

**MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF
THE BOARD OF FIRE AND POLICE COMMISSIONERS OF
THE CITY OF NORTH CHICAGO**

December 17, 2015

Held at the City of North Chicago Police Annex,
1801 Sheridan Road, North Chicago, Illinois

1. Chairwoman Dicker called the meeting to order at 9:00 A.M.
2. Roll call identified the following Commissioners present:
 Chairwoman Velma Dicker
 Commissioner Vanderbilt Blanchard

Commissioners absent:

 Secretary Shawna Huley

Attorney Miller advised that he received an email from Secretary Huley stating she was unable to rearrange her schedule to attend the meeting. Attorney Miller advised that he had inadvertently failed to email Secretary Huley the meeting notice and agenda, and apologized for his oversight which may have contributed to Secretary Huley's inability to attend the meeting.

Commissioner Blanchard to serve as Secretary pro tem as needed

Other persons present included:

 Attorney Joseph Miller of the law firm of Ottosen-Britz, Ltd.
 Attorney Bria O'Connor of the law firm of Ottosen-Britz, Ltd.
 Third Ward Alderman Carl Evans
 Officer Carl Sturt
 Lieutenant Tony Theis
 Detective Morris Wade

3. Chairwoman Dicker opened the meeting for Public Comment: No public comment was offered.
4. Approval of minutes.
 - a. The minutes from open session of the November 24, 2015 Board of fire and Police Commissioners were reviewed. Chairwoman Dicker made the motion to approve the minutes as presented, seconded by Commissioner Blanchard. No further discussion. Roll call vote: 2 Yes (Dicker, Blanchard), 0 No, 1 Absent (Huley). Motion and minutes approved.
 - b. The minutes from closed session of the November 24, 2015 Board of fire and Police Commissioners were reviewed. Chairwoman Dicker made the motion to approve and release for inspection the minutes as presented, seconded by Commissioner Blanchard. No further discussion. Roll call vote: 2 Yes (Dicker, Blanchard), 0 No, 1 Absent (Huley). Motion and minutes approved.

5. Old Business.

- a. Discussion/possible action on invoices for Commission services. After reviewing the invoices for legal services in the General and Retainer accounts, Chairwoman Dicker made a motion to approve payment of \$9,625.00 for General account expenses (for services from July, September, October and November 2015) and \$5,000.00 for Retainer expenses (billed quarterly, for services in July-August-September and October-November). Motion seconded by Commissioner Blanchard. No further discussion. Roll call vote: 2 Yes (Dicker, Blanchard), 0 No, 1 Absent (Huley). Invoices approved for payment.
- b. Chairwoman Dicker shared correspondence confirming the Commission's compliance with a subpoena from the North Chicago Firefighters' Pension Fund for records relating to Christopher Shearer.
- c. Chairwoman Dicker shared correspondence from Chief Urban announcing the resignation of Firefighter Anthony Rialmo effective December 29, 2015. Attorney Miller noted this was related to Item 6(b) under New Business.

6. New Business.

- a. Discussion/action regarding promotional examination for the rank of sergeant for the North Chicago Police Department.
 - i. Attorney Miller explained that various representatives of the City, notably the City's legal counsel as well as its labor counsel, confirmed the City's commitment to pay for costs for a Commission-sponsored police officer sergeant's examination.
 - ii. Attorney Miller and Attorney O'Connor opined that the legal interests of the City and Commission are best served by the Commission offering a police sergeant's examination, noting that was the Commission's mandate by law and that the Commission could ensure the process was done correctly.
 - iii. Motion by Commissioner Blanchard, seconded by Chairwoman Dicker, to offer a police officer sergeants' exam early next year. No further discussion. Roll call vote: 2 Yes (Dicker, Blanchard), 0 No, 1 Absent (Huley). Motion to offer a police officer sergeants' exam approved.
 - iv. Study list.
 1. Chairwoman Dicker and Attorney Miller noted that the study list hasn't changed since the last sergeant's exam.
 2. The Commission will set the date at the regular meeting to be held at in the Police Annex at 9:00 A.M. on January 7, 2016.
 3. The test will use the same study list.
 4. Attorney Miller will notify the Union of the study list.

v. Candidates.

