



**Village of Homewood
Fire and Police Commission
2023 Annual Report**

**2020 Chestnut Road
Homewood, IL 60430**

1. **PURPOSE:**

The Board of Fire and Police Commissioners makes and oversees the administration of rules and regulations for the appointment, promotion, and removal of sworn fire and police personnel. When applicable, it also conducts hearings and makes rulings regarding suspension and dismissal of sworn fire and police personnel.

2. **MEMBERSHIP:**

	<u>Original Appointment</u>	<u>Term Expiration</u>
Chairperson , Patrick O'Meara	4/24/2018	4/24/2024
Secretary , Paul Jordan	10/3/2022	9/27/2025
Member , Peter Womack	8/14/2023	8/8/2026

3. **SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS:**

During the year 2023, the Board of Fire and Police Commissioners held eight (8) meetings on the following dates:

January 30, 2023
May 19, 2023
July 10, 2023
July 17, 2023
September 1, 2023
October 2, 2023
November 20, 2023
December 20, 2023

4. **ACCOMPLISHMENTS:**

Fire and Police Commission Rules: On Wednesday, December 20, 2023 the Board of Fire and Police Commissioners approved Resolution 2023-2 which amends the commission's rules regarding educational requirements, conduct of examinations, and maintenance of a final eligibility list. This resolution was passed in order to broaden the scope of eligible candidates to take the test and to offer the test on a "rolling basis" in order to capture an interested candidate right away and not be forced to wait until the existing list is exhausted or expires after two years. These changes were recommended to the Board of Fire and Police Commissioners due to the significant reduction of candidates participating in the entry-level police officer examination process.

Below is brief summary of the updates:

- Educational Requirements
 - Candidates would only need to possess a high school diploma or equivalent to be appointed to the rank of police officer. The 60 hours of college credit

requirement was removed. However, the 60 hours of college credit requirement will remain in order for an officer to be promoted to the rank of police sergeant.

- Notice of Examinations, Written Examinations, Final Eligibility Roster
 - Allows the Chief of Police to request examinations be offered quarterly or more frequently and that the notice of examination publication requirement be waived. This will allow the Chief to offer a more frequent test and then on the possible occasion where an individual expresses interest in becoming a police officer, the Chief can quickly capture that interest and have that individual take the test in an expedited fashion. There is stipulation in the updated rules that an individual cannot take a test more than one time during a six month timeframe in order to avoid someone taking a test on a daily or weekly basis until they pass.

In addition to updating the educational requirement and creating a “rolling basis” test, the rules were updated to reflect the change in state law regarding general qualifications. In short, an individual no longer has to be a United States citizen to become a police officer. However, they will have to be legally authorized to work in the United States under federal law; still adhere to all other requirements and limitations, other than citizenship, to become a police officer; and be authorized under federal law to obtain, carry or purchase or otherwise possess a firearm.

Hiring Firefighter/Paramedic: There were no hires to the firefighter/paramedic position in 2023.

Hiring Police Officers: There were five (5) new hires for the position of Patrol Officer in 2023:

- 1/23/2023 – Kenneth Strunk
- 2/6/2023 – Sergio Diaz de Sandy
- 7/10/2023 – David Nelson
- 8/28/2023 – Peyton Nigro
- 9/25/2023 – Donald Dean

Fire Lieutenant Promotion: There were no promotions to the Lieutenant position in 2023.

Police Sergeant Promotion: There was on (1) promotion to the position of Sergeant in 2023:

- 1/1/2023 – Dennis Leaks

Firefighter Captain Promotions: There were no promotions to the position of Captain in 2023.

Firefighter/Paramedic Test (career): There were no career tests performed in 2023.

Police Officer Test: There was one entry level police officer test performed in 2023. The test resulted 10 candidates on the entry level police officer eligibility list.

Police Sergeant Promotion Test: There were no Police Sergeant Promotion tests performed in 2023.

Fire Lieutenant Promotion Test: There were no Fire Lieutenant Promotion tests performed in 2023.

Disciplinary Cases: No disciplinary cases were presented to the Board of Fire & Police Commissioners in 2023.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tyler Hall, Assistant Village Manager, Staff Liaison