

Police & Fire Commission

Tuesday, April 24, 2018

1

1 The Meeting of the Police & Fire Commission was called to order at 5:31 p.m. on Tuesday, April
2 24, 2018. It was noted that the meeting had been announced and a notice posted at City Hall.

3
4 Roll call was taken with the following members present: Lori Olson, Tom Brewer, John Every,
5 Mark Dahlke, Tom Kennedy

6
7 Also Present: Human Resource Director Hope Burchell

8 9 **Item 2 – Approval of minutes from the previous meeting**

10
11 Motion by John, second by Tom Kennedy, to approve the minutes from the previous meeting as
12 printed and on file in the City Clerk’s Office.

13
14 On voice vote, motion carried.

15 16 **Item 3 – Public Input (limited to 3 minutes per individual)**

17
18 Mark called for anyone wishing to provide public input.

19
20 **Shawn Colgan, Vice-President of the Onalaska Professional Police Association**
21 **No address given**

22
23 “Good evening, Police and Fire Commission. First, I want to thank you for hearing our members
24 and opening this position to internal candidates first. We have a great group of officers, and we
25 are proud of the city that we work for and strive to do the best possible job for the community.
26 We wanted to again address you to promote our vow of confidence in Interim Police Chief Troy
27 Miller. As you can tell, we are passionate to put in place an effective leader as by how many of
28 our staff have come to the Police and Fire Commission meetings over the past several weeks.
29 Interim Chief Miller has served our city for over 20 years. Interim Chief Miller has been in
30 every management level at the Onalaska Police Department over his tenure. He has risen
31 through the ranks based on his proactive attitude, attention to detail, and his management style.
32 He has been instrumental in his leadership over those years. Over the past several years Interim
33 Chief Troy Miller has been the guide that we have needed, and his focus has continued our
34 department in the right direction. In the past meetings, I have heard that it would look different
35 if Interim Chief Miller could stand up against other candidates. He does not need to stand with
36 others, as he has shown through his 20-plus years of service how he alone would do in this
37 position. Interim Chief Miller has proven that he can effectively lead the department in the many
38 years to come. This is not a steppingstone for Interim Chief Miller, as we have felt in prior
39 chiefs. This is his department. This department has invested countless dollars, time, and effort
40 in Interim Chief Miller, and he has given that back tenfold in regards to his guiding principles,
41 effective management style, and relationship with city leaders and staff. Interim Chief Miller is

Police & Fire Commission

Tuesday, April 24, 2018

2

42 one of those leaders who you strive to do your best for at all times. You understand that if a
43 mistake is made, you will be held accountable. You also understand that if you do a good job, he
44 will let you know. Some of our members have let you know about the past chief hiring process.
45 The top four candidates in the last chief hiring process have left their departments under ill
46 terms. This process is unlike those. We, you, have a known quantity in Interim Chief Miller.
47 You know his performance, management style, leadership techniques, history, and relationships
48 with this commission and other city leaders. This group has had the honor of promoting him
49 through the ranks, one step at a time. You have personally seen him grow through his career to
50 the leader that he is today. I sincerely hope for our city that you see all the qualities that we see
51 in him, and we look forward to Interim Chief Miller leading us toward our bright future. Thank
52 you.”

53

54 Mark called three times for anyone else wishing to provide public input and closed that portion
55 of the meeting.

56

57 **Consideration and possible action on the following items:**

58

59 **Item 4 – Reorganization/Election of Officers**

60

61 Motion by Lori, second by Tom Kennedy, to nominate and elect Mark Dahlke as President of the
62 Police and Fire Commission.

63

64 On voice vote, motion carried.

65

66 Motion by Lori, second by Tom Kennedy, to nominate and elect Tom Brewer as Vice President
67 of the Police and Fire Commission.

68

69 On voice vote, motion carried.

70

71 Motion by Lori, second by John, to nominate and elect Tom Kennedy as Secretary of the Police
72 and Fire Commission.

73

74 On voice vote, motion carried.

75

76 **Item 5 – Discussion of upcoming meeting date(s)**

77

78 Tentative meeting dates for the Police and Fire Commission are Monday, April 30; Monday,
79 May 14; and Wednesday, May 30.

80

81 **Item 6 – Closed Session:**

82

Police & Fire Commission

Tuesday, April 24, 2018

3

83 To consider a motion to convene in Closed Session under Section 19.85(1)(c) of the Wisconsin
84 Statutes for the purpose of considering employment, promotion, compensation or performance
85 evaluation data of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or
86 exercises responsibility:

87

88 • Interview of Police Chief Candidates

89

90 If any action is required in Open Session, the Commission will reconvene in Open Session to
91 take the necessary action and/or continue on with the printed agenda.

92

93 Motion by John, second by Tom Kennedy, to convene in Closed Session.

94

95 On roll call vote: Lori Olson – aye, Tom Brewer – aye, John Every – aye, Mark Dahlke – aye,
96 Tom Kennedy – aye. In Closed Session.

97

98 If any action is required in Open Session, the Commission will reconvene in Open Session to
99 take the necessary action and/or continue on with the printed agenda.

100

101 Motion by John, second by Lori, to reconvene in Open Session.

102

103 On roll call vote: Lori Olson – aye, Tom Brewer – aye, John Every – aye, Mark Dahlke – aye,
104 Tom Kennedy – aye. In Closed Session.

105

106 Motion by Tom Kennedy, second John, to offer Troy Miller the position of Chief of Police for
107 the City of Onalaska pending a background check.

108

109 On voice vote, motion carried

110

111 Motion by Lori, second by John, to adjourn.

112

113 On voice vote, motion carried.

114

115

116 Recorded by:

117

118 Kirk Bey