

I. REGULAR MEETING

The Board of Public Safety met in the Regular Meeting at 9:22 a.m. on Wednesday, January 17, 2024, with Board President Daniel Jones, and Board Members Darryl Heller (not present), Lee Ross, Al Kirsits (not present) and Pamela Claeys were present. Also, present were Police Chief Scott Ruskowski, Assistant Fire Chief Andy Meyer, and Attorneys Danielle Campbell Weiss, Adam Taylor, Kylie Connell, and Board Clerk Theresa Heffner. The meeting was held in the Auditorium of the South Bend Police Department, 701 West Sample Street, South Bend, Indiana and virtually via Microsoft Teams at the following link: <https://tinyurl.com/2024BPSHybrid>

Attorney Weiss asked that everyone mute their microphone when not speaking and reminded attendees that comments from the public should be saved for the Privilege of the Floor portion of the meeting. Attorney Weiss then read through the agenda to note any additions or corrections.

A. ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS

Board President Dan Jones welcomed the public, called roll, and confirmed the presence of the Board Members.

B. APPROVE MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

Upon a motion by Pamela Claeys, seconded by Lee Ross, and carried by roll call, the Board approved the Minutes of the December 20, 2023 regular meeting.

C. POLICE DEPARTMENT

1. APPROVE HIRING OF PROBATIONARY POLICE OFFICER - IMAN DELANO SALIK WHITE

Chief Ruskowski submitted a letter of recommendation for the hiring of Iman Delano Salik White, effective January 17, 2024. Chief stated Iman Delano Salik White has met the requirements of the application process of the SBPD and was a sworn officer on the Hammond Police Department from March 10, 2022 to January 14, 2024.

Upon a motion by Pamela Claeys, seconded by Lee Ross, and followed by a roll call, the Board approved the hiring of the above Probationary Police Officers.

2. SWEARING IN OF PROBATIONARY POLICE OFFICER

Sergeant Stewart gave a brief biography, highlighting his talents, achievements, education, and interests. City Clerk Bianca Tirado administered the Oath which was then followed by the badge pinning.

3. ACKNOWLEDGE COMMENDATION OF LIFE SAVING AWARD – BRIAN MEADOR

Chief Scott Ruskowski submitted a letter of commendation for Officer Brian Meador. Chief Ruskowski stated that a family brought in their one-year-old son into the Police Station that was suffering from a seizure and had stopped breathing. Officer Meador quickly entered the lobby where the family was and began chest compressions while the officers waited for the EMS to arrive. Officer Meador was able to continue chest compressions until the child responded and then was transported to Memorial Hospital. Chief Ruskowski commended Officer Meador for his life saving measures. The Board congratulated Officer Meador and thanked him for his service to the residents of South Bend.

Chief Ruskowski noted that Officer Meador received a plaque and a pin that goes on his dress uniform as well as a challenge coin.

4. FILE 4TH QUARTER REPORT FOR SPECIALIZED SCHOOLS

Chief Scott Ruskowski submitted the 4th Quarter report for specialized training and travel associated with members of the SBPD. Chief Ruskowski stated the expense total for this quarter was \$7,470.68.

Quarter 4 Specialized Schools
October, November, December 2023

Officer's Name	Name of Training	Career Path Development ?	Location	Start Date	End Date	Training Hours	# Officers Attended	Total Hours	Estimated Cost	Fee	Hotel	Per Diem	Air Fare	Misc	Actual Cost
Jose Aguilar, Phillip Simms	Reading People: Becoming a body language	Yes	Franklin, IN.	10/16/23	10/17/23	8	2.00	16.00	\$ 673.00	\$ 398.00	\$ 107.00	\$ 84.49	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 589.49
Anthony Dawson, Bradley Fasnacht, and Bradley Sadleir	Indiana Case Law	Yes	Kokomo, IN.	10/16/23	10/16/23	8.00	3.00	24.00	\$ 675.00	\$ 675.00					\$ 675.00
Daniel Lawecky, Michael Stuck	2023 Regional In-service	Yes	Chesterfield, MO.	10/15/23	10/20/23		2.00	0.00	\$ 2,359.00	\$ 950.00	\$ 705.00	\$ 361.05			\$ 2,016.05
Brandon Martin	Cell Hawk Basic Certification	Yes	South Bend, IN.	10/24/23	10/24/23	8.00	1.00	8.00	\$ 225.00	\$ 225.00					\$ 225.00
Dominic Hall	ILEA Instructor SFST	Yes	Plainsfield, IN.	11/5/23	11/08/23	0	1.00	0.00	\$ 206.50	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 97.97			\$ 97.97
Stephanie Northcutt, Emanuel Garcia	Traffic Specific Legal Update	Yes	Noblesville, IN.	11/8/23	11/08/23	8.00	2.00	16.00	\$ 150.00	\$ 150.00					\$ 150.00
Jeffrey Cummins	Instructor Development	Yes	Plainsfield, IN.	11/26/23	11/28/23	0.00	1.00	0.00	\$ 814.50	\$ -	\$ 535.00	\$ 134.85			\$ 669.85
Keitha-Maria Santana	NASRO SRO School	Yes	Fishers, IN.	12/4/23	12/08/23	0.00	1.00	0.00	\$ 1,243.50	\$ 550.00	\$ 491.23	\$ 160.62			\$ 1,201.85
Kyle Dombroski, Neil Graber	PSN Violent Crime Summit	Yes	Indianapolis, IN.	12/10/23	12/13/23	32.00	2.00	64.00	\$ 1,374.54	\$ -	\$ 891.54	\$ 273.18			\$ 1,164.72
Dominik Zoltanski	Instructor Development	Yes	Plainsfield, IN.	12/17/23	12/22/23		1.00	0.00	\$ 859.50	\$ -	\$ 535.00	\$ 145.75			\$ 680.75
Total						64.00	16.00	128.00	\$ 8,580.54	\$ 2,948.00	\$ 3,264.77	\$ 1,257.91	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 7,470.68

