

**MINUTES OF THE CITY OF ROMULUS REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
POLICE, FIRE, AND SAFETY COMMISSION  
TUESDAY AUGUST 15, 2023**

**CITY OF ROMULUS**

**Ken Chapman, Deputy Chief, Romulus Fire Department  
Rachel Vitt, Administrative Assistant  
Robert Pfannes, Chief, Romulus Police Department**

**POLICE, FIRE & SAFETY COMMISSION**

**Mark Wilhide  
Stan Bragg  
Debbie Lattner  
Cynthia Harris  
Vonda Cooley  
Charles Pecsénye  
James Crova**

1. Meeting called to order at 4:01 PM by Commissioner Wilhide.
2. Roll call
3. Approval of Agenda:

Motioned by Pecsénye, supported by Cooley, to approve the agenda as follows:

Roll Call Vote: Ayes – Wilhide, Lattner, Pecsénye, Cooley, Harris, Bragg

Nays – None. Motion carried 6-0.

Agenda:

- A. Pledge of Allegiance
- B. Roll Call - Lattner, Wilhide, Pecsénye, Cooley, Harris, Crova, Bragg
- C. Approval of Agenda
- D. Approval of Minutes – Police, Fire and Safety Commission regular meeting held on July 18, 2023.
- E. Chair’s Status Report
- F. Public Comments
- G. Old Business
- H. Police Department Updates
- I. Fire Department Updates
- J. New Business
- K. Communications

L. Adjournment

**4. Approval of Minutes** – Police, Fire and Safety Commission regular meeting on July 18, 2023.

It was motioned by Cooley to approve minutes from July 18, 2023, supported by Lattner.

Roll Call Vote: Ayes – Lattner, Pecsénye, Cooley, Harris, Bragg. Nays – None. Motion carried 5-0.

**5. CHAIR STATUS REPORT:**

- Commissioner Wilhide has spoken with the Library and the PFSC can use computers there to complete FEMA classes. The dates are Tuesday, October 10, 2023, 10:00AM – 2:00 PM and Wednesday October 11, 2023, 12:30 PM – 4:30 PM. We are looking at possibly completing Series, 100, 200, 700, and 800. Commissioner Pecsénye has been requested to assist leading the group. Commissioner Pecsénye suggested that participants sign into FEMA to obtain a FEMA ID# which will be needed before the sessions. The ID# is to receive credit. You should also be looking into preprinting the class materials.
- Commissioner Wilhide has spoken to Neal Allgood at the Fire Department to schedule CPR class. The class is scheduled for September 01, 2023 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM, at the Library.
- Commissioner Wilhide will send the Commission/Fire Department/Police Department/City Attorney approved By-laws to Jill Lambert for forwarding to the Mayor for presentation to the City Council.

**6. PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

**7. OLD BUSINESS:**

- Commissioner Wilhide reminded the PFSC of the need to have their ID badges renewed. ID Clerk in Wednesday through Friday.

**8. POLICE DEPARTMENT UPDATES:**

- Chief Pfannes shared a scorecard that addressed police activity.
- Chief Pfannes thanked all who participated in the Police Community Bike Ride. He also thanked the Knight of Columbus for their Bike Giveaway.
- Commissioner Lattner expressed her appreciation to the Police Department for the outstanding community event held at Halecreek School. She stated that it was good to see the children and teenagers see

the police as they see themselves. Kudos to Chief Pfannes and his team for a job well done.

- The Chief stated that service calls are rising and briefly discussed a recent arrest in the Media with a large number of firearms. Domestic violence is very heavy. The Police Department will have access to a clinician for supporting mental illness cases. He also stated that AFC homes create a large number of calls, (lost person) which wastes a lot of resources. Commissioner Bragg asked what the ideal on-board staffing was. Chief Pfannes stated that 55 full service, but 60 to fulfill City issues. He also questioned the use of Proficiency Flock Cameras.

#### **9. FIRE DEPARTMENT UPDATES:**

- Deputy Chief Chapman stated that the Fire Department, Building Department and Ordinance are coordinating inspections together and seeking voluntary compliance.
- There are still hiring issues. Two employees are on long-term disability. The FD is short of five employees, there is o\$ 82,000.
- There is great mutual aid in Metro Wayne County. The addition of the clinician to assist with mental illness is a needed support.
- There is concern with employees leaving and they are looking at ways to minimize this. Looking at culture and money in a younger department.
- He stated that although Romulus has competitive salaries there are still six open spots.
- Improvements have been made to the flooring at Station 2. This station was built in the 1950's. Station 4 the kitchen will be re-done to become more functional. He encouraged Commissioners to stop by to see the progress.
- Active shooter training is being planned for the Police and Fire Departments.

#### **10. NEW BUSINESS:**

- Commissioner Wilhide questioned if the State notifies the City PD if they are coming into Romulus for an arrest. Chief Pfannes responded they usually do.
- Commissioner Wilhide questioned reporting vehicles parking at abandoned homes. Who should they be reported to Deputy Chief Shelby or Ordinance.
- Commissioner Wilhide expressed interest in the PFSC hosting a wellness check at the Senior Center
- Commissioner Pecsénye questioned if there was still an auto theft task force. There is no longer a team for the State.

- Commissioner Harris questioned the nature of hotel calls. They are mostly drugs and prostitution.
- Commissioner Bragg questioned if there would be more specialized training in mental illness. He also questioned if EMS is prepared after Police secure scene.
- Commissioner Lattner will again forward the complaint form to Commissioners for input on tailoring form for PFSC.
- Commissioner Wilhide will be forwarding the by-laws to the Mayor for City Council approval. He requested that Commissioners attend the City Council Meeting when the date has been established.

**11. Communications:** None

**12. Adjournment** – Motioned by Cooley Seconded by Lattner at 5:55 PM.

Roll Call Vote: Ayes – Lattner, Pecsénye, Cooley, Crova, Harris, Bragg. Nays – None. Motion carried 6-0.

The next meeting will be on September 19, 2023.