

# MEETING OF PUBLIC SAFETY COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

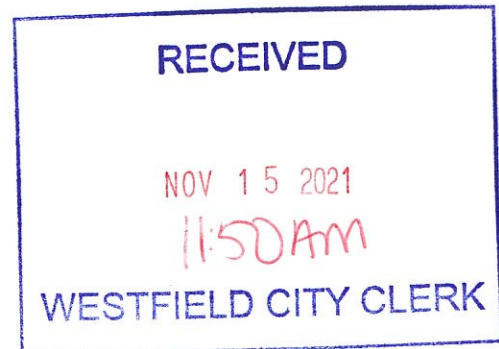
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## WESTFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS

Wednesday, September 1, 2021

The Public Safety Communications Commission meeting was called to order at 59 Court Street, Westfield MA in Council Chambers at 6:00 p.m. by Commission Chairperson Bernashe.

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



Public Comment: No one from the public wished to address the Commission.

Approval of Last Meeting Minutes: Commissioner Emmings made a motion to approve the minutes from the June 16<sup>th</sup> and July 21<sup>st</sup>, 2021, meetings. Chief Valliere seconded the motion. Roll call was taken.

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

All in favor. Both sets of minutes were signed by Commission Chair Bernashe on behalf of the full board.

New Business: No new business to be discussed.

Old Business: No old business to be discussed.

ETD Candidates for Open, Full Time Position: Present at the meeting were two candidates who applied for the open full time dispatcher position; Carissa Weeks and Tausha Rocke. Commissioner Bernashe advised the two candidates how the Commissioners usually ask a few questions to each candidate before a decision is made to appoint. Commissioner Bernashe chose in alphabetical order to start with Tausha Rocke.

Director's Update:

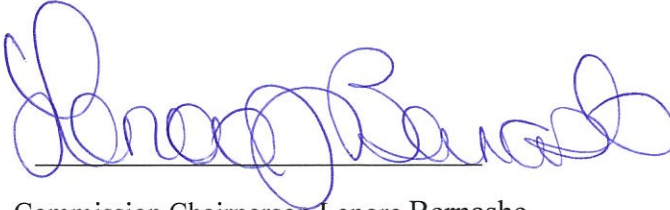
Staffing: Administrator Barszcz advised that staffing is still at minimal levels with both Leads working the line. The one trainee that had been in training, resigned in August, leaving only one in training. Her projected on shift date is late November. Lead Dispatcher Gustafson has announced her retirement as of November 3<sup>rd</sup> which means that for two weeks, the staffing level will be below minimum. Administrator Barszcz briefly talked about impact bargaining coming up for the regionalization with Southwick and needing to look at fair compensation to help retain current employees and attract candidates for hire. An employment requisition has been sent to the Personnel Dept to hire another per diem dispatcher.

Regionalization: The Development Grant was voted on and accepted in the Finance Committee meeting the night prior which will allow the work of two projects to begin. The projects are connecting Southwick to Westfield with fiber and starting the radio overhaul process in Southwick which will stabilize their system's infrastructure and bring it up to date in order to communicate with Westfield Dispatch. The "go-live" date for full regionalization is still about eighteen months out according to Administrator Barszcz.

Next Regular Meeting: Announcement was made for the next scheduled meeting on November 10<sup>th</sup>, 2021.

Motion to Adjourn: At 6:55 p.m., Commissioner Cowles made a motion to adjourn, the motion was seconded by Commissioner Emmings. All Commissioners in favor; meeting adjourned.

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Commission Chairperson Lenore Bernashe