

MINUTES

WILLMAR POLICE COMMISSION

Wednesday, June 28, 2017

A meeting of the Willmar Police Civil Service Commission was held on Wednesday, June 28, 2017. Members present were: President Dennis Anfinson, Vice President Cassie Akerson, and Secretary Mike Kubesh. Police Chief Jim Felt and Administrative Assistant Sue Edwards were also present.

The meeting was called to order by President Anfinson at 7:34 a.m.

A motion was made by Commissioner Akerson, seconded by Commissioner Kubesh, to approve the April 21, 2017 minutes as submitted. **Motion carried.**

Chief Felt presented the Commission with the background investigations completed on the top six candidates on the police officer eligibility register. Chief Felt explained that we would be hiring three candidates; two for the positions authorized by Council in 2016 to get the sworn staff back up to 34 officers, and one to replace Detective Kris Kolstad, who retired in May.

After reviewing the backgrounds and further discussion, Commissioner Akerson made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Kubesh, to certify the top six names to the appointing authority, with the recommendation to offer police officer positions to Alex Heck, Nicole Hoppe, and Michael Christensen, upon successful completion of psychological and physical testing. **Motion carried.**

Miscellaneous

Chief Felt updated the Commission on the following:

- Officer Jeff Liebl, who was deployed with the National Guard for the last year, is now back on regular patrol.
- Officer Mike Carlson has been appointed to the open specialist position on the Gang Enforcement Team, which he will begin sometime in July.
- Willmar PD will be hosting a law enforcement community day at Robbins Island on July 21st, from 3:00 to 8:00 p.m., along with the Kandiyohi County Sheriff's Office, the Minnesota State Patrol, and the Minnesota DNR. Officer Alex Anderson came up with the idea and is organizing the event, which will consist of K9 demonstrations, bike safety course, bouncy house for kids, roll over simulator, etc.
- Officer Alex Anderson is temporarily assigned to the Drug Task Force for the summer months, in a job shadow program, to enhance officer training in this area.

- The Police Department will be hosting another “Pop with the Cops” on July 31st, from 1:00-3:00 p.m., at Miller Park. There will be games for the kids and Bernick’s will be donating the soda for this event.

New Business

Chief Felt presented the Commission with a memo asking them to consider a change in procedure regarding the Community Service Officer / Police Apprentice program hiring process. He explained that he has spoken with chiefs in other departments that have part-time CSO’s who have been recruited through school law enforcement programs, and are later hired as full-time police officers as internal promotions in their departments. After discussion, all three Police Commission members supported the idea and asked Chief Felt to explore the concept in more depth.

There being no further business, a motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Kubesh, seconded by Commissioner Akerson. The meeting was adjourned at 8:37 a.m.

Secretary Mike Kubesh
by Sue Edwards