



Lansing Police Department Board of Police Commissioners

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BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS MEETING MINUTES TUESDAY, July 16th, 2019

MEMBERS PRESENT	MEMBERS ABESENT	PUBLIC and GUESTS PRESENT
Commissioner Patty Farhat	Chairperson Drew Macon	Michelle Reddish, Admin. Specialist II
Commissioner Julee Rodocker		Amanda O'Boyle, City Attorney's Office
Commissioner Robert Noordhoek		Chief Mike Yankowski
Commissioner William Renfrew		Dr. Joan Jackson-Johnson, HRCS Director
Commissioner Clyde Carnegie		Bernard Brantley, Commission Investigator
Vice-Chair Sandra Kowalk-Thompson		HR Director, Linda Sanchez-Gazella
Commissioner Bishop Aaron I. Milton		Media
		Harold Leeman
		Daniel Arnold
		Mary Bowen, City Attorney's Office
		Unknown female, she did not sign in and didn't speak under Public Comment

CALL TO ORDER After establishing a quorum, Vice-Chairperson Kowalk-Thompson welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. She asked for a moment of silence for Retired LPD Officer Brian Hunter and welcomed new board member, Commissioner Bishop Aaron I. Milton.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Commissioner William Renfrew.

A motion was made by Commissioner Noordhoek to move HR Director, Linda Sanchez-Gazella to the top of the Agenda to give her report; supported by Commissioner Renfrew; motion approved unanimously; (7-0).

HUMAN RESOURCES REPORT Director Linda Sanchez-Gazella

- Two Recruits were recommended for hire.
- One male Detention Officer and two female Detention Officers were hired. They will start work on July 15, 2019. The Detention Unit is fully staffed and will be frontloaded with an anticipated retirement. The process will continue with two males in the background phase.
- The Quartermaster position is being reclassified.
- The Payroll Technician is hired and began working on June 24, 2019.
- POI – As of July 16, 16 individuals were interviewed, one individual withdrew, thirteen individuals passed the interviews, five are in the background phase, 8 passed part of the process and weren't selected, 2 were unfavorable interviews, 5 were selected for hire, one out of the five was unfavorable, leaving 4 for hire. A motion was made by Commissioner Noordhoek to approve the four individuals for hire. They will be sponsored by the department and will attend the August Academy; supported by Commissioner Renfrew; motion approved unanimously; (7-0). Chief Yankowski thanked HR Director Sanchez-Gazella for all her work on the hiring process on behalf of the department. He stated the department has been recognized at the national level for excellence in hiring.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS None.

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA – None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES Board members reviewed the June 18, 2019, Meeting Minutes. A motion was made by Commissioner Noordhoek to approve the June 18, 2019, Meeting Minutes; supported by Commissioner Renfrew; motion approved unanimously; (7-0).

EDUCATION PRESENTATION Lieutenant Rodney Anderson spoke about the GREAT Program. He passed out dates for outreach initiatives and spoke about the Youth Leadership Academy. Forty-Six applications were received, with 30 participants graduating. The participants were from very diverse backgrounds. Lieutenant Anderson thanked officers, firefighters and community stakeholders. On June 27 PAL partnered with GREAT for the GREAT Triathlon. Forty kids participated. Upcoming events are the 3 on 3 Basketball Tournament at the 6th Summer Jam Classic on July 25th. There will be a Police v Fire Rib-Off. Mayor Schor will judge the event. Commissioner Clyde Carnegie thanked Lieutenant Anderson for all the work he has done for the community. Chief Yankowski stated the Police and Fire Leadership Academy's Keynote Speaker was a prior graduate of the Youth Leadership Academy.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT CHIEF MIKE YANKOWSKI

