 0.

Open session reconvened at 1:56 p.m.

Motion

Commissioner Dailey moved to keep all of the closed session minutes from May 9, 2002 through October 22, 2008 closed as they pertained to personnel issues. Commissioner Short seconded the motion.

Vote

All Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried 3 - 0.

ADJOURNMENT

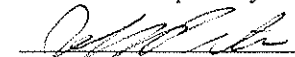
Motion

Commissioner Short moved to adjourn the meeting at 2:00 p.m. and Commissioner Dailey seconded the motion.

Vote

All Commissioners voted aye. Motion carried 3 - 0.

Minutes accepted by:



Jeff Petersen, Chairman

3/9/09

Date

Attest:



Jean Tritle, Recording Secretary

3/9/09

Date