



*Board of Fire & Police
Commissioners*

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

Meeting Held at:
Rockford Fire Department
204 South First Street
Rockford, Illinois 61104

Date & Time: Tuesday, May 11, 2021, at 11:00 a.m.

I. Call to Order – The meeting was called to order at 11:00 a.m.

Present for the meeting were Commissioner Samuel Schmitz, Commissioner Ingrid Hargrove, and Commissioner Rudy Valdez. Attorney Ian Linnabary was present as Secretary to the Board.

II. Public Comment – None.

III. Presentation by Eliminate Racism 815 – The group gave a presentation regarding their work on diversity, equity, inclusion, and belonging in the Rockford area. In addition to providing a history of the group, members provided information relating to principles of policing that the group would like the Commission to consider in connection with its recruitment and hiring of the new police chief. The group discussed the City of Camden, New Jersey as an example to be examined.

IV. Approval of Meeting Minutes – Commissioner Valdez made a motion to approve the April 13, 2021, April 21, 2021, and April 28, 2021, meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hargrove. All three Commissioners voted in favor.

V. Old Business

A. Police Department

B. Fire Department

C. General – The Commission heard from former chief Derek Bergsten regarding the community engagement component of the Fort Collins, Colorado Fire Department selection process which he participated in. Various aspects of that process were highlighted for the Commission to take into consideration, including the concept of conducting a combined in-person and virtual question & answer session for the community to meet finalists for the position. Following the Commission's teleconference with Derek Bergsten, the Commission engaged in a discussion regarding the general parameters of the community engagement sessions contemplated in connection with the Commission's search for a fire chief and police chief. Finally, the Commission reviewed the tentative timeline provided by I/O Solutions.

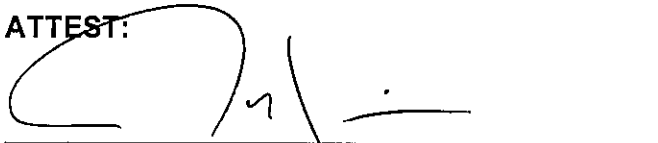
VI. New Business

- A. Police Department
- B. Fire Department
- C. General – Board Orientation was laid over to June 8, 2021.

VII. Communications to Board

VIII. Adjournment – The meeting was adjourned at 12:35 p.m. by motion made by Commissioner Valdez. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hargrove. All Commissioners voted in favor.

ATTEST:



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

