

**NASHVILLE METROPOLITAN POLICE MERIT COMMISSION MEETING
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2023**

Police Merit Commission Members present: President Ken Wendling, Secretary Tom Bauer, Member Ric Fox. Police Merit Commission Members absent: Member Jim Hays, Vice-President Linda Lawson. Also present: Chief Heather Burris, Lieutenant Mike Horn, and Town Manager Sandie Jones.

COMMISSION BUSINESS

1) CALL TO ORDER

President Wendling called the meeting to order at 3:30pm.

2) ROLL CALL

President Wendling called the roll.

3) APPROVAL AND DISCUSSION OF GENERAL MEETING MINUTES FROM 8/15/23

Secretary Bauer made a motion to approve the general meeting minutes from the 8/15/23 meeting. Seconded by Member Fox. The minutes were approved unanimously.

4) REPORT FROM POLICE CHIEF BURRIS

- A. Chief Burris read the resignation letter from Officer Dylan Smock to those assembled. His services to the department and the community will be missed.
- B. Chief Burris discussed the hiring procedures that are currently in place to replace the position vacated by the resignation of Officer Smock. Chief Burris has sent out hiring notices to several sources including the ILEA. As of this meeting she has received inquiries from only three applicants. She is concerned that there is a general shortage of qualified candidates. She prefers to hire candidates that have already completed Police Academy training.
- C. Chief Burris will temporarily handle the role of Public Information Officer (PIO) for the department that had been held by Officer Smock.
- D. Chief Burris reminded the Police Merit Board Members of the Discussion Meeting with other town agencies to discuss the goals of the Nashville Metropolitan Police Department and how they integrate with the goals and directions of other Nashville town agencies. The group will include the Town Council, the Police Merit Board, the Town Attorney, and Town Administrators. The meeting is scheduled for October 10, 2023 at 5pm in the Police Station Training Room following the regular meeting of the Police Merit Board.
- E. Chief Burris has completed working on Budget Planning for 2024 and targeting specific goals and improvements for the Police Department for next year. She spent time with the Police Merit Board Members during the meeting detailing her process and explaining the Local, State and National funding that will be used to cover costs within the 2024 budget. The Budget will be presented to the town council for consideration and approval on September 18, 2023.

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5) ADJOURNMENT

Member Fox moved to adjourn the meeting. Secretary Bauer seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved. President Wendling adjourned the meeting at 4:45 PM.



Police Merit Commission President Wendling



Date