Ms. Claeys noted that there are several that have zero (0) training hours listed. Assistant Chief Skibbins noted that the training time does not get recorded until the certificate is completed.

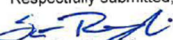
Ms. Claeys asked what cell hawk technology is used for. Chief Ruszkowski explained that it allows officers to obtain information from people, cell phones, etc. once we get search warrant permission from the courts. He elaborated that the device is not a simple “plug and play” device and it requires some very well versed officers and detectives that are good at that specific technology as the device requires precision and accuracy to perform. Chief Ruszkowski emphasized the Department can't afford to make mistakes, especially when it comes to a search warrant.

5. FILE MONTHLY STATISTICAL ANALYSIS REPORT DECEMBER 2023

Chief Scott Ruszkowski submitted the monthly statistical analysis report for December 2023. Chief Ruszkowski stated there was a nine percent (9%) decrease in Part One Offenses for December 2023 compared to December 2022.

The DECEMBER 2023 analysis is as follows:

PART 1 OFFENSES	2022	2023	CHANGE	YEAR TO DATE		CHANGE
				2022	2023	
HOMICIDE	3	2	-1	25	23	-2
JUSTIFIABLE HOMICIDE*	0	2	2	3	3	0
RAPE	3	6	3	64	63	-1
ROBBERY	37	34	-3	318	253	-65
AGGRAVATED ASSLT	98	102	4	1360	1221	-139
BURGLARY RES	40	49	9	466	489	23
BURGLARY NON RES	9	27	18	328	256	-72
LARCENY	175	152	-23	2415	2255	-160
MOTOR VEH THEFT	70	47	-23	547	470	-77
ARSONS	4	3	-1	41	32	-9
GRAND TOTAL	439	422	-17	5564	5062	-502

Respectfully submitted,

Scott Ruszkowski
Chief of Police

Month: DECEMBER 2023

PART 1 OFFENSES	2022	2023	CHANGE
HOMICIDE	25	23	-8%
JUSTIFIABLE HOMICIDE*	3	3	0%
RAPE	64	63	-2%
ROBBERY	318	253	-20%
AGGRAVATED ASSLT	1360	1221	-10%
BURGLARY RES.	466	489	5%
BURGLARY NON RES.	328	256	-22%
LARCENY	2415	2255	-7%
MOTOR VEH THEFT	547	470	-14%
ARSONS	41	32	-22%
GRAND TOTAL	5564	5062	-9%

-9% CHANGE IN PART 1 CRIMES THROUGH DECEMBER 2023 

Chief Ruskowski also noted that they received over 101,000 calls for service in 2023. He added the Department usually gets around the 96,000 to 98,000 mark but 101,000 was a pretty big increase and I think notably we had over 15,115 hundred mental health service calls that we responded to which is not counting medic responses that are referred to Oaklawn, that is just the ones that SBPD responded to.

Chief Ruskowski referred to the homicide category, noting there were twenty-three (23) homicides, twenty (20) of them were by shooting, but it was drastically down and we had 124 people shot in 2022 and we had eighty-two (82) shot last year in 2023. He emphasized that eighty-two (82) is eighty-two (82) too many, but there is a noticeable decline. Lastly, Chief Ruskowski stated there are many components involved in decreasing the crime rate but ultimately the goal is to get to zero (0).

D. FIRE DEPARTMENT

1. APPROVE APPLICATION AND DECLARATION FOR RETIREMENTS

Randy Newman
Eric Purcell
Shannon Pohl
Craig Fruth

Chief Carl Buchanon submitted Letters of Application and Declarations for Retirements for the above Firefighters. In Chief Buchanon's absence, Assistant Fire Chief Andy Meyer discussed years served and retirement dates.

