

MINUTES
WILLMAR POLICE COMMISSION
Friday, August 19, 2016

A meeting of the Willmar Police Civil Service Commission was held on Friday, August 19, 2016. Members present were: President Kathy Schwantes, Vice President Dennis Anfinson, and Secretary Cassie Akerson. Police Chief Jim Felt and Administrative Assistant Sue Edwards were also present.

The meeting was called to order by President Schwantes at 2:59 p.m.

A motion was made by Commissioner Anfinson, seconded by Commissioner Akerson, to approve the July 26, 2016 minutes as submitted. **Motion carried.**

Commissioner Akerson explained that she had participated in the interviews for the police officer hiring on Tuesday and Wednesday this week. Fourteen applicants were interviewed, as one had withdrawn from the process due to opportunities elsewhere. Chief Felt thanked Commissioner Akerson for giving her time to help with the interviews.

The Commission then reviewed the final test results from the 14 candidates, including written test scores, oral interview scores, and preference points given for veterans. Chief Felt explained that he would be hiring two candidates immediately to replace Detective Dustin Van der Hagen and Officer Lukas Eitreim, and the next step would be to establish the eligibility register so backgrounds could be initiated.

After discussion, Commissioner Akerson made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Anfinson, to set the cut-off at 80% on the final scores, establishing the eligibility register by certifying the top seven names. Backgrounds will be sent out on the top five candidates. **Motion carried.**

Chief Felt updated the Commission on the following:

- Officer Sam Schaeftbauer is going to be joining the National Guards and will be leaving for basic training in early to mid-January and returning sometime in April.
- Officer Lukas Eitreim's last day with the department is Sunday, August 21st, as he has accepted a job with the Richfield Police Department.
- Officer Liebl, who is on military leave, arrived in Egypt last week. The department is putting together a care package to send to him in the next couple of weeks.
- CSO Ember Veldkamp's last day was Thursday, August 11th, as she is moving to Ely to continue her education. Nicole Hoppe has been hired as a CSO to replace Veldkamp.

- Officer Alex Anderson just completed his one-year probation on August 17th, so Chief Felt will be sending a memo to City Administrator Kruse recommending his appointment be made final.
- There was a good turn-out for the “Coffee with Cops” event today at the Goodness Coffee House. The next one will be at Lu Lu Beans in September, but no date has been set yet.
- On September 1, 2016, from 1:00 – 3:00 p.m., the department will be hosting a “Pop with the Cops” event at Miller Park, with Bernick’s donating the product. This will be a good opportunity for police officers to connect with the young people in the community.
- The department is seven days ahead of last year for Calls for Service. Being short officers right now, the department has had to fill some patrol shifts with overtime.

There being no further business, a motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Anfinson, seconded by Commissioner Akerson. The meeting was adjourned at 3:31 p.m.

Secretary Cassie Akerson
by Sue Edwards