- Welcomed Commissioner Bishop Aaron I. Milton to the board.
- Spoke about an officer that was injured on a call. The officer fighting with a subject and fell off the porch severely injuring his leg and was kicked in the head. Another officer was injured in a car accident.
- Common Ground was a 4-night event and there were no problems or issues.
- On July 4th over 130 police officers worked. There were no issues or problems.
- In the 800 block of LOA Street there was a homicide investigation being conducted because human remains were found in the backyard. A press conference was held to announce this information to the public.
- July 1st the new fiscal year began utilizing the FY20 budget.
- A new CPO was added.
- Smart phones will be given to the police officers on the road.
- A Mobile PD App will be launched.
- Project Faith Based Neighborhoods will be looking at getting to the root causes of issues in the neighborhoods. Three grants have been awarded as follows:
 - Team Basketball \$37,000
 - LPD and Me \$25,00 (Officer Kasha Osborn will administer these programs)
 - Hoop It Up
 - LPD Kids Health and Fitness Club
 - Crafts with Cops
 - Neighborhood Watch – The Watch Hour
 - Light Up Lansing
 - Walk In Truth Ministries
- Lieutenant Michelle Spoelma and Lieutenant Justin Moore graduated the PERF 3-week course.
- Retirements: Captain Eric Eichenberg, Sergeant Kristy Szczesny and Sergeant George Kelley. Promotions: Rob Backus was promoted to Captain, Ryan Wilcox was promoted to Lieutenant, Julie Thomas was promoted to Sergeant, Bradley Hough was promoted to Sergeant, and Jason Evans was promoted to Detective.
- Fair and Impartial Police begins on Thursday, July 17, 2019.
- National Night Out is the first Tuesday of the month.
- Thank you to the Human Resources Department for their help on hiring.
- Four Chevy Tahoe's will be purchased and the older cars will be put back into the fleet.

LEGAL ADVISOR REPORT Amanda O'Boyle, Assistant City Attorney No updates. Amanda O'Boyle introduced Mary Bowen, Assistant City Attorney.

HUMAN RELATIONS AND COMMUNITY SERVICES LIAISON REPORT HRCS Director Joan Jackson-Johnson)

- Connect Kids will be held on August 19, 2019.
- Mobile Food Pantry will be held at Abundant Grace Faith Church on Saturday. Meijer's and Sam's will be donating water.
- GAP Feeding Program is working in connection with Meijer's and the Greater Lansing Food Bank.
- There are several issues with utilities.
- Bernard Brantley signed his last contract for six months or less. He stated it has been a pleasure working in the Human Resources Department and with the board.
- She thanked the Commissioners for allowing Bernard to do extra work in her department.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS None.

CORRESPONDENCE SENT AND RECEIVED None.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS Commissioner Noordhoek made a motion to receive and place on file department reports for the month June; supported by Commissioner Renfrew; motion carried unanimously; (7-0).

BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Government/Community Liaison Committee Vice-Chairperson Kowalk-Thompson stated she would work with Michelle Reddish to put together meetings with City Council and neighborhoods.
- Awards & Incentives Committee Commissioner Farhat stated there is no report.
- Budget Committee Commissioner Carnegie stated no report.
- Recruitment/Hiring Task Force Chairperson Macon was not present to report.
- Ad Hoc Committee on Board Policies and Rules Commissioner Noordhoek stated no report.
- Complaint Committee Commissioner Farhat stated they held a meeting last month and have a meeting scheduled next month.

COMMISSIONER'S COMMENTS

- Commissioner Carnegie thanked Chief Yankowski for the safe 4th of July event. The department displayed their hard work with no issues happening and keeping everyone safe. He appreciates Bernard Brantley and wishes him the very best. He welcomed Commissioner Milton and stated he is a man of integrity and believes he will have a great impact on the board.
- Commissioner Milton stated he is grateful and thankful to be on the board and wants the community to see what the department is doing. He believes information that can go to the churches in regards to youth programs and activities that the department is involved will be helpful and he wants to be a part of it.
- Commissioner Renfrew welcomed Commissioner Milton. He believes the board is getting better. He is sorry it is the end of an era. He believes the City is better because of Chief Yankowski.
- Commissioner Farhat stated the Youth Academy Graduation was wonderful.
- Commissioner Rodocker welcomed Commissioner Milton to the board and she believes any information that can go out to the public about the youth programs will be helpful. She stated monthly meetings and posting what meetings are available for board members to attend would allow the board to be actively involved in community events. She stated the grants that were awarded will help LPD. She will miss Chief Yankowski.
- Commissioner Noordhoek welcomed Commissioner Milton. He agrees with his idea that information given to the churches about youth programs will be helpful.
- Commissioner Kowalk-Thompson echoed everyone's comments. She welcomed Commissioner Milton to the board. She stated Chief Yankowski has served with dignity and honor.

OTHER BUSINESS None.

PUBLIC COMMENT Mr. Daniel Arnold recognized Chief Yankowski in regards to his work with mental health and everything he has done for the community.

Mr. Harold Leeman thanked Chief Yankowski for everything he has done for the City.

ADJOURNMENT A motion was made by Commissioner Noordhoek to adjourn the meeting at 7:00 p.m.; motion supported by Commissioner Carnegie; motion carried unanimously; 7-0.