Captain Randy Newman was appointed to the SBFD on May 10, 1989, and served as a member of the Swiftwater Team as a diver and boat operator, the hazardous material team, and the Honor Guard for more than twenty (20) years. Captain Newman's effective date of Retirement was January 8, 2024.

Firefighter Eric Purcell was appointed to the SBFD on October 25, 2000, and his last assignment was as the pump engineer of Engine 8 A-Shift, and his effective date of Retirement was January 10, 2024.

Firefighter Shannon Pohl was appointed to the SBFD on June 5, 2020, achieving the status of Paramedic and EMT-A, his last assignment was on Engine 3, A-Shift, and his effective date of Retirement was January 13, 2024.

Firefighter Craig Fruth was appointed to the SBFD on June 18, 2003, and his effective date of Retirement was August 20, 2023.

Chief Buchanon's letter asked the Board to join them in appreciation and gratitude for the above firefighters' commitment and distinguished services to the SBFD and the residents of the City of South Bend and wished them many years of good health and happiness in retirement.

Ms. Claeys stated if Board Member Kirsits were present, he would say there is a lot of institutional knowledge between the retirees.

Upon a motion by Pamela Claeys, seconded by Lee Ross, and followed by a roll call, the Letters of Application and Declaration for Retirements were approved.

2. ACCEPT LETTER OF RESIGNATION - ANDREW HEIN

Chief Carl Buchanon submitted a letter of resignation for firefighter Andrew Hein. In Chief Buchanon's absence Assistant Chief Meyer stated Firefighter Hein was appointed to the SBFD on September 2, 2022, achieving the status of EMT-A, and his last assignment was at Station 9, A-Shift with an effective date of resignation of December 25, 2023.

3. APPROVE LEXIPOL POLICIES

1023 – Uniform Regulations
1024 – Badges

- 1025 – Identification Cards
- 1026 – Work-Related Illness and Injury Reporting
- 1027 – Release of HIPAA – Protected Information
- 1028 – Line-of-Duty Death
- 1029 – Line-of-Duty Death and Serious Injury Notification
- 1030 – Family Support Liaison
- 1031 – Funerals
- 1032 – Military Leave
- 1033 – Driver’s License Requirements
- 1034 – Nepotism and Conflicting Relationships
- 1035 – Member Speech, Expression, and Social Networking
- 1036 – Omitted, Under Review
- 1037 – Omitted, Under Review
- 1038 – Omitted, Under Review
- 1039 – Pregnancy Policy (previously approved)
- 1040 – Omitted, Under Review
- 1041 – Temporary Limited or Modified Duty Policy

Attorney Adam Taylor submitted the above Lexipol Policies for approval, and reminded the Board Members and the public that the above policies were submitted to the Board at the December 2023 Board of Public Safety Meeting.

Upon a motion by Lee Ross, seconded by Pamela Claeys and followed by a roll call, the proposed changes for the above Lexipol Policies were approved.

4. FILE QUARTERLY TRAVEL & TRAINING REPORT

Chief Carl Buchanon submitted the quarterly travel and training report for October, November, and December of 2023. In Chief Buchanon’s absence, Assitant Chief Meyer stated the expenses for the quarter was \$20,625.



SOUTH BEND FIRE DEPARTMENT
 Quarterly Travel & Training Expenses: October-December 2023
 Carl R. Buchanon, Fire Chief

