



MINUTES
Committee on Public Safety
Thursday, January 28, 2021 @ 4:00 p.m.

Access the meeting via: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82136155042> ; ID: 821 3615 5042; Dial In: 312-626-6799

Held virtually in an effort to protect the health and safety of the public & to mitigate the spread of COVID 19

CALL TO ORDER via ZOOM

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL-via ZOOM

Council Member Jeremy Garza, Chair remotely from Lansing, Michigan

Council Member Carol Wood, Vice Chair remotely from Lansing, Michigan

Council Member Brian T. Jackson, Member remotely from Lansing, Michigan

OTHERS PRESENT- via ZOOM

Sherrie Boak, Council Staff

Lisa Hagen, OCA

Samuel Brewster

Amanda O'Boyle, OCA

Marilyn Evale

Public Comment

Ms. Evale spoke on enforcing inoperable vehicles on the street and using an ordinance similar to Wisconsin. Council Member Wood stated that in the past enforcement of on street parking did not have full Council support, and Council Member Jackson stated he would be open to consider an ordinance with no fees for the permit, but ticketing. There was a brief discussion what the interpretation would be, and how the Judge would interpret a ticket if tickets were issued. Ms. O'Boyle acknowledged that she has never seen a ticket thrown out of District Court.

Minutes

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER WOOD TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM NOVEMBER 12, 2020 AS PRESENTED. ROLL CALL VOTE, MOTION CARRIED 2-0.

Discussion/Action Items

RESOLUTION - Appointment Samuel Brewster, 2nd Ward Member, Board of Police Commissioners; Term to Expire 12/31/2024

Mr. Brewster provide details on his residency in Lansing, involvement in the Neighborhood Watch Advisory Board, and his desire to be part of the solution. Council Member Garza asked about Community Policing. Mr. Brewster spoke on his experience in the past with the neighborhoods, and working with the Community officers. Council Member Garza asked if he had an interest in moving the Police Board of Commissioners into the neighborhoods for their meetings and Mr. Brewster supported that. Council Member Jackson asked how long he was

with Police Commissioners, at which point Mr. Brewster stated this was his initial appointment. Council Member Jackson asked Mr. Brewster if he has participated in any training. Mr. Brewster acknowledged his participation in the Citizens Police Academy. Council Member Jackson asked Mr. Brewster what he thought his role as a Police Commissioner would be with the unrest the City saw over the last year. Mr. Brewster stated part of it is to educate the public. Council Member Jackson asked his opinion on transparency and complaints on the police from the public. Mr. Brewster acknowledged the need for transparency; some things need to be confidential, but other items need to be transparent. Mr. Brewster acknowledged he would be open to be educated on the process. Council Member Jackson asked if he was knowledgeable on the resident complaint process, and Mr. Brewster stated he is still reading up on it. Council Member Jackson asked if his personal experience would impact him, and Mr. Brewster confirmed a few years back his response might have been different, but he would not go back on his past experiences, and will not use that against anyone or how he determines policies. Council Member Wood asked Mr. Brewster how he intends to communicate with the public. Mr. Brewster noted he had not thought of it, but attending the Ward meeting would be the first contact along with opportunities to other neighborhood associations. Council Member Wood spoke in support of the appointment, and Council Member Jackson spoke in opposition, stating that in his opinion he did not believe Mr. Brewster was open minded in the times we are in.

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER WOOD TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION FOR THE APPOINTMENT OF SAM BREWSTER TO THE POLICE COMMISSIONERS. ROLL CALL VOTE, MOTION CARRIED 2-1.

Other

Council Member Wood asked for a future discussion on Waverly Park apartments. Council Member Garza asked who she would recommend bringing to a future meeting and was asked to check with Code Compliance on code issues, Chief Green and Council Member Wood stated she would provide other names.

Council Member Jackson voiced concerns he has heard from the Moore's Park area with large gatherings and the sound of gunshots. Recently they have asked for gates or a community policing officer, in preparation for the upcoming warmer months. He asked for a discussion on this at a future meeting. Council Member Jackson informed the Committee that he has also been working with the OCA on the amount of misdemeanors in the municipal code would like removed. Council Member Wood asked the OCA to provide a summary on the list provided by Council Member Jackson and recommend what should or should not be on the list. Council Member Jackson noted he would also like the Chief of Police to review the list as well. Council Member Wood supported reviewing the summary of amendments for a Committee discussion in the future. Ms. O'Boyle confirmed that the draft ordinance is done, interns are currently reviewing it to see if offenses were eliminated what the impact would be, and asked Council Member Jackson if he want it distributed to other Committee Members. Council Member Jackson asked to review it first so he could provide a summary also.

Ms. O'Boyle confirmed to the Committee that the Waverly Park apartments have inspections scheduled for April.

ADJOURN

Adjourned at 4:44 p.m.

Submitted by Sherrie Boak,

Recording Secretary,

Lansing City Council

Approved as presented: February 25, 2021