1. Chairwoman Dicker was seeking to have a list of eligible candidates with each candidate's service dates for the meeting on January 7.
2. Officer Sturt stated there were approximately 25 to 30 eligible candidates.
3. Chairwoman Dicker noted that the training room, used for previous tests, might not be able to properly accommodate that number of candidates, so an alternative would need to be found.

vi. Test Date.

1. Per the Commission's rules, notice of the exam needs to be at least 90 days prior to the test date.
2. The Commission will set the date(s) and schedule(s) at the meeting on January 7.

b. Discussion/action regarding firefighter entry level appointment to fill vacancy caused by resignation of a firefighter.

- i. This related to Chairwoman Dicker's comment (Old Business, 5(c) above) of notice of resignation of Firefighter Anthony Rialmo.
- ii. Chairwoman Dicker reported that Chief Urban had requested the Commission authorize background checks on the next 3 candidates on the list (Lloyd Wollert, Orion Rich, Jaimie White).
- iii. Attorney Miller to contact Secretary Huley to retrieve applications from these 3 candidates.
- iv. Consensus of Commissioners to authorize background checks on these 3 candidates.

c. Discussion/action regarding promotional examination for the North Chicago Fire Department. Chairwoman Dicker clarified that the examination is for promotion to the rank of lieutenant. Chairwoman Dicker advised that the peer review validation for the test had been tentatively arranged, notice posted, and a test date of March 11, 2016, tentatively set. Motion by Chairwoman Dicker to authorize the promotional examination for March 11, 2016, and to ratify actions furthering that test date. Seconded by Commissioner Blanchard. No further discussion. Roll call vote: 2 Yes (Dicker, Blanchard), 0 No, 1 Absent (Huley). Invoices approved for payment.

7. Closed Session. Chairwoman Dicker requested closed session for a discussion concerning the appointment, employment of specific persons for the City of North Chicago. Motion by Chairwoman Dicker, second by Commissioner Blanchard, to enter closed session at 9:23 A.M. to discuss the appointment, employment of specific persons for the City of North Chicago per Section 2(c)(1) of the Open Meetings Act. There being no discussion, a roll call vote: 2 Yes (Dicker, Blanchard), 0 No, 1 Absent (Huley). Motion to enter closed session carried.

Members of the public left the meeting, including: Alderman Evans, Officer Sturt, Lieutenant Theis and Detective Wade.

8. Chairwoman Dicker recalled open session to order at 9:38 A.M.
9. Action on items from closed session
 - a. Motion by Chairwoman Dicker, second by Commissioner Blanchard, to table action on evaluation of 5 candidates as to the background investigations to the Commission's regular meeting on January 7, 2016. There being no discussion, a roll call vote: 2 Yes (Dicker, Blanchard), 0 No, 1 Absent (Huley). Motion to table evaluation approved.

Attorney O'Connor to notify Human Resources and the Deputy Police Chief to the Commission decision to table action on the background checks of the 5 candidates to the meeting on January 7.
10. Adjournment. There being no further business for the Commission, a motion was made by Chairwoman Dicker, seconded by Commissioner Blanchard, to adjourn at 9:40 A.M. A roll call vote was taken on the motion with the following results: 2 Yes (Dicker, Blanchard), 0 No, 1 Absent (Huley). Motion to adjourn carried.

Reminder:

Next Regular Meeting, at the Police Annex at 9:00 A.M. on Thursday, January 7, 2016.

Respectfully submitted,

Brian O'Connor
One of the Commission's Attorneys

Approved by the Commission on January 7, 2016.

Velma G. Dicker
Chair, Board of Fire and Police Commissioners
City of North Chicago

ATTEST:

Shawna Huley
Secretary, Board of Fire and Police Commissioners
City of North Chicago