

**NASHVILLE METROPOLITAN POLICE MERIT COMMISSION MEETING
TUESDAY, MARCH 26, 2024**

Police Merit Commission Members present: President Ken Wendling, Secretary Tom Bauer, Member Ric Fox, Member Mike Rozzi. Member Absent: Vice-President Linda Lawson. Also present: Chief Heather Burris, Town Manager Sandie Jones.

COMMISSION BUSINESS

1) CALL TO ORDER

President Ken Wendling called the meeting to order at 10:05 AM.

2) ROLL CALL

President Wendling called the roll.

3) APPROVAL AND DISCUSSION OF GENERAL MEETING MINUTES FROM 02/29/24

Member Fox made a motion to approve the General Meeting minutes from the 02/29/202 meeting. President Wendling seconded the motion. The minutes were approved unanimously.

4) CLARIFICATION OF THE PUBLISHED MONTHLY MEETING DATE OF THE NASHVILLE METROPOLITAN POLICE MERIT COMMISSION FOR 2024.

Secretary Bauer pointed out that the minutes of the January meeting had mentioned in error that the official meeting of the Nashville Metropolitan Police Merit Commission would take place on the "4th Thursday at 3 PM" of every month during 2024. It should have read "4th Tuesday at 10 AM". Member Fox made a motion to officially hold the monthly meeting each month on the 4th Tuesday of each month at 10 AM. Secretary Bauer seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

5) REPORT FROM CHIEF BURRIS AND UPDATES ON POLICE DEPARTMENT ACTIVITIES AND ISSUES DURING FEBRUARY 2024.

- A. Chief Burris prepared a handout for discussion and consideration of police activities and issues during February. (Addendum 1 is attached).

- B. Heather Turner has been hired as a Reserve Officer and provided with a uniform and equipment. Heather is interested in going to the Police Academy for the necessary training and credentials to become a full-time officer. Chief Burris thinks she has the potential to make a good officer. Chief Burris has asked her to put in a full month of work at the department and then attend a formal interview with the Police Merit Board if she is still interested in further training.

- C. Member Rozzi brought up an issue that has to do with the hiring of an officer who has not completed all necessary training and credentials. "If the Nashville Metropolitan Police Department pays for that training with local funds and pays that trainee a wage during training, what legal commitment is made for that trainee to stay on the job with this department and not be lured to a community that can pay more. And are there any arrangements to pay back our department". Chief Burris said there is no legal policy in place that would keep this from happening and is concerned that this type of policy might be a deterrent. Member Rozzi has encouraged the board to have a discussion on this issue. President Wendling has agreed that the Board will begin a discussion of this and other hiring issues at the April meeting.

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- D. President Wendling asked Chief Burriss about the status of Reserve Officer Jessica Bolin, who completed all the Police Academy standards but did not pass the physical tests. Chief Burriss said that she is researching and working on Jessica's behalf to receive a Tier 2 status in law enforcement. This would allow her to work for a university or hospital.
- E. Town Manager Jones asked Chief Burriss about final town police safety plans leading up to and following the Solar Eclipse on Monday, April 8th. Chief Burriss reported that there has been very good planning for the event. There has been excellent communication between police, fire and ambulance services in the county to prepare for the event. All members of the Nashville Metropolitan Police Department will be on duty in town before, during and after the event. Chief Burriss will provide the Merit Board and Town Council members with a town police communication plan (205 Plan) which will be in effect for the event. Two drones and operators will be available for surveillance. The department has temporarily added two utility vehicles with emergency lighting for deployment during the event. Volunteers are providing and delivering food to the police department to feed personnel during the event. Chief Burriss has asked Merit Board members to help at the station by monitoring the town emergency radios at the station while officers are out on patrol.

6) ADJOURNMENT

Member Rozzi moved to adjourn the meeting. Member Fox seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved. President Wendling adjourned the meeting at 11:15 AM.



Police Merit Commission President Ken Wendling



Date

ADDENDUM 1

Nashville Police Department:

February 2024:

- February monthly training- IPSC and radio communications.
 - IPSC showed our department how to use direct channels that could be a useful tool during parades and other events. This is a way for us to communicate with each other without tying up the radio talk paths for dispatch. Amanda from IPSC also shared some radio information we could possibly look into for the future of 800mhz with our department.
- Officers with the Nashville Police Department volunteered at the annual Daddy Daughter Dance for Parks and Recreation.
- Chief Burris was able to get Kroger to give 40 packs of water at store cost for our Department and Townhall employees at the price of \$3.67 per 40 pack.
- Nashville Police Department has been given the opportunity to have a few BCHS students (18 years of age-seniors) the ability to ride along with Officer Heath Young on his night shift patrol.
- Nashville Police Department had another BCHS intern for a day. We toured the Police Station, one on one with the officers, tour of the government side at Townhall, and Judge Werts and the Courthouse staff allowed our department to take the intern inside the Courthouse.
- Nancy Crocker volunteered to put meals together for the Police Department and VSHOC for the Eclipse.
- Mrs. Andi Wilson is still helping our Department with our website managing it and helping us stay up to date. Thank you!
- The Eclipse: Tuesday, April 8th, 2024-patrol and what to expect.
 - Our department will be responding to emergencies on the day of the Eclipse through our dispatched 911 calls from the Brown County dispatch center and EMA.

*Equipment sell to other agency-motion for negation of sell.

*Resolution for Emergency services to use alternate use of transportation during Eclipse.

Randon Fact:

< Giraffes are 30 times more likely to get struck by lightning than people.

< Identical twins don't have the same fingerprints.