

Police Commission Meeting Minutes – July 15, 2021

Members present: Miller, Schmidt, Barry, Krauski, Gossett and Non-Voting Council Representative Schellpeper
Staff present: Pfister, Trebatoski, Posnik, Atty Stadler and Wallace

1. **Chairman Krauski** called the meeting to order at 5:00 pm and the Deputy Clerk confirmed appropriate meeting notice had been given.

Krauski welcomed Tim Gossett as the newest Board member.

2. **Approve minutes from May 25 and June 7, 2021:** Motion by Schmidt to approve the May 25 and June 7, 2021 minutes as written; second by Miller. Motion carried 5-0.
- 3.a. **Discussion/act on Police Commission Bylaws:** Krauski stated that at a previous meeting, the Board went through the draft Bylaws and proposed some changes. Atty Stadler made the revisions as suggested in a redline version included in the board's packet. Krauski recommend that the Board go through the proposed Bylaws again, section by section, to ensure that all suggested changed were incorporated in correct final form. Atty Stadler led the discussion.

Article 1, Section 1.2, Atty Stadler stated he recommends removing the word "hiring" from the restrictions of the ex-officio non-voting member participation due to the fact that Council wishes to keep the Alderman appointment to the Police Board.

Commissioners discussed the role of the ex-officio non-voting member during a hiring situation and Atty Stadler stated the ex-officio can participate in discussion but as a non-voting member of the Board and they cannot participate in discipline/discharge discussions. Barry expressed concern because the Police Board should be independent of local government involvement. Ald. Schellpeper stated if the Board wants to define the structure of the ex-officio non-voting member further, it will need to go back to Council. He further stated the City enacted an ordinance in 1975 because Council wanted to have an Alderman sit on this Board and although at the time the Mayor did not agree, the compromise was to make the Alderman an ex-officio non-voting member. He also noted that both Council and Protection & Welfare addressed this issue and agreed that the ex-officio non-voting member should be restricted from participating in firing and discipline.

Krauski asked if a copy of the City of Oconomowoc's Code of Conduct has been emailed out to the Commissioners. Trebatoski stated he will email a copy to the Commissioners.

Commissioners also discussed the following: To hold an Election of Officers at the successive meeting following adoption of the bylaws, to place the hiring process document for the Chief of Police position as an attachment to the Bylaws, to attach processes for promotions and hiring of bilingual officers or females.

Commissioners suggested the following changes: 1) Under Section 1.2, 3rd paragraph, remove the word "hiring" from last sentence; 2) Pages 5 & 6, change the numbering; 3) Page 7, under Section 5.2.3, change "Commission" to "Board"; and 4) Page 6, Section 5.1, add language at the start of the process that the Board will review and approve the hiring process for Chief and attach the current process as Exhibit "A".

Atty Stadler stated the Board can either approve the Bylaws or wait to review a clean copy. He stated he will make the changes and get a final clean copy to the Board before the next meeting.

Motion by Miller to adopt the redline version of the Police Commission Bylaws as discussed tonight with the changes as noted; second by Gossett. Motion carried 5-0.

Motion by Miller to adjourn; second by Schmidt. Motion carried 5-0. The meeting adjourned at 6:06 p.m.

Minutes taken by Tina Wallace, Deputy City Clerk