

The Board of Safety Meeting was called to order by Chairman Eric Graf at 5:32 p.m., in the Schererville Police Department Meeting and Training Facility, 25 E. Joliet Street, Schererville, IN.

Attendance was taken with the following Board Members present: Eric Graf, George Kouros, David Jaroszewski, and Giovanni Veitkus. Staff members present: Chief of Police Peter Sormaz, Deputy Chief of Police Steven McNamara, and Fire Chief Robert Patterson. Also present: Attorney Christian Bartholomew in lieu of Attorney Alfredo Estrada, Town Manager James Gorman, Director of Operations Andy Hansen, and Town Council President Thomas Schmitt. Absent: David Eenigenburg, Deputy Fire Chief David Meyer and Recording Secretary Stephanie Bottiger.

THEREUPON, Approval of the Minutes

Mr. Jaroszewski made a motion to approve the minutes of the July 11, 2024, regular Public Meeting, seconded by Mr. Veitkus. Motion carries (4 – 0).

THEREUPON, Correspondence

ITEM A. FD – NONE

ITEM B. PD – NONE

THEREUPON, Old Business

ITEM A. FD – NONE

ITEM B. PD – NONE

THEREUPON, New Business

ITEM A. FD – Approval to Hire Part-Time Employees

Chief Patterson requested approval from the Board to hire two part-time employees to fill open slots:

- Michael Van Waardenburg – Firefighter/EMT
- James Miller – Firefighter/Paramedic

Motion made by Mr. Kouros, seconded by Mr. Jaroszewski. Motion carries (4 – 0). It should be noted there was a third name on the list to hire, Anthony Jackson, Chief Patterson stated his name was withdrawn.

ITEM B. PD – Time Promotion for Officer Madeline Guillermo

Chief Sormaz requested approval from the Board for the time promotion for Officer Madeline Guillermo, badge #226, from Probationary Patrolman to 1st Class Patrolman, effective August 22, 2024. Chief Sormaz advised the Board she had completed all necessary requirements for all the stages of time promotion, according to Police Policy and Procedure. As motion was being made by Mr. Jaroszewski, Chief Sormaz corrected the effective date from August 22, 2024 to August 19, 2024. Motion made by Mr. Jaroszewski, seconded by Mr. Veitkus. Motion carries (4 – 0).

THEREUPON, Reports

ITEM A. Police Chief

Chief Sormaz thanked the residents, visitors, vendors, and all the first responders for attending the annual National Night Out that took place on August 6, 2024, at Redar Park.

For the month of June, 2024, the Patrol Division responded to 1,858 incidents and took 98 accident reports. There were 197 total arrests. The Patrol Division filed 277 charges of which 98 were Class A Misdemeanors, 50 were Class B Misdemeanors, 91 were Class C Misdemeanors, 2 were Level 4 Felonies, 3 were Level 5 Felonies and 33 were Level 6 Felonies. The Patrol Division served 95 total warrants. They performed 643 traffic stops resulting in 420 citations issued of which 92 were local ordinances and 328 were state infractions. 448 warnings were also issued. The Patrol Division performed 189 vehicle searches, of which 58 were K9 vehicle searches. There were 161 Proactive Patrols.

For the month of June, 2024, the Criminal Investigations Division (CID) filed 43 criminal charges which were the result of 22 cases. Of these 43 charges, 24 were felony, and 19 were misdemeanor. 10 were filed in the Schererville Town Court, 30 were filed in Lake County Court, and 3 were filed in the Lake County Juvenile Court. The CID investigated 64 incidents for the month of June.

For the month of July, 2024, Schererville Police Officers attended 175 hours of training.

For the month of July, 2024, the Animal Control Report was unavailable.

ITEM B. Fire Chief

For the month of July, 2024, the Schererville Fire Department performed 30 inspections, responded to 369 incidents of which 271 were EMS related, 65 were Fire related, 29 were Alarms/Investigations, and 4 were Fire Prevention, Inspection and/or training. They also attended 392.3 hours of training.

ITEM C. Attorney – NONE

THEREUPON, Board Members NONE

THEREUPON, Business from the Floor Logan's Love

Schererville resident Georgianne Glauas, is a member of Logan's Love, an organization started in 2018 to, "encourage positive change, acts of kindness and charitable giving; focusing on the development of children and building strong communities". Ms. Glauas invited those in attendance to the Logan's Love Annual Autism Walk, held August 18, 2024, at Rhorman Park. She went on to add, the proceeds raised would continue to support the Ben's Blue Bags initiative as well as starting a Project Life Saver Initiative for the Fire Department. Ms. Glauas stated there would be a Logan's Love Golf Outing on September 28, 2024, at Wicker Park, in Highland, from which the proceeds would benefit the sensory events they hold throughout the year. Mr. Kouros asked if Councilwoman Arvanitis had a hand in obtaining the Ben's Blue Bags for the Officers' squad cars, to which she replied yes.

THEREUPON, Adjournment

There being no further business, Mr. Jaroszewski made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mr. Veitkus. Motion carries (4 – 0). The meeting was adjourned at 5:40 p.m.

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CHAIRMAN

GEORGE KOUROS
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