Muncie Police Merit Commission

Call to order:

A meeting of the Muncie Police Merit Commission was held on Thursday, November 4, 2021 at 300 N. High Street Muncie, IN 47305- City Hall Auditorium. Jonathan Mitchell called the meeting to order at 6:10 pm.

Roll Call:

Attendees included -Jonathan Mitchell, Dea Bell, Bruce Qualls, Phillip Miller, Chuck Zimmers, Chief Sloan and Attorney Mark Ervin.

Members not in attendance:

Members not in attendance- n/a

Approval of minutes:

Dea Bell made a motion to accept the September 16, 2021 meeting minutes. Bruce Qualls seconded the motion. Motion to approve meeting minutes is carried by voice vote.

Business from Chief Sloan:

Chief Sloan requests a new lateral hiring process. The process will begin immediately and remain open for thirty days. Dea Bell made a motion to open the new lateral hiring process to begin immediately and leave it open for thirty days. Phillip Miller seconded the motion. Motion to start a new lateral hiring process is carried by voice vote.

Business from Attorney Mark Ervin:

Attorney Mark Ervin respectfully requests the appointment of an ad hoc committee to review the current Merit Commission rules in entirety and identify any necessary updates in order for the rules to reflect all the changes do to the governing statute changes as well as to identify any possible changes that would help improve procedures in general. The ad hoc committee will consist of two members of the Merit Commission, two members from the department and the recording secretary for the Police Merit Commission. The goal would be for the committee to present recommendations for the Commissions review and approval of changes to the Rules and Procedures.

The Merit Commission has the right to appoint committees and sub committees. President Jonathan Mitchell asks Commission members Phillip Miller and Bruce Qualls if they would be interested in serving on the ad hoc committee to which they both agreed. President Mitchell asks Chief Sloan if he would secure the services of two members of the
department to serve on the committee as well. President Mitchell states that they will leave it up to the members of the Commission to find two civilians to serve on the committee as well. Attorney Mark Ervin states that the most critical thing would be not to have more than two members of the Commission to serve on the committee or they would then be subject to the open door law. President Mitchell states that ad hoc committee will formally start after the first of the year.

Other Business:

Commission member Chuck Zimmers proposes the following amendment to the Muncie Police Merit Commission, Muncie Police Reserves, Rule and Procedure #2, Appointment Process, Section II - Transfers from Active to Reserve Status- to read:

1. A regular fulltime member of the Muncie Police Department, a Law Enforcement Agency who is separating from active service due to regular retirement or resignation, and who is in good standing at the time of separation, may be appointed as a Reserve Muncie Police Officer. Such appointment would not be subject to the regular appointment process otherwise in force in the Merit Commission Rules and Procedures.

Adjournment:

Bruce Qualls made a motion to adjourn. Chuck Zimmers seconded the motion. Motion to adjourn is carried by voice vote. Meeting adjourned at 6:16 pm.