

JOURNAL OF POLICE COMMISSION PROCEEDINGS
Civic Center, 2 Park Drive South, Commission Chambers
December 21st - 9:00 AM

CALL TO ORDER: 9:00 AM

ROLL CALL/STAFF INTRODUCTIONS: Police Commission members present: Morgan Kasuske, John Hackwith, and Tim Shanks. Also present were Lt. Rich LaBard and Applicant(s) Joshua Meyer, Malik Ray, and Andrew Paradise

PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS

None.

OLD BUSINESS

1. APPROVE September 29th, 2023 MEETING MINUTES.

Commissioner Shanks moved, seconded by Commissioner Hackwith, to accept the minutes from the September 29th, 2023 meeting.

Motion carried 3-0

NEW BUSINESS

1. POLICE COMMISSION'S EXAMINATION OF APPLICANT(S): DANIEL LAWSON FOR THE POLICE FORCE – GREAT FALLS POLICE DEPARTMENT.

Lt. LaBard stated that the application(s) of **Joshua Meyer, Malik Ray, and Andrew Paradise** had been referred to the Police Commission. Pursuant to Mont. Code Ann. §7-32-4154, this meeting is an examination of the applicant as to their age, legal, mental, moral, and physical qualifications and their ability to fill the office as a member of the police force.

Lt. LaBard read the provisions of Mont. Code Ann. § 7-32-4151, that sets forth the role of the Police Commission; reviewed each item provided to the Commission members in their meeting packets; and, read the provisions of Mont. Code Ann. § 7-32-303, qualifications of law enforcement officers. He explained that this meeting is for the Police Commission to review the documentation, conduct the examination of each applicant, and make a determination as to whether each applicant meets the qualifications of a law enforcement officer.

He read the provisions of Mont. Code Ann. § 2-3-203(3). He asked the applicant's position with regard to right to privacy. **Applicant(s) Meyer, Ray, and Paradise asserted their rights to privacy.**

Lt. LaBard noted that there is substantial value in having the examination confidential to have a frank and open discussion with the applicants and to gain an accurate view of qualifications to determine their ability to fill the office as a member of the police force. Lt. LaBard determined

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that each applicant(s) individual privacy clearly exceeded the merits of public disclosure, and closed the meeting for the Commission to conduct each applicant(s) examination in executive session.

At **9:08 AM** members of the Commission and Lt. LaBard, met in executive session in the City Commission Chambers for the purpose of the Commission conducting the examination of applicant(s), **Joshua Meyer, Malik Ray, and Andrew Paradise.**

--EXECUTIVE SESSION--

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

The Executive Session was closed at **10:10 AM**.

- -END OF EXECUTIVE SESSION- -

The meeting reconvened in an open meeting in the City Commission chambers at **10:11 AM**.

Lt. LaBard summarized the Commission's examination of the applicant(s) for the police force; that the Commission reviewed the background of the applicant(s); and, that **Joshua Meyer, Malik Ray, and Andrew Paradise**, meet the age, legal, mental, moral and physical qualifications and they are eligible to be members of the Great Falls Police Department.

Commissioner Shanks moved, seconded by Commissioner Hackwith, that the Police Commission approve of applicant(s), Joshua Meyer, Malik Ray, and Andrew Paradise, for hiring consideration as member(s) of the Great Falls Police Department.

Lt. LaBard asked if there was any public comment. Hearing none, Lt. LaBard asked if there was any further discussion among the Commissioners.

There being no further discussion, Lt. LaBard called for the vote.

Motion carried 3-0.

All three Commissioners signed the certificate(s) authorizing Joshua Meyer, Malik Ray, and Andrew Paradise to become a member(s) of the Great Falls Police Department.

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ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Commission, **Commissioner Kasuske moved to adjourn the meeting of December 21st, 2023, seconded by Commissioner Hackwith, at 10:12 AM.**

Motion carried 3-0.



Lt. Rich LaBard, Acting Secretary

Minutes Approved: March 20th, 2024