



# City of La Crosse, Wisconsin

City Hall  
400 La Crosse Street  
La Crosse, WI 54601

## Meeting Minutes - Final

### Police and Fire Commission

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Thursday, July 11, 2019

10:00 AM

3rd Floor Conference Room

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*Draft until approved at August 7, 2019 meeting.*

#### Call to Order

*Meeting called to order by Commissioner Plesha at 10:00 a.m.*

#### Roll Call

*Guests: Chief Gilliam, Captain Todd Adams, David Buroker, Chief Tischer, and Mayor Kabat*

**Present:** 5 - Douglas Happel, Roger Christians, Bruce Jentz, Mary Lund, Roger Plesha

#### Approval of Minutes

*Approval of Minutes*

*Minutes of June 20, 2019 meeting.*

**Motion by Commissioner Happel to approve the minutes of the June 20, 2019 meeting. Motion seconded by Commissioner Jentz. Unanimous approval.**

#### Agenda Items:

##### I. June, 2019 Police Personnel Report

*Presented by: Chief Tisher*

##### *DISCUSSION:*

*The Chief was asked to provide an update regarding the complaint filed with Western Technical College regarding Police Academy personnel. Chief indicated that no information has been received from Western yet. The State Training and Standards Office has taken an interest in the issue as well due to the cost to the State for La Crosse to send candidates to Chippewa Valley Technical to attend the Academy. This has been an ongoing issue for a year now.*

*Commissioner Happel again requested a copy of the investigation report be shared with the Commission when received by the Police Department.*

**Motion by Commissioner Happel to accept and file the June, 2019 Police Personnel Report. Motion seconded by Commissioner Christians. Unanimous approval.**

**Motion by Commissioner Jentz to commend Chief Tischler on his service to the La Crosse Police Department. Motion seconded by Commissioner Happel. Unanimous approval.**

**II.** June, 2019 Fire Personnel Report

*Presented by: Chief Gilliam*

*DISCUSSION:*

*The Chief informed the Commission that Fire Department representatives will travel in August for the final phase of the reaccreditation process.*

**Motion by Commissioner Christians to accept and file the June, 2019 Fire Personnel Report. Motion seconded by Commissioner Lund. Unanimous approval.**

*A. Promotion of Captain Todd Adams to the position of Division Chief of Training.*

**Motion by Commissioner Happel to approve the promotion of Captain Todd Adams to the position of Division Chief of Training. Motion seconded by Commissioner Jentz. Unanimous approval.**

*B. Appointment of Andrew Barnhardt to the position of probationary firefighter.*

**Motion by Commissioner Jentz to approve the appointment of Andrew Barnhardt to the position of probationary Firefighter. Motion seconded by Commissioner Happel. Unanimous approval.**

*C. Schedule Firefighter interviews*

*The Commission agreed to schedule firefighter interviews following the meeting on August 8th. The meeting will be held at 8:30 a.m.*

**Motion by Commissioner Happel to entertain a closed session for discussion of the Police Chief recruitment process and for discussion regarding the appointment of an Interim Chief of Police. Motion seconded by Commissioner Jentz. Unanimous approval.**

**Meeting convened into closed session at 10:30 a.m.**

**Meeting reconvened into open session at 10:55 a.m.**

III. Police Chief Recruitment Process

*Commissioner Plesha summarized the discussion from the closed session meeting regarding the Police Chief recruitment process. The Commission will conduct a nationwide search for a replacement for the position and will begin with reviewing recruitment materials and working with the Deputy Director of Human Resources to update the position description.*

IV. Interim Police Chief Appointment

**Motion by Commissioner Happel to appoint Assistant Chief Robert Abraham to the position of Interim Police Chief effective July 24, 2019. Motion seconded by Commissioner Jentz. Unanimous approval.**

V. Next Meeting Date: August 8th, 2019

*A. Future Agenda Items*

*--Meeting time will be 8:30 a.m.*

*--Continue discussion regarding Police Department complaint against WTC Academy personnel.*

## **Adjournment**

**Motion to adjourn by Commissioner Jentz . Motion seconded by Commissioner Christians. Unanimous approval.**

**Meeting adjourned by Commissioner Plesha at 11:03 a.m.**