

**VILLAGE OF KRONENWETTER
POLICE AND FIRE COMMISSION**

MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, JANUARY 4, 2010

Jon Rheinschmidt called the Police and Fire Commission meeting to order at 5:28 p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF PROPER POSTING OF AGENDA AND PRESENCE OF QUORUM:

Mr. Rheinschmidt announced there is a quorum of Commission members at this meeting, and the meeting was properly posted.

ROLL CALL:

Present: Jon Rheinschmidt, Lucene Udulutch, Chet Rucinski, and Paul Raymond. Also present: Dianne Drew, Secretary. David Forsythe was excused.

APPROVE 11/19/09 MEETING MINUTES:

Paul Raymond made a Motion to approve the 11/19/09 regular and closed session meeting minutes as submitted. Motion seconded by Lucene Udulutch. Roll call: Rucinski—abstain, Rheinschmidt—yes, Raymond—yes, Udulutch--yes. Motion approved.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF POSSIBLE CLOSED SESSION:

Jon Rheinschmidt announced the Commission may possibly convene into closed session pursuant to Wis. Stats. § 19.85(1)(f), to consider financial, medical, social or personal histories or disciplinary data of specific persons, preliminary consideration of specific personnel problems or the investigation of charges against specific persons except where par. (b) applies which, if discussed in public, would be likely to have an adverse effect upon the reputation of any person referred to in such histories or data, or involved in such problems or investigations.

PUBLIC INPUT:

None.

CONSIDERATION OF MOTION TO CONVENE INTO CLOSED SESSION PURSUANT TO SECTION 19.85(1)(F) TO CONSIDER FINANCIAL, MEDICAL, SOCIAL OR PERSONAL HISTORIES OR DISCIPLINARY DATA OF SPECIFIC PERSONS, PRELIMINARY CONSIDERATION OF SPECIFIC PERSONNEL PROBLEMS OR THE INVESTIGATION OF CHARGES AGAINST SPECIFIC PERSONS EXCEPT WHERE PAR. (B) APPLIES WHICH, IF DISCUSSED IN PUBLIC, WOULD BE LIKELY TO HAVE A SUBSTANTIAL ADVERSE EFFECT UPON THE REPUTATION OF ANY PERSON REFERRED TO IN SUCH HISTORIES OR DATA, OR INVOLVED IN SUCH PROBLEMS OR INVESTIGATIONS:

Lucene Udulutch made a Motion to convene into closed session pursuant to Section 19.85(1)(f) to consider financial, medical, social or personal histories or disciplinary data of specific persons, preliminary consideration of specific personnel problems or the investigation of charges against specific persons except where par. (b) applies which, if discussed in public, would be likely to have an adverse effect upon the reputation of any person referred to in such histories or data, or involved in such problems or investigations. Motion seconded by Paul Raymond. Roll call: Raymond—yes, Udulutch--yes, Rucinski—yes, Rheinschmidt—yes. Motion approved.

The Commission convened into closed session at 5:35 p.m.

Fire Chief Roger James; Fire Department Secretary Theresa O'Brien; EMT Coordinator Jason Budnik and Fire Cpt. James Luedtke arrived for and were invited into the meeting at 5:40 p.m.

MOTION TO RECONVENE INTO OPEN SESSION:

Paul Raymond made a Motion to reconvene into open session. Motion seconded by Chet Rucinski. Roll call: Udulutch—yes, Rheinschmidt—yes, Raymond—yes, Rucinski—yes. Motion approved.

The Commission reconvened into open session at 6:18 p.m.

HEARING ON REINSTATEMENT REQUEST OF RYAN TESCHNER:

Hearing called to order by President Jon Rheinschmidt. Mr. Rheinschmidt read Chief James' attached 12/3/09 letter addressed to Ryan Teschner regarding the employment termination charges against him. Mr. Teschner stated the reason he was absent from fire calls and meetings was because he lost his job and had economic hardships. He stated it was not his intention to not be involved. He stated he now works second shift and cannot make the Thursday night Fire Department meetings. He stated he was unaware of the Friday morning make-up meetings. When questioned, he confirmed he had not requested a leave of absence.

Paul Raymond brought up his concerns about Mr. Teschner's lack of contacting the Fire Department over the two years about the difficulties he was experiencing. Mr. Raymond stated there is a limited number of fire department staff, and if he does not show up at meetings, fire calls or training, it puts the other firefighters and the public in a precarious position and is a safety issue. Mr. Teschner stated his family comes first.

President Rheinschmidt reminded Mr. Teschner that if he wanted to be part of the Fire Department, he must keep them informed of what is going on, as it is an obligation to be taken seriously. Mr. Teschner apologized for not calling Chief James.

Mr. Teschner voiced his intention to meet the department's standards for attendance, unless he's at work. He stated he is more used to a fire department being on a voluntary basis, such that "if you're there, you're there, and if not, you're not." Mr. Raymond stated

the other firefighters are counting on him being there. Mr. Teschner said that, "If I cannot be there, I cannot be there. It's plain and simple." President Rheinschmidt asked that Mr. Teschner not make a commitment that he cannot fulfill. Mr. Rheinschmidt then asked Mr. Teschner if he was willing to make the effort, and Mr. Teschner stated, "Yes." It was discussed that he must attend 25% of the fire calls and must attend all Fire Department meetings, either Thursday nights or Friday mornings, unless he calls the Fire Chief to explain why he was not there.

Mr. Rheinschmidt stated this is a difficult decision for the commission because obviously we need firefighters, but we need committed and dependable firefighters. He said if the commission does reinstate Mr. Teschner, it will have to be under the condition of being probationary employment for another 24 months. He will need to stay in contact with the Fire Department chief and/or officers, and if he is unable to attend a meeting, he must call.

Mr. Raymond felt there was a procedural error in this case. He told Mr. Teschner if that had not occurred, he would not be getting a reinstatement offer, and he's getting a second chance.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON RYAN TESCHNER'S REINSTATEMENT REQUEST:

Chet Rucinski made a Motion to reinstate Ryan Teschner as a probationary firefighter for 24 months. Motion seconded by Paul Raymond. Roll call: Rheinschmidt—yes, Udulutch—no, Rucinski—yes, Raymond—yes. Motion approved.

SET DATE(S) AND TIME(S) OF FUTURE MEETING(S):

The Commission scheduled its next meeting on Monday, February 1, 2010 at 5:30 p.m. to conduct fire department interviews.

ADJOURNMENT:

Lucene Udulutch made a Motion to adjourn. Motion seconded by Paul Raymond. Roll call: Rucinski—yes, Rheinschmidt—yes, Udulutch—yes, Raymond—yes. Motion approved.

Meeting adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

/s/ Dianne E. Drew

Respectfully Submitted on January 22, 2010
Dianne E. Drew, Secretary
Police and Fire Commission
APPROVED: February 1, 2010