



# 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 9, 2020

9:30 AM

Virtual Meeting via Lifesize

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*Draft until approved at the Commission's August 13, 2020 meeting.*

In an effort to reduce the spread of COVID-19, the Police and Fire Commission meeting was conducted through video conferencing. The meeting was available for viewing and listening through the following link:

<https://stream.lifesizecloud.com/extension/3010241/b4028f50-5227-4375-95ca-1d32c8187d40>

Members of the public wanting to provide written comments at this meeting were encouraged to do so by submitting them in writing by emailing [leissoa@cityoflacrosse.org](mailto:leissoa@cityoflacrosse.org), using a drop box outside of City Hall or mailing the Police and Fire Commission (HR Dept), 400 La Crosse Street, La Crosse WI 54601.

#### Call to Order

*Meeting called to order by Commissioner Happel at 9:32 a.m.*

#### Roll Call

*Guests: Chief Gilliam, Chief Kudron*

#### Approval of Minutes

*Minutes of June 11, 2020 meeting.*

**Motion by Commissioner Jentz to approve the minutes of the June 11, 2020 meeting. Motion seconded by Commissioner Christians. Unanimous approval.**

#### **Agenda Items:**

## I. Election of Officers

### *DISCUSSION:*

*Commissioner Happel expressed thanks to former Commissioner Roger Plesha for his 15 years of service on the Commission and to former Commissioner Mary Lund for her 14 years of service on the Commission.*

**Motion by Commissioner Jentz to ask the Mayor to recognize former Commissioners Lund and Plesha for their service. Motion seconded by Commissioner Kopp. Unanimous approval.**

*Commissioner Happel asked for nominations for Chair of the Commission.*

**Nomination of Commissioner Happel by Commissioner Christians. Second by Commissioner Jentz. Unanimous approval.**

*Commissioner Happel requested nominations for a Vice Chair.*

**Nomination of Commissioner Christians by Commissioner Jentz. Second by Commissioner Kopp. Unanimous approval.**

*Commissioner Jentz noted that he would like the other Commissioners to consider the concentration of power held by the Commission's new officers as both Commissioner Happel and Commissioner Christians are also elected Council members.*

## II. June, 2020 Fire Personnel Report

*Presented by: Chief Gilliam*

### *DISCUSSION:*

*-Welcome to Commissioner Kopp*

*-Emergency Operations updates*

*-Reviewed statistics, personnel and training reports.*

**Motion by Commissioner Jentz to accept and file the June, 2020 Fire Personnel Report. Motion seconded by Commissioner Kopp. Unanimous approval.**

### *A. Schedule Fire Lieutenant interviews*

*The Commission agreed to conduct interviews for Fire Lieutenant candidates on July 21st beginning at 8:30 a.m. The interviews will be conducted virtually using Lifesize.*

**III. June, 2020 Police Personnel Report**

*Presented by: Chief Kudron*

**DISCUSSION:**

*-Review of statistics, personnel and training reports.*

**Motion by Commissioner Jentz to accept and file the June, 2020 Police Personnel Report. Motion seconded by Commissioner Kopp. Unanimous approval.**

*A. Appointment of Officer Jorrey Olson to regular status following successful completion of probationary period.*

**Motion by Commissioner Christians to approve the appointment of Officer Jorrey Olson to regular status following successful completion of probationary period. Motion seconded by Commissioner Kopp. Unanimous approval.**

*B. Appointment of the following to regular status following successful completion of introductory period:*

- 1. Lieutenant Phil Martin*
- 2. Sergeant Tom Hansen*
- 3. Sergeant Steve Curns*

**Motion by Commissioner Jentz to approve the appointments of Lt. Phil Martin, Sgt. Tom Hansen, and Sgt. Steve Curns to regular status following successful completion of introductory period. Motion seconded by Commissioner Christians. Unanimous approval.**

**IV. Next Meeting Date: August 13, 2020**

*A. Future Agenda Items*

*No agenda items requested.*

*Commission Kopp noted he will not be able to attend the August 13th meeting due to military obligations.*

*Commissioner Jentz commented that he has questions about the process for Commission appointments recently. He is not questioning the appointments or authority of the Mayor to do so, but feels that recent appointments could have been handled with more transparency.*

*The Commission secretary noted that recent changes to the Rules and Regulations for Promotions and Appointments are being used by both the Police and Fire Departments even though the Commission has not been able to sign official copies of the documents. The Commission has not been able to gather due to Covid-19 restrictions and there has been some transition with new appointments of Commissioners.*

## **Adjournment**

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

**Meeting adjourned by Commissioner Happel at 10:05 a.m.**