



PLYMOUTH TOWNSHIP

MONTGOMERY COUNTY – PENNSYLVANIA

CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION

PLYMOUTH TOWNSHIP CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON:

Thursday, June 13, 2024

A meeting of the Plymouth Township Civil Service Commission was held at the Greater Plymouth Community Center on Thursday, June 13, 2024.

The following Commissioners were present:

Karen Mabry
Paulette Jones
Ardis Lukens
Chris Olszyk

Commissioner-Designate Patti Smith also was present.

Lt. Jeff O'Brien and Scott Badami participated by invitation.

Call to Order – Karen Mabry

Chair Mabry called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m. and welcomed all to the June 2024 meeting of the Plymouth Township Civil Service Commission (“CSC”).

May 2024 Minutes

Upon Motion, duly made and seconded, the Commission approved (by a vote of 4-0) the minutes of the May 2024 meeting.

Police Department Report

Lt. O'Brien then gave the Police Department report. He began by stating that the Department has already received over 200 applications to take the entry level police officer test. At this point, Lt. O'Brien thinks we may reach 350 applicants – which will lead us to make a decision as to whether we hold one or two test sessions on July 13. Lt. O'Brien then discussed promotional activities to highlight our department up through and including a July 1 date to set a hard number of applicants. To be sure, however, we will not turn any applicant away.



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We will look to get the top 50 written test score candidates to take the physical agility test. Plymouth's timeline requires that we get the written tests graded within one week of the July 13 test date. If we get 350 applicants who take the test, we need to budget \$7,500 to get them graded. In addition to charging nothing to take the test, Plymouth Township will also pay for the successful applicants to attend the police academy.

With respect to day to day activities, Lt. O'Brien reported that Officer Mike Brown was promoted to Second Class. Officer Brown is a quiet, steady, mature, and confident officer – all without being arrogant. Furthermore, Officer Keough is now on the street, with supervision. He is a needed addition to the department.

Next, Lt. O'Brien noted that the Chief would like to speak with the Commission, perhaps at a subsequent CSC meeting, to discuss the Plymouth promotion process of officers to Sergeant and Lieutenant.

Finally, Lt. O'Brien stated that the department's new canine (named "Amigo") was literally on the way right now to Plymouth Township. After training, Amigo will be joining Officer Watts.

Discussion Items

Chair Mabry welcomed Commissioner-Designate Patti Smith to the Civil Service Commission.

The Commission also discussed its decision to move the July CSC meeting to the date of the police applicant test – Saturday, July 13. If the test starts at 9 am, we will hold the CSC meeting at 10 am.

Public Comment

Commissioner-Designate Smith asked why we appear to be receiving so many more applications than Plymouth had in the past? Lt. O'Brien said that in addition to traditional advertising, we are also using a marketing company to target individuals and places to advertise. Plymouth is now not charging for the test, paying for the police academy training as well as paying potential new police officers a salary while candidates are at the academy. In sum, Plymouth is an attractive destination.



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Closing Comments

The CSC noted its collective appreciation to Commissioner Lukens for recruiting Commissioner-Designate Smith and to the Plymouth Council for appointing her.

Adjournment

There being no further business (one motion having been passed), the meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:15 pm.

Next meeting of the Commission

July 13, 2024 at 10:00 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Scott M. Badami
Solicitor