

MINUTES OF A SPECIAL MEETING

URBANA CIVILIAN POLICE REVIEW BOARD

DATE: September 19, 2012

TIME: 5:30 p.m.

PLACE: Urbana City Council Chambers
Urbana City Building
400 South Vine Street
Urbana, Illinois 61801

MEMBERS PRESENT: Tom Costello, Ricardo Díaz, Scott Dossett, Diane Gottheil,
James McNeely

STAFF PRESENT: Todd Rent, Human Relations Officer

OTHERS PRESENT: John Wason

1. CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL, AND DECLARATION OF QUORUM

The meeting was called to order at 5:41 p.m. by Chair Tom Costello. Roll was taken and a quorum was declared present.

2. CHANGES TO THE AGENDA

It was proposed that Old Business be moved from item 5 on the agenda to Item 3, to be followed by New Business, Public Participation, Closed Session, Announcements, and Adjournment. There were no objections.

3. OLD BUSINESS

A. Ratification of vote from Appeals Hearing on October 26, 2011 in complaint #1010-09.

At the appeals hearing held on October 26, 2011, the Board voted to render its findings in the case heard at said hearing in closed session. It was later realized that, by the terms of the Illinois Open Meetings Act, said vote should have been taken in open session. Based on the advice of City legal counsel, the Board therefore ratified the same vote in open session at the present meeting.

Mr. Dossett made a motion that the Board sustain the findings of the Chief of Police in complaint case #1010-09. Mr. McNeely seconded the motion. Roll was taken and the votes were as follows:

Costello – aye
Díaz – nay
Dossett – aye

Gottheil – abstain
McNeely – aye

With three “aye” votes, one “nay” vote, and one abstention, the motion carried.

4. NEW BUSINESS

A. Selection of administrative hearing officers for two appeals hearings

The Board was presented with résumés from four attorneys selected by City staff as qualified candidates for administrative hearing officer. The candidates were: Marc Ansel, Lorna Geiler, Donald Jackson, and Alyx Parker. The résumés were reviewed and discussed by the Board. Questions from the Board were addressed by Mr. Rent. Chair Costello asked that it be noted for the record that both Mr. Ansel and Mr. Parker represent the Champaign-Urbana Mass Transit District, of which Chair Costello is a member of management.

Mr. Dossett made a motion that the Board accept all four attorneys as potential administrative hearing officers, with Mr. Ansel and Mr. Parker being prioritized as candidates. The motion was seconded by Mr. McNeely. Chair Costello called for a voice vote. All were in favor. The motion carried unanimously.

B. Selection of hearing dates for pending appeals of two citizen police complaints

It was the consensus of the Board that City staff gauge Board member availability by means of electronic polling. City staff agreed to undertake this task on the workday following this meeting.

5. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

John Wason addressed the Board. Mr. Wason asked if any portion of an appeals hearing was open to the public. Chair Costello answered that the vote to render the Board’s findings in a given case was the only portion open to the public. A brief discussion ensued regarding the manner in which an appeals hearing proceeds and the reasoning behind the confidentiality of the same.

6. CLOSED SESSION

Mr. Dossett made a motion that the Board enter into closed session for the purpose of Board review of complaint materials associated with pending appeals of citizen police complaints, pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1). Mr. McNeely seconded the motion. Chair Costello called for a voice vote. All were in favor. The motion carried unanimously. The Board entered into closed session at 6:20 p.m.

Mr. Dossett made a motion that the Board exit closed session and return to open session. The motion was seconded by Mr. McNeely. Chair Larson called for a voice vote. All were in favor. The motion carried unanimously. The Board returned to open session at 6:40 p.m.

7. ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were none.

8. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, Mr. Dossett made a motion that the meeting be adjourned. Mr. McNeely seconded the motion. Chair Costello called for a voice vote. All were in favor. The motion carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Tony Weck, Recording Secretary