

**MICHIGAN CITY POLICE CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
June 24, 2010**

The Police Civil Service Commission of Michigan City, Indiana, held its regular monthly meeting on Thursday, June 24, 2010, in the Council Chambers at City Hall, located at 100 E. Michigan Blvd., Michigan City, Indiana.

**DETERMINATION OF QUORUM**

A quorum was present to conduct business.

**CALL TO ORDER**

Commissioner Michael Palmer called the meeting to order at 5:38 p.m.

**ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS**

Present: Commissioners Deloise Howse, John Pliske and Michael Palmer.

Also present: Chief of Police Ben Neitzel, Chief of Operations Mark Swistek, Attorney Pam Krause, Captain Mark Harris, Council Liaisons Pat Boy and Angie Nelson, and Recording Secretary Gale Neulieb.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Commissioner Pliske moved to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held on May 13, 2010, the Special Meeting held on May 15, 2010 and the Executive Meeting held on June 5, 2010, be accepted as submitted, second by Commissioner Palmer. **Motion carried 3-0.**

**OLD BUSINESS**

**PROBATIONARY OFFICER REPORTS**

Captain Mark Harris reported:

- ◆ Probationary Officer Jason Cracknell is scheduled to graduate from the academy on July 9<sup>th</sup>. He will report to Shift #3 and finish Phase 2 of the FTO program on July 12<sup>th</sup>. His FTO will be Officer Holaway.
- ◆ Probationary Officer Michael King is scheduled to graduate from the academy on July 9<sup>th</sup>. He will report to Shift #3 and finish Phase 2 of the FTO program on July 12<sup>th</sup>. His FTO will be Officer Washluske.
- ◆ Probationary Officer Michael McLemore is scheduled to graduate from the academy on July 9<sup>th</sup>. He will report to Shift #2 and finish Phase 2 of the FTO program on July 12<sup>th</sup>. His FTO will be Officer K. Pliske.
- ◆ Probationary Officer Michael Petri is scheduled to graduate from the academy on July 9<sup>th</sup>. He will report to Shift #2 and finish Phase 2 of the FTO program on July 12<sup>th</sup>. His FTO will be Officer Raymond.
- ◆ Probationary Officer Jacob Ray is scheduled to graduate from the academy on July 9<sup>th</sup>. He will report to Traffic Division and finish Phase 2 of the FTO program on July 12<sup>th</sup>. His FTO will be Officer Urbanczyk.
- ◆ Probationary Officer Matthew Cottrill is currently at the Indiana Law Enforcement Academy and is scheduled to graduate on October 1, 2010.
- ◆ Probationary Officer Michael Oberle is currently at the Indiana Law Enforcement Academy and is scheduled to graduate on October 1, 2010.
- ◆ Probationary Officer Ryan Ayres is currently at the Indiana Law Enforcement Academy and is scheduled to graduate on October 1, 2010.

### **POLYGRAPH REPORTS**

Commissioner Palmer stated that seventeen (17) applicants have been sent for their polygraphs. Ten of them are completed and will be reviewed at the end of the meeting today.

### **BACKGROUND INVESTIGATION**

There are no applicants in the background phase.

### **PHYSICAL/PSYCHOLOGICAL TESTING**

Chief Neitzel reported that applicant Yoder had completed his physical and psychological exam on June 7th. As soon as the results are received a meeting will be scheduled with the local pension board.

### **PERF**

There are no applicants in PERF.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED**

- Copies of letters from Mayor Oberlie and Chief Ben Neitzel to Corporal Matthew Barr congratulating him for completing 10 years of service with the Michigan City Police Department.
- Letter of resignation from Probationary Officer Kyle Mason effective with the close of business on May 17, 2010.
- Letter from Chief Neitzel recommending Probationary Officer Kenneth Equia be removed from probationary status and upgraded to First Class Patrolman effective June 1, 2010.
- Claims to be paid totaling \$3,686.93.

Motion was made by Commissioner Pliske and seconded by Commissioner Howse to accept the letter of resignation from Probationary Officer Kyle Mason effective with the close of business on May 17, 2010.

**Motion carried 3-0.**

Motion was made by Commissioner Pliske and seconded by Commissioner Howse to remove Probationary Officer Kenneth Equia from probationary status and upgraded to First Class Patrolman effective June 1, 2010. **Motion carried 3-0.**

On motion of Commissioner Pliske, seconded by Commissioner Howse, claims in the amount of \$3,686.93 should be paid. **Motion carried 3-0.**

### **PAST PERFORMANCE REPORTS JAN 1- JUNE 30, 2010**

Chief Neitzel reported that the past performance reports are currently being processed and would not be surprised if its not the quickest return of a past performance report period because of the two upcoming retirements.

### **2011 BUDGET**

Motion was made by Commissioner Howse and seconded by Commissioner Pliske to approve the 2011 budget totaling \$27,531.00. **Motion carried 3-0.**

### **REPORT FROM CHIEF NEITZEL**

- ◆ Congratulated Asst. Chief Mark Swistek for his recent appointment as Chief of Police by the Mayor on June 4<sup>th</sup> making him the 37<sup>th</sup> Chief of the department. He went on to say that the agency and the city will be in great hands with this leadership.
- ◆ Thanked the men and women of the police department as well as all the volunteers (Reserve and EMA) who helped during the recent storms.

- ◆ Encouraged the public to utilize the 211 phone system that is available free of charge to answer fact finding questions they may have.
- ◆ Reminded the public to think of alternative routes and be patient with the Michigan Blvd. reconstruction project.
- ◆ Requested the Commissioners reschedule the July meeting to July 15<sup>th</sup>.

**ASST. CHIEF COMMENTS**

Asst. Chief Swistek reported:

- ◆ Thanked the Chief for the kind words and encouragement.
- ◆ Appreciated during the last 6 years having the opportunity to work with both Chief Neitzel and Asst. Chief Kintzele with their experience, knowledge and support.
- ◆ Stated he is looking forward to the opportunities and not the challenges ahead of us.
- ◆ Reminded the public that the fireworks would take place on July 11<sup>th</sup> and parking is restricted on the Blvd. so they should find alternative parking.
- ◆ Announced that there will be two remote parking lots available for spectators on Aug 7 and 8<sup>th</sup> for overflow parking for the Powerboat Race.

**COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS**

- ◆ Commissioner Howse congratulated A/C Swistek on his promotion/new assignment as is looking forward to working with him.
- ◆ Commissioner Pliske told A/C Swistek he is inheriting a very young police department and with the new administration being young it will be an exciting time for the MCPD. He is also looking forward to working with him.
- ◆ Commissioner Palmer reminded Asst. Chief Swistek that his hair color will not remain the same when he becomes Chief and as long as he can handle the challenges from the Police Commission he will do fine. He too is looking forward to what lies ahead.

**ATTORNEY COMMENTS**

There were no comments from the Attorney.

**COUNCIL COMMENTS**

Pat Boy congratulated Chief Neitzel on his upcoming retirement and to A/C Swistek for his promotion to Chief.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Gale Neulieb congratulated A/C Swistek on his new assignment and to Chief Neitzel on his soon to be retirement.

The next regular meeting is scheduled for THURSDAY, July 15, 2010 at 5:30 p.m.

There being no further business the meeting recessed at 5:54 p.m. on motion by Commissioner Pliske and seconded by Commissioner Howse, **Motion carried 3-0.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
John Pliske, Secretary

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Michael D. Palmer, President

\_\_\_\_\_  
Deloise Howse, Vice-President