



Mike Yankowski, Chief

Lansing Police Department Board of Police Commissioners

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Virg Bernero, Mayor

BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS MEETING OF TUESDAY, February 16th, 2016

MEMBERS PRESENT

Commissioner Patty Farhat, Chairperson
Officer
Commissioner Robert Noordhoek, Vice Chairperson