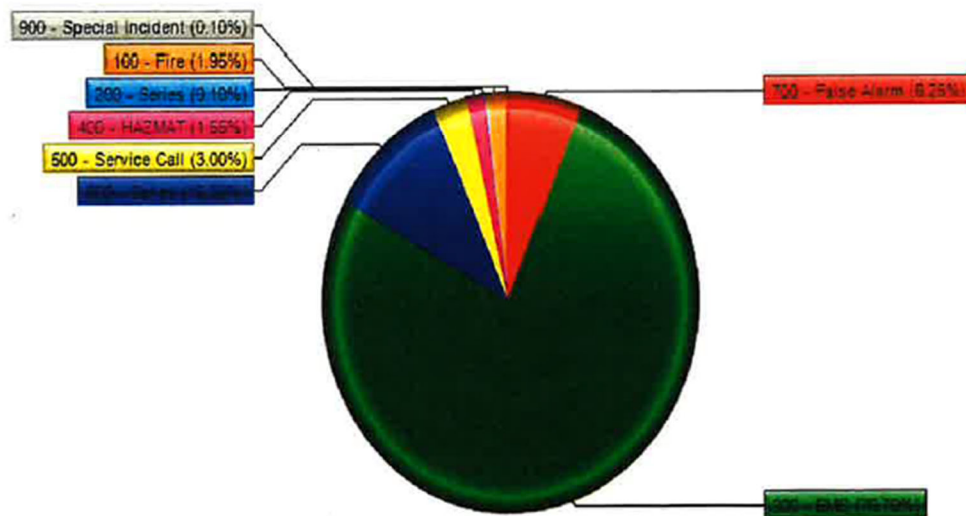
MONTHLY EXPENSE	NAMES OF ATTENDEES	DESTINATION	JUSTIFICATION	COST / EXPENSES
October - \$10,596	K. Weinberg, S. Moon, N. Pennino,	Lafayette, IN	Paramedic students attend	\$2,500
	B. Richhart, M Partridge, R. Aranowski	October 1-5	In-class labs/skill session.	meals, hotel
	B. Roark, G. Metzger,	Cincinnati, OH	Blue Card Zone Conference	\$3,271.00
	D. Erquhart, B. Koloszar	October 4-6		Conf fee, hotel
	R. Henry, D. Garcia, B. Haskel	Indianapolis, IN	Bob Page 12-Lead Capnography Class	\$1,035
	T. Skwarczyn, T. Platz, P. Pajakowski,	October 16-17		Conf fee, hotel, meals
November - \$254	E. Tibbs, C. Carr, N. Miller	Beavercreek, OH	Firefighter Health & Wellness Conf.	\$3,790.00
	Shannon DeGeyter	October 24-27		Conf fee, hotel, meals
		Spencer, IN	Extrication Training	\$0
	Erin Tibbs, Jon Knepp	October 20-22		
	John Szucs	Kalamazoo, MI	Gary Sinise Fire Training	\$136
December - \$9,775	John Szucs	November 10-12		meals
	John Szucs	New Haven, IN	Electrical Fire Investigation	\$100
	A. Fox, J. Lachmund, T. Platz, N. Kieta,	Nov. 11		registration
QUARTER TOTAL - \$20,625	Zionsville, IN	Essential Tools for Code Officials	\$18	meal
	December 10-14	RIT Under Fire	\$9,775	registration, hotel
		Illinois Fire Service Institute		

5. FILE MONTHLY STATISTICAL ANALYSIS REPORT FOR DECEMBER 2023

Chief Carl Buchanon submitted the monthly statistical analysis report for December 2023.

DECEMBER 2022	DECEMBER 2023
STRUCTURE FIRES Property Damage--Buildings & Contents (Estimates)	
\$538,100	\$274,200
INSPECTION DIVISION	
31 Inspections	77 Inspections
INVESTIGATION DIVISION	
14 Investigations	9 Investigations
2 Incendiary 9 Accidental 0 Natural 3 Undetermined	5 Incendiary 2 Accidental 0 Natural 2 Undetermined

2023 December Incident Type	Fire Department Monthly Breakdown
100 - Fire	39
200 - Series	2
300 - EMS	1534
400 - HAZMAT	31
500 - Service Call	60
600 - Series	207
700 - False Alarm	125
900 - Special Incident	2
Monthly Total	2000



6. FILE 2023 STATISTICAL ANALYSIS REPORT

Chief Carl Buchanon submitted the annual statistical analysis report for 2023.

2022 ANNUAL	2023 ANNUAL
STRUCTURE FIRES Property Damage-Buildings & Contents (Estimates)	
\$5,198,560	N/A
INSPECTION DIVISON	
1180 Inspection	1857 Inspections
INVESTIGATION DIVISON	
103 Investigations	173 Investigations

Ms. Clays asked about Narcan usage. Assistant Chief Myer advises that they would really have to dig into what the reports are saying. By cross-referencing the Narcan administration numbers with our provider impression. It's not hard to do, but the number of times Narcan is administered is not a good indicator of what the opioid response might be in the community. He noted that he can generate the numbers, but there will need to be

an explanation provided with the numbers.

E. PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Attorney Weiss reminded the public to use the hand-raising function of Microsoft Teams to indicate their desire to speak during Privilege of the Floor. She reminded attendees that they would be allotted three (3) minutes to speak.

Board Member Pamela Claeys informed attendees that there would be a community-wide Safety Summit in Riverpark sponsored by the Riverpark Business Association, Riverpark Neighborhood Association, Riverpark West Neighborhood, IUSB, IUSB Honors Program, and Adams HS with the goal to bring all the Riverpark entities together for communication and safety purposes. The date she gave for the event was Monday, February 12th from 6-7:30pm at IUSB The Grill.

F. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, upon a motion by Lee Ross, seconded by Pamela Claey

s and carried by roll call, the meeting was adjourned at 10:06 a.m.

BOARD OF PUBLIC SAFETY



Daniel Jones, President



Lee Ross, Member



Pamela Claey

s, Member

ATTEST:



Theresa Heffner, Clerk