

Village of Fontana on Geneva Lake
Walworth County, Wisconsin
(Final Minutes)

Meeting of the Village of Fontana Police and Fire Commission
Monday, October 23, 2023

The Police and Fire Commission meeting was called to order by Police and Fire Commission President Haughey at 4:33 pm in the Fontana Village Hall, 175 Valley View Drive, Fontana Wisconsin.

Members Present: President Joe Haughey, Commissioner Tom Hausner, and Commissioner Jay Hicks

Members Absent: John Tierney, Cliff Woodbury

Also Present: Village Administrator Theresa Loomer, Attorney James Carroll, Fire Chief Wolfgang Nitsch, Deputy Fire Chief Rick Manthy, Assistant Fire Chief Jon Kemmett, and Police Chief Jeff Cates

General Business:

Accept minutes of the August 2, 2023 Meeting

Hausner/Hicks 2nd made a motion to approve the August 2, 2023 meeting minutes for the Police and Fire Commission, and the MOTION carried without negative vote.

Discussion or Action on Adopting PFC Policies and Procedures

Attorney James Carroll, counsel for the Village and Police and Fire Commission, went through the proposed rules and regulations in detail. Discussion followed with a number of amendments agreed upon and inserted into a revised version of the rules and regulations.

Hausner/Hicks 2nd made a MOTION to approve the revised version of the rules and regulations which will be sent to the Commission President with authority to review and, if acceptable, approve with his signature with the understanding that additional amendments may be adopted and incorporated in the future as the Commission sees fit. The MOTION carried without negative vote.

Discussion or Action on Fire Chief and Deputy Fire Chief Job Descriptions

The Commission reviewed both job descriptions with Commission questions being answered by the Village Administrator and the Fire Chief.

Hausner/Hicks made a MOTION to approve the job descriptions for the Fire Chief and Deputy Fire Chief as written, and the MOTION carried without negative vote.

Accept the Resignation of Fire Chief Wolfgang Nitsch

Hausner/Hicks 2nd made a MOTION to accept the resignation of Fire Chief Nitsch, and, after Commission members commenting on the excellent service proved by the Chief over 15 years of service, the MOTION was carried without negative vote.

Closed Session

Hausner/Hicks made a MOTION to go into closed session pursuant to Wisc. Stats. Chapter 19.85(1)(c), “Considering employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the government body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility,” specifically Appointment of Interim Fire Chief, and the MOTION carried without negative vote.

Adjourn from Closed Session

Hausner/Hicks 2nd made a MOTION to adjourn from closed session and go back into open session, and the MOTION carried without negative vote.

Resume Open Session

The Fire Chief’s job description was reviewed and discussion followed as to who in the Fontana Fire Department was best qualified to fill the Fire Chief position on an interim basis.

Hausner/Hicks 2nd made a MOTION to recommend to the Village of Fontana Board of Trustees that Deputy Chief Rick Manthy be appointed to serve as the Interim Fire Chief for up to six (6) months from the official date of Chief Nitsch’s resignation, and the MOTION carried without negative vote.

Adjournment

Hausner/Hicks 2nd made a MOTION to adjourn the meeting, and the MOTION carried at 5:54 pm without negative vote.