



*Board of Fire & Police
Commissioners*

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF
CITY OF ROCKFORD
BOARD OF FIRE AND POLICE COMMISSIONERS**

Meeting Held at:
City Hall
Council Chambers, 2nd Floor
425 E. State Street
Rockford, Illinois 61104

Date & Time: Thursday, July 9, 2020, at 10:00 a.m.

- I. Call to Order** – The meeting was called to order at 10:05 a.m. Present for the meeting were Commissioner Maurice West, Commissioner Jessica Jones, and Commissioner Sam Schmitz. Attorney Ian K. Linnabary was present as Secretary to the Board. The Council Chambers gallery was filled to capacity and additional onlookers were present to view the proceedings via closed circuit television in the lobby of City Hall.

Commissioner Jones made a motion to appoint Secretary Linnabary as the hearing officer to preside over the proceedings regarding the Citizen Complaint against Rockford Police Department Chief Daniel O'Shea. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Schmitz. All three Commissioners voted in favor.

- II. Public Comment** – The following citizens addressed the Commission: Travis Stockwell; Dianna Walker; Harlan Johnson; Marti McKinney; Brandon Gordon; Kitty Delozier; Brad Lindmark; David Kaulk; John Pozzi; Pat Derry; Ashley D. Williams; Rhonda Greer-Robinson; and Larissa Walston.

- III. Approval of Minutes** – The June 19, 2020 meeting minutes were approved by the Commission.

- IV. Old Business** – None.

- V. New Business** – The Commissioners heard from Chief O'Shea and Winnebago County State's Attorney Marilyn Hite Ross regarding the Citizen Complaint against Chief O'Shea. The Citizen Complaint centered upon certain comments made by Chief O'Shea on or about May 18, 2020 at a press conference attended by Chief O'Shea and State's Attorney Hite-Ross. The content of the comments is uncontested. Both O'Shea and Hite-Ross provided context to the statements and asserted repeatedly that no discriminatory intent existed. Both O'Shea and Hite-Ross provided multiple examples of conduct with support the notion that neither Chief O'Shea individually, nor the Rockford Police Department collectively have exhibited discriminatory conduct or practices. Following the public comments from Chief O'Shea and State's Attorney Hite-Ross, the Commissioners' deliberated. Each of the Commissioners voiced their belief that probable cause did not exist to proceed to an evidentiary hearing on the Complaint.

Commissioner Schmitz made a motion to find that probable cause existed to proceed to a full disciplinary hearing in connection with the Citizen Complaint filed against Rockford Police Department Chief Dan O'Shea. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Jones. All three Commissioners voted "No" and the motion failed. With no finding of probable cause, the Citizen Complaint against Rockford Police Department Chief Daniel O'Shea was dismissed.

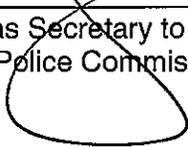
VI. **Communications to Board** – None.

VII. **Adjournment** – The meeting was adjourned at 11:20 a.m. by unanimous consent.

ATTEST:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ian K. Linnabary', written over a horizontal line.

Ian K. Linnabary, as Secretary to the
Board of Fire and Police Commissioners

A large, circular handwritten flourish or scribble in black ink, located below the signature line and partially overlapping the typed name.