

SPECIAL MEETING OF WESTFIELD POLICE COMMISSION

WESTFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS

October 11, 2023

The Westfield Police Commission meeting was called to order at City Hall, 59 Court Street, Westfield, MA, in Room 201 at 4 pm.

Roll Call: Richard Sypek – Present
James Irwin – Present
Peter Velis – Present

Chairman Richard Sypek asked for anyone recording the meeting to identify themselves; Cliff Clark from the Westfield News is recording the meeting.

A. Approval and Release of Minutes

Commissioner Sypek motioned to approve and release the minutes dated October 3, 2023.

Commissioner Sypek: Yes Commissioner Velis: Yes Commissioner Irwin: Yes

B. Open Participation - None

C. Old Business: Update on chief selection process

Commissioner Sypek provided an update regarding Russ Stevens from Public Safety Consultants. Mr. Stevens completed the list of candidate questions and forwarded them to Anne Larkham, Personnel Director, for approval. Ms. Larkham, present at the meeting, said she received them on Tuesday but needs to meet with Chairman Sypek to narrow them down as there are many similar questions. Commissioner Irwin asked Ms. Larkham about questions the commission may produce own their own and was told the questions can be emailed to her for review. The questions must be individually proposed by the Commissioners, otherwise they must be brought forth during an open meeting.

Commissioner Velis verified with Ms. Larkham that commission questions are not required to be approved by her, but submitted questions will be reviewed on a general basis to be sure there is nothing illegal or inappropriate being asked. She emphasized that all candidates must be asked the same questions.

D. New Business - None

E. Commissioner Sypek indicated that the next step is to set the date for interviews. They must be done in a special open meeting, and the commissioners estimated a timeframe of approximately one hour per candidate. It is preferred to complete all the interviews on the same day.

Commissioner Irwin made a motion to meet Friday, October 27, 2023 at 1 pm for candidate interviews. Candidates will draw straws prior to determine interview order. Commissioner Velis seconded the motion.

Commissioner Sypek: Yes Commissioner Velis: Yes Commissioner Irwin: Yes

At 4:15 pm, Commissioner Irwin made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Velis seconded the motion.

Commissioner Sypek: Yes Commissioner Velis: Yes Commissioner Irwin: Yes

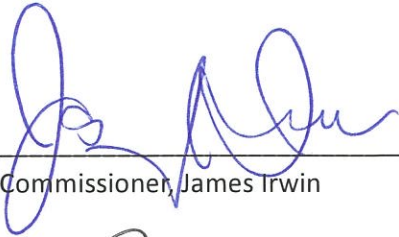
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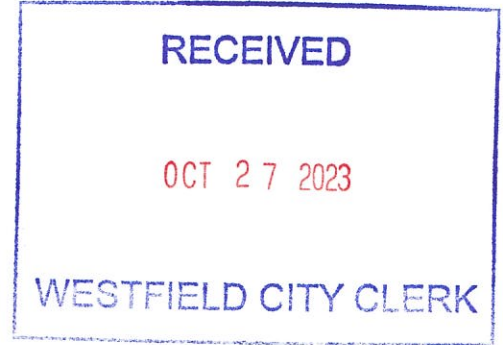
Chairman, Richard Sypek



Commissioner, James Irwin



Commissioner, Peter Velis



APPROVED FOR RELEASE ON 10/27/2023