

MINUTES

OF

The Monona Police and Fire Commission

May 11, 2020

Meeting held by Zoom

PRESENT: Commissioners Steve Brezinski, Ann Tieman, Tom Stolper, and Joe Fontaine. In addition, Bryan Gadow was present to host the Zoom meeting.

NOT PRESENT: Commissioner Simmons

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Brezinski at 9:00 am. The results of the roll call are as above.

Approval of Minutes: Motion to approve minutes of May 06, 2020 meeting made by Brezinski, 2nd by Fontaine, approved by unanimous vote.

Appearances: None

Unfinished Business: Stolper reported on his conversation with Chris Ackley, stating that Ackley said he would call Stolper on Friday (5.8.2020) but that he never did so we could assume he is not interested in reconsidering. Brezinski inquired if the Commissioners were interested in interviewing any of the additional candidates not selected for the first round, Tieman said she was willing to interview any of them, Fontaine and Stolper both agreed that the only one they would consider is Jeff Prichar. The Commission directed Gadow to inquire of him of his interest and to emphasize the residency requirement and to have a salary discussion since the Monona position would pay less than his current salary in the State of Oregon. The idea here is to gauge interest before going through the process. The Commission then had a discussion of the process going forward. Consensus was to review the position description and take another look post 6.1.2020.

New Business: The Commission was informed that Donabelle Robertson (a current Monona Firefighter/paramedic) was probably going to accept a position in another department in the Eastern part of the State and that Chief Eklof has requested the Commission interview a current LTE for the position. The Commission agreed and requested the usual background data prior to the interview.

Miscellaneous Business: Police Chief Ostrenga requested to speak with the Commission indicating he had three areas to discuss:

- A. Covid-19 response. Chief indicated that it has been hard on everyone. The department went to 12 hour shifts on April 8 in order to lessen the numbers of people congregating at one time and to lessen the amount of time necessary to clean and sanitize equipment. Normal shifts will resume on May 14, 2020.
- B. Officer Vicki Peterson a veteran Monona officer will be retiring on May 23, 2020.
- C. Chief Ostrenga announced to the Commission that he will be retiring in January of 2021. He indicated that he wanted the Commission to hear it first from him. The Commission held a discussion as to process including timing. Consensus was to start the process in the summer of 2020 in order for there to be sufficient lead time for an orderly transition.

Closed Session: None

Reconvene in open session: None

Adjournment: Fontaine moved 2nd by Brezinski to adjourn (10:10AM) Motion passed unanimously.