

**Village of Franklin Park  
Fire & Police Commission  
Monday, July 15, 2024  
Meeting Minutes**

**Call to order:** The meeting for the Fire & Police Commission was called to order by Commissioner Maritza Souchet at 6:00 pm.

**Roll Call / Quorum:** Present is Commissioner Maritza Souchet, Commissioner Guillermo Rios, Commissioner Irene Herrera and Secretary Dinorah Rangel. Also in attendance, Chief Mark Stewart, Director Mike Witz, and Trustee Bill Ruhl.

**Approval of Minutes:** A motion to approve the June 3, 2024, meeting minutes was made by Commissioner Souchet and seconded by Commissioner Irene Herrera. Motion passed.

**Communications:**

**Fire Chief Stewart:** Interviews were done, and they all submitted their extra points. We have a list of eight individuals, and they have all been sent for background checks. The top four were sent for medical and psychological. After speaking to Lisa Anthony and the Village we have been approved to hire four even though we have three openings. We have one of our lieutenants retiring in October and it's been so hard to get people so after speaking to Mayor we are hiring four instead of three. Fire academy started last week, and everyone was recommended for hire, and we offered three positions and are being sworn in tonight. We have one that is pending to start on July 22<sup>nd</sup>. With the academy starting we needed to hire the ones that would benefit from the academy. The new company that does psychological exams was contacted on Monday and by Monday afternoon they contacted everyone and by the end of the week the testing was completed. They charge more than COPS and FIRE and we could never get in with COPS and FIRE.

**Director Mike Witz:** Officer Antonio Diaz is resigning as his father is ill and they are moving to Texas. We currently have two vacancies at the Academy that Chicago is holding, and we may require a possible third. It really depends on you folks and your opinion of drug use. We are seeing a lot more candidates experimenting with drug use in college such as marijuana, cocaine and mushrooms. We have one candidate with cocaine and mushroom use in college and if he doesn't meet your standards then he will be eliminated. Looks like only two of the seven candidates are going to pass and one of them is excellent he is going to get scooped up quick.

**Unfinished Business:** None

**New Business:** Commissioner Maritza Souchet made motion to go into Executive Session at 6:006 pm, Irene Herrera seconded. Moved into Executive Session. Motion to come out of Executive Session made at 6:37 pm.

Motion made to offer positions Fire Fighter positions to Anthony Gigovski, John Anderson and Luke Fava.

Motion made to offer police officer positions to Jake Galanis and Maria Chaves Ramos once all testing has been completed.

**Public Comments:** None

**Adjournment:** Motion to adjourn at 6:39p.m. made by Commissioner Maritza Souchet and seconded by Commissioner Herrera with all in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D. Bernal Rangel', written over a horizontal line.

Dinorah Bernal Rangel