



CITY OF SOMERVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS CLERK OF COMMITTEES

March 25, 2019

REPORT OF THE CONFIRMATION OF APPOINTMENTS AND PERSONNEL MATTERS COMMITTEE

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Jefferson Thomas ("J.T.") Scott	Chair	Present	
Ben Ewen-Campen	Vice Chair	Present	
Jesse Clingan	Ward Four City Councilor	Present	
Wilfred N. Mbah	City Councilor at Large	Present	
Mary Jo Rossetti	City Councilor at Large	Absent	

Others present: Chief Charles Breen - SFD, Ellen Collins - Personnel, Annie Connor - Legislative Liaison, Kimberly Wells - Assistant Clerk of Committees.

The meeting took place in the Committee Room and was called to order at 5:32 PM by Chairman Scott and adjourned at 6:11 PM.

Councilor Rossetti was absent due to her attendance at the SHS Building Committee meeting that was occurring at the same time as this meeting.

Approval of the February 25, 2019 Minutes

RESULT:	ACCEPTED
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Approval of the March 4, 2019 Minutes

RESULT:	ACCEPTED
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207675: Requesting confirmation of the appointment of Timothy McKenzie to the position of Fire Fighter.

This appointment is from the Firefighter reserve list; the candidate was appointed to the reserves in 2016 (the test for which was taken in 2015).

Chief Breen introduced the candidate and reviewed his resume and shared that he is qualified and will bring a great set of skills to the department. Chairman Scott noted the self-employment of the candidate, who has been working for other contractors as he prepares for service as a firefighter. Councilor Ewen-Campen inquired about the candidate's interest in this position, and Mr. McKenzie shared that his mother and brother were both in the Department, and he wanted to follow the family tradition. Councilor Ewen-

Campen also asked how the candidate would feel reporting issues in a workplace. Mr. McKenize noted that he is uncertain about the process, but would likely plan to follow the chain of command and would be comfortable doing so. Chief Breen added that sexual harassment issues would go straight to Personnel, but otherwise that would be the appropriate procedure.

RESULT:

APPROVED

207676: Requesting confirmation of the appointment of John Gullage to the position of Fire Fighter.

Chief Breen introduced the candidate and shared that his EMT and volunteer experience are superior and he will be a good addition to the Department. Chairman Scott asked about the candidate's EMT experience and Mr. Gullage shared that the pay and stability were not ideal. He understands the risks in this position and welcomes the challenge. Councilor Ewen-Campen asked the candidate's perspective on healthy work environments and how comfortable he would be reporting inappropriate behavior. Mr. Gullage answered that he values respect and people's rights and would follow the chain of command to report anything untoward.

RESULT:

APPROVED

207677: Requesting confirmation of the appointment of Virgilio Garcia to the position of Fire Fighter.

Chief Breen introduced the candidate and shared his background, including his studies to be an EMT, his healthcare experience, and his Spanish language skills. All of these skills will be excellent additions to the Department. Chairman Scott asked about the candidate's scientific research experience and Mr. Garcia replied that it stemmed from volunteer work. Councilor Ewen-Campen asked about the candidate's interest in being a firefighter and Mr. Garcia responded that his interest in public safety started in childhood and grew into a passion. Councilor Ewen-Campen also implored the candidate (and the others present) to return to their schools and instill the same value for public safety in those children. The candidate also confirmed that he is comfortable with reporting any issues that arise within the Department. Mr. Garcia stated that he looks forward to letting the young people in his community know about the process and encouraging them to pursue this path. Chief Breen confirmed that he looks forward to having Mr. Garcia work on community outreach. Councilor Clingan asked for more information about the candidate's work in urgent care and Mr. Garcia responded that the service was mostly focused on young people and teaching students proper sanitation practices. Councilor Clingan also asked if the candidate had another job to supplement his work in the Department and Mr. Garcia shared that he is focused on working as much as he can within the Department and his wife also works.

RESULT:

APPROVED

Handout:

- Certification (with 207675, 207676, 207677)