



Lansing Police Department

Board of Police Commissioners

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BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS MEETING MINUTES TUESDAY, May 21st, 2019

MEMBERS PRESENT	MEMBERS ABESENT	PUBLIC and GUESTS PRESENT
Commissioner Patty Farhat		Michelle Reddish, Admin. Specialist II
Commissioner Julee Rodocker		Amanda O'Boyle, City Attorney's Office
Commissioner Robert Noordhoek		Chief Mike Yankowski
Commissioner Patty Farhat		Linda Sanchez-Gazella, HR Director
Commissioner William Renfrew		Lieutenant Matthew Kreft
Commissioner Clyde Carnegie		Explorers (State Competitors)
Vice-Chairperson Sandra Kowalk-Thompson		Sergeant Jason Spoelma
Chairperson Drew Macon		Daniel Arnold
	Commissioner Kecia Coats <i>Note: Commissioner Coats withdrew as a Commissioner this month, May 2019</i>	

CALL TO ORDER

After establishing a quorum, Chairperson Macon welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Commissioner Rodocker.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS – None.

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA – None.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Board members reviewed the April 16th, 2019, Meeting Minutes. Vice-Chairperson Kowalk-Thompson asked that her comment in regards to attendance at Councilmember Adam Hussain's Fund-raiser be changed to Neighborhood Community Meeting. A motion was made by Commissioner Noordhoek to approve the April 16th, 2019, Meeting Minutes with corrections; supported by Commissioner Renfrew; motion approved unanimously. Michelle Reddish reviewed the change and determined that this should be struck from the May Minutes as it should have been noted in the March, 2019, Meeting Minutes.

EDUCATION PRESENTATION – Chairperson Macon presented a congratulatory plaque to the Explorers who competed in the 2019 State Competition. The Explorers spoke about their competition wins and how they are proud to be a part of the Lansing Police Department Explorer Post. They also spoke about what the program teaches them. Lieutenant Matthew Kreft spoke about his time leading the Explorer Program. Board Members told the Explorers they were very proud of their representation in the department.

Sergeant Jason Spoelma spoke to Board Members about the Awards Program and the improvements that were made by adding the Civilian Employee of the Year award, Officer of the Year award and the Glen Erin Pipe Band. The program had well over 300 people in attendance and went very smoothly. Board Members commented on how nice the program is and thanked Sergeant Spoelma for his work.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT by Chief Mike Yankowski

- The City passed the FY-20 budget. LPD got a sworn CPO position which makes 11 CPO's now and PAL got \$10,000 to begin the program. LPD also will be getting MSU interns who will work on crime analysis. Thank you to

Dr. Carnegie for all his work on the budget. Funding was approved for the Townsend Ramp project. Public safety cameras will be improved by using \$250,000 and an additional \$300,000 was set aside for real time crime center software.

- The 2019 MATS Study was received from Dr. David Carter who reported there was no signs of racial profiling or bias on behalf of LPD officers. An overview of the report was given. Dr. Carnegie credits Chief Yankowski for continuing to use the MATS Forms and monitoring LPD's activity because things are changing in the way officers do their job. The board has been behind the MATS Study 100%.
- A new officer Community Meet and Greet will be held on Wednesday, May 22nd, 2019, at the Foster Community Center. This Meet and Greet is by invitation only and all board members are invited to attend. Commissioner Carnegie stated he credits Chief Yankowski for staying in touch with the community because a lot of things are changing in how officers do their job. Commissioner Carnegie suggested that a check box be added to the MATS Form as to whether the person stopped is a resident of Lansing. He believes this may help the report.
- Events: Promotions – Detective Sarah Willson, Lieutenant Chris Baldwin, Captain Ellery Sosebee, and Sergeant Jimmy Garcia. Retirements: Sergeant Leith Curtis and Detective Tracy Jones. This Ceremony will take place on June 11th, 2019. Captain Eric Eichenberg will retire in July and his ceremony will be held on July 11th, 2019.
- Attended the Career Center Graduation, MI COPS, and Union Contract Negotiations, Policing Autism Event, Exchange Club of Lansing, Lansing Promise Dinner, Love Lansing, and the Safety Patrol Picnic.
- The Space Needs Study should be completed soon.
- Nine individuals have been sponsored in the Academy and thirteen are sworn in.
- The Leadership Academy is in June 17th, 2019.

LEGAL ADVISOR REPORT – Amanda O’Boyle, Assistant City Attorney

Attorney O’Boyle stated it has been a busy week in the City Attorney’s Office. She congratulated officers who participated in three jury trials this week. They won all three. The jury trials involved a DWLS, trespassers and OWI. Thank you to Officers Dillion Zehr, Corey Crenshaw, Sam Fearnow and Dustin Moore.

HUMAN RELATIONS AND COMMUNITY SERVICES LIAISON REPORT – HRCS Director Joan Jackson-Johnson (Vice-Chairperson Kowalk-Thompson gave the report as Director Jackson was absent)

- May was a very busy month for the HRCS Division.
- The City received the Veterans Zero Count award.
- The Feed the Baby event was held.
- Diagnosis Poverty training is completed by Dr. Marcella Wilson.
- The Mobil Food Pantry was a Mt. Hope Church this past weekend.
- Mark Bozo’s place was utilized during the cold weather.
- There is a record number of utility shut-offs occurring.

HUMAN RESOURCES REPORT – Director Linda Sanchez-Gazella

- The HR Department hired 1 male and 1 female Detention Officers on May 6th, 2019. Currently there are no vacancies but the hiring process will continue.
- Police Technician positions are all filled, hiring processes will continue.
- Quarter Master position is being reclassified.
- A Secretary 26 has been hired for the Investigations Division.
- Payroll Technician 27 position was posted. Four applicants were interviewed. Candidates are in the background phase.
- PO1 Certified/Certifiable – Four have a start date of June 3rd, 2019 and one candidate will start on June 3rd, 2019, pending final approval. A sheet was passed around for board members to sign in regards to hiring this officer. A motion was made by Commissioner Noordhoek to approve the hiring of this officer; seconded by Commissioner Renfrew; motion passes unanimously; 7-0.
- Police Recruit reports for five candidates have been received and are in the psychological phase.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS – None

CORRESPONDENCE SENT AND RECEIVED

No correspondence received.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Vice-Chairperson Kowalk-Thompson made a motion to receive and place on file department reports for the month April; supported by Commissioner Renfrew; motion carried unanimously.

BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Government/Community Liaison Committee – Vice-Chairperson Kowalk-Thompson stated she attended the Awards Ceremony and thanked Commissioners Noordhoek and Farhat for their work on the committee and on the banquet. Chairperson Macon also thanked them and the Chief, as well. She also attended the Promotional/Retirement Ceremony. She thanked Chief Yankowski for giving her a ticket to the Lansing Promise Dinner.
- Awards & Incentives Committee – Commissioners Farhat and Noordhoek thanked everyone for their work.
- Budget Committee – Commissioner Carnegie thanked HR Director Sanchez-Gazella for the excellent work she has done on behalf of the department. The board has a great deal of confidence in her work. He thanked Chief Yankowski and Joe McClure for their work on the budget. He will be meeting with Chief Yankowski and Joe McClure to see if there is any way the budget process can be improved.
- Recruitment/Hiring Task Force – None.
- Ad Hoc Committee on Board Policies and Rules – None.

COMMISSIONER'S COMMENTS

- Commissioner Renfrew stated he felt fortunate to meet the Explorers and hear their stories. He also thanked Chief Yankowski for keeping the Explorer Program going.
- Commissioner Farhat stated the Cadets and Explorers are excellent and reminded board members about the upcoming Lugnuts Game on May 23rd, 2019.
- Commissioner Rodocker stated the Explorers are very impressive. She also stated the LPD Advisory Board had a dinner for students from the Lansing School District. Detective Frank Mobley did an excellent job speaking at the event.
- Vice Chairperson Kowalk-Thompson stated the Chief's MATS Report was excellent and he has a lot of support from the community and the rank and file at LPD. She thanked Commissioner Carnegie for his work on the budget and stated HR Director Sanchez-Gazella's work is commendable. She spoke about the Awards Program and her involvement with a life-saving event with someone at the Boys and Girls Club. Officers involved in events such as this should be recognized.
- Commissioner Carnegie stated children in the schools are amazed with LPD officers because they interact and get along. He thought maybe school children could give their opinion on officers in the schools. He stated that Chivon Kloefer did a great job announcing at the Awards Ceremony.
- Commissioner Robert Noordhoek stated the budget came out well and he is pleased LPD is getting recognition for the work that is being done.
- Chairperson Macon stated he took GREAT kids to a Tiger's game and it was a lot of fun.
- Chief Yankowski stated that Commissioner Coats was not present and this would be her last meeting. She conveyed her best wishes to board members.
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PUBLIC COMMENT – Daniel Arnold stated he was happy to be at the meeting. He thought the MI-Cops event was special. He spoke about mental health and wants to be involved in the department. He has been work with Social Worker, Jan Bidwell.

HR Director Linda Sanchez-Gazella thanked Chief to speaking to her granddaughter's fifth grade class about Bullying at Pattengill.

ADJOURNMENT - A motion was made by Chairperson Macon to adjourn the meeting at 7:00 p.m., supported by Commissioner Renfrew; motion carried unanimously.