

KIRKLAND CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION

Minutes

October 8, 2019

Present

Chairperson Nelson

Commissioner Ramerman

Secretary/Examiner Lank

Chief Harris

Captain St. Jean

Lieutenant Aksdal

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 pm by Chairperson Nelson.

Commissioner Ramerman moved to approve the minutes from the September 10, 2019 Commission meeting. Chairperson Nelson seconded the motion, which passed.

Chief Harris then briefed the Commission on the request to conduct a promotional exam for Police Corporal. The current list is exhausted (all 3 candidates promoted), and there is a planned retirement in 2020 that will create a vacancy in the rank of Corporal. Public Safety Testing will facilitate the exam. After brief discussion, Chairperson Nelson moved to approve the request to conduct a Police Corporal promotional exam. Commissioner Ramerman seconded the motion.

Next, the Chief addressed the request to conduct a Police Lieutenant exam. Likewise, the 2020 retirement will create a vacancy at the Lieutenant rank. Chairperson Nelson inquired why there was not a request for a Police Sergeant exam as well. The Chief stated that there is a current list in place, valid through April 2020. Commissioner Ramerman then motioned to approve the request to conduct a Police Lieutenant promotional exam. Chairperson Nelson seconded the motion. (Note: The Commission had previously received memos from Chief Harris detailing the components of the Corporal and Lieutenant exams)

Chief Harris then informed the Commission about a request for reinstatement. The Commission had received a memo from the Chief, citing Article XIV, Section 5: Reinstatement. In that memo, the Chief outlined the various reasons behind the request to reinstate Officer Peter Lawrence. Chairperson Nelson noted the Commission minutes from 1998 detailing a similar request and said this type of situation appears to happen every 20 years.

The Chief noted that Lawrence would be required to undergo a background investigation to include a polygraph, psychological, and medical exams prior to reinstatement.

Commissioner Ramerman inquired if anyone on a list would be negatively impacted or if an officer would have to be laid off because of reinstatement. The Chief replied she would have the choice of hiring from the entry-level list, the lateral list, or the proposed reinstatement list, but said there were no other negative impacts.

Captain St. Jean observed that a current KPD Officer who may be contemplating a career change to the Fire service could talk with Officer Lawrence and be informed about the pros/cons from his perspective.

After brief discussion, Commissioner Nelson motioned to authorize a reinstatement list, allowing the process to begin to reinstate Officer Lawrence. Commissioner Ramerman seconded the motion, which passed.

There being no further business before the Commission, the meeting was adjourned at 4:11 pm.

Rodney D. Lank
Secretary/Examiner
Kirkland Civil Service Commission