

**MADISON DEPARTMENT OF
POLICE SERVICES
April 29, 2008
9 CAMPUS DRIVE, MADISON– 9:30 AM**

Attendees: Chairman Emile Geisenheimer, Commissioner David Smith, Commissioner Larry Moon, Commissioner Edward Kritzman, Chief Paul Jakubson; Atty. William Clendenen (Town) Atty. Patrick Allen; Atty. Craig Manemeit (UPSEU/COPS)

Absent: Commissioner Garry Gyenizs

Also present: Lt. Allen Gerard; Lt. Jonathan Dobbin; Sgt. Trent Fox; Det. James Daniels; Court Reporter Cliff Edwards; Press

REGULAR SESSION

Chairman Geisenheimer called to order the Special Meeting of April 29, 2008 at 9:31AM and announced the first item is discussion to take action on an Unconditional Offer of Employment to Scott Pardales, currently a state trooper retiring shortly. The Chairman noted that he did not serve on the interview panel and deferred to Vice Chairman David Smith who advised Mr. Pardales handled himself very well, will bring seniority to department, is proactive and exhibited a very positive attitude. Commissioner Kritzman elaborated and said Mr. Pardales has spent time as resident trooper with experience in town activities. He concluded that he feels he is a very solid candidate. Commissioner Moon stated that Mr. Pardales' being a resident and state trooper means he dealt with a lot of people in town. Additionally, he has been active in the community. Chief Jakubson added, based on the conditional offer, Scott has successfully passed the required testing and has a favorable background. Chairman Geisenheimer concluded, Mr. Pardales has considerable experience and will be a fine addition to the Department.

MOTION by Smith, second by Kritzman to extend to Scott Pardales an Unconditional Offer of Employment. All in favor. None opposed. So moved.

Craig Manemeit introduced himself as the labor relations attorney with UPSEU/COPS union for Officer Hedges; Attorney Clendenen introduced his firm's associate, Atty. Patrick Allen.

Chairman Geisenheimer advised that this hearing started in January with adjournment at that time. This is a continuation. He then asked if Officer Hedges wanted a closed session. Atty. Manemeit answered, yes.

Chairman Geisenheimer overviewed the agenda and stated the Board will move to executive Session. During that session he said only representatives of the two sides and witnesses, along with the court reporter will be present. Family members present will be permitted to remain. Atty. Clendenen said he had no objection. Chairman Geisenheimer continued, once hearing is completed, the Board will go back into Regular Session to take action. Following that, there will be an additional Executive Session for a briefing from the Town Attorney relative to legal and personnel actions. The Board will return to Open Session to take action on the recommendations.

MOTION by Smith, second by Moon to adjourn to Executive Session at 9:37 AM. All in favor. None opposed. So moved.

Discussion: Officer Hedges' termination recommendation.

Present: Commissioners Geisenheimer, Smith, Kritzman, Moon; Atty. Clendenen, Atty. Allen; Chief Jakubson; Det. Daniels; Lt. Dobbin; Officer Hedges, Mr. Hedges, father of the officer; Cheryl Hedges (wife of the officer); Union Atty. Craig Manemeit; Court Reporter.

12:25 PM Executive Session ends

12:25 PM Open Session begins – Written Briefs required. In response to Chairman Geisenheimer's question, Court Report Cliff Edwards stated the transcript of this hearing, if expedited, could be completed within 2-3 days. He was requested to expedite completion.

The Chairman then requested that Atty. Manemeit notify Chris Hodge upon his receipt of the transcript. The Chairman then set the following briefing schedule: Opening brief from Atty. Manemeit within two weeks after receipt of the transcript; Response brief from Atty. Clendenen within one week after receipt of opening brief. The Chairman will then set a date for oral arguments.

12:27 PM Adjourn for lunch

2:05 PM Return to Regular Session

2:06 PM Executive Session Resumes

Discussion: Advise the Commission of Attorney developed confidential report, protected by Client/Attorney privilege.

Present: Commissioners Geisenheimer, Smith, Kritzman, Moon, Atty. Clendenen, Atty. Allen, Court Reporter.

3:20 PM Executive Session ends

3:48 PM Open Session begins after a Brief Recess

Chairman Geisenheimer called for the continuation of the April 29 Special Meeting of the Board of Police Commission. He continued, the Board has just returned from Executive Session where they received a report from Town Counsel which included a recommendation that the Board place Chief of Police Paul Jakobson on administrative leave pending the completion of a series of internal affairs investigations, including an investigation of the Chief himself; this must be considered by the Board in Open Session. Chairman Geisenheimer continued that he was persuaded by Town Counsel that this step is essential to the timely completion and fair conclusion of these IAs. It is a regrettable decision. He concluded that he knows the Commission feels this is a tough call to make but they need to do their duty today.

With that, Chairman Geisenheimer said he would entertain a motion to resolve the issue.

MOTION by Smith, second by Moon that the Madison Board of Police Commission place Chief Jakobson on administrative leave, with pay, pending the completion and outcome of a series of internal affairs investigations, including an investigation of the conduct of the Chief himself. There was no discussion. All in favor. None opposed. So moved.

Chairman Geisenheimer said there was one other matter. In order to be prepared for the possibility that the Board would take this action today the question of how to manage the Department in the Chief's absence arose. He said while the Commission (Commissioners Gyenizs and Kritzman not participating) carefully considered a member of the Department to serve as acting chief, they determined in fairness to the Department and Town of Madison it is in everyone's best interest to bring in an objective outside person until the investigations are complete. They interviewed some candidates and he said they are pleased they have found a recently retired chief of police with an impeccable background. He would like the Board to consider the appointment of Robert F. Nolan as Acting Chief. Chief Nolan has served 35 years as a law enforcement officer in Hamden including as the Hamden Chief of Police before his recent retirement. He is a Connecticut native with many strong leadership attributes. Chairman Geisenheimer concluded, he was pleased to offer him as a candidate.

MOTION by Kritzman, second by Smith to appoint Robert Nolan as the Acting Chief of Police for the Madison Police Department. All in favor. None opposed. So moved.

Atty. Clendenen noted that in the interim from this point until Acting Chief Nolan arrives on scene it is important that someone be appointed for stability. Chief Nolan will be here tomorrow for the 8:00 AM shift change. Chairman Geisenheimer, Atty. Clendenen and Acting Chief Nolan will meet every officer.

MOTION by Smith, second by Kritzman to appoint Lt. Allen Gerard as the Acting Chief overnight. All in favor. None opposed. So moved.

Press releases were distributed.

MOTION by Moon, second by Kritzman to adjourn at 3:55 PM.

Minutes accepted: May 8, 2008 as amended