

MEETING OF PUBLIC SAFETY COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

Wednesday, February 2, 2022

The Public Safety Communications Commission meeting was remotely called to order at 5:00 p.m. by Commission Chair Bernashe.

Roll Call: Commissioner Cowles – Present
Police Chief Valliere– Present
Fire Chief Egloff – Present
Commissioner Emmings – Present
Commissioner Bernashe – Present

Approval of Last Meeting Minutes: Commissioner Cowles made a motion to approve the minutes from the last meeting which was held on January 12th, 2021. Chief Egloff seconded the motion. Roll call was taken.

Commissioner Cowles- Yes/ Chief Valliere- Yes/ Chief Egloff- Yes/ Commissioner Emmings- Yes/
Commissioner Bernashe- Yes
All in favor. Commission Chair Bernashe signed the minutes on behalf of the full Commission.

ETD Candidates for open, full time position: Commissioner Bernashe addressed two candidates that were in attendance on the Zoom meeting. She explained that the Commission was the appointing authority for the Public Safety Communications Department and that there were two open, full time positions to hire for. Commissioner Bernashe stated that the Commission would like each candidate to say a little about themselves and why they want to be a dispatcher for Westfield Public safety. Commissioner Bernashe called on Melissa Reyes to answer first:

Melissa Reyes: Melissa said that she wanted to be considered for the dispatcher position because she has dispatch experience and is passionate about the job. She said that she learned the job easily in Springfield and only left there to take time for her family. She is now looking to get back into the work field. Chief Valliere stated that her application shows that she has a lot of experience in dispatching and must know what the schedule of a dispatcher can be like. He then asked Melissa if the schedule would pose as a problem now if she were to be forced to work various shifts. Melissa answered that she made sure with her family before she even applied that she could manage the work schedule. She said that she has support at home that makes it possible for her to pursue another job in public safety.

At this time, Commissioner Bernashe requested the next candidate speak about herself.

Alysha Wozniak: Alysha introduced herself and said that she had no prior experience in public safety but that she believes the job to be an important one that helps the community. She said that she's interested in becoming a dispatcher to take care of the community and

field responders because she has a passion for helping people. She stated that she believes that the other jobs she has worked prior has helped her build skills that would make her a good dispatcher. Chief Valliere asked Alysha how long she had been in the military for. Alysha answered that it's been just over a year. He then asked if she can foresee any long deployments in the future. She said it's a potential but it all depends on training locations and other factors. Chief Egloff then asked Alysha her AFSC in the Air Force. She replied that she is a 2T2, specifically in passenger services at Westover. Commissioner Cowles asked Alysha if she knows what is expected of her and is prepared to take the position as far as schedule and training. Alysha said that she is aware and has some experience with working long days while going to school full time as well.

After no further questions or discussion, Chief Egloff made a motion to hire Melissa Reyes in the first spot for the full time dispatcher position. Commissioner Cowles seconded the motion. Vote was taken:

Commissioner Cowles- Yes/ Chief Valliere- Yes/ Chief Egloff- Yes/ Commissioner Emmings- Yes/
Commissioner Bernashe- Yes

All in favor. Commission Chair Bernashe congratulated Melissa on the appointment.

Commissioner Cowles made a motion to hire Alysha Wozniak in the second spot for the full time dispatcher position. Chief Valliere seconded the motion. Vote was taken:

Commissioner Cowles- Yes/ Chief Valliere- Yes/ Chief Egloff- Yes/ Commissioner Emmings- Yes/
Commissioner Bernashe- Yes

All in favor. Commission Chair Bernashe congratulated Alysha on the appointment and explained to both candidates that these appointments are contingent on CORI and background checks.

Administrator Barszcz stated that she would contact them tomorrow for start dates and new hire information.

Next Regular Meeting: Announcement was made for the next scheduled meeting on March 9th, 2022.

Motion to Adjourn: At 5:14 p.m., Chief Egloff made a motion to adjourn, the motion was seconded by Chief Valliere. All Commissioners in favor; meeting adjourned.



Commission Chairperson Lenore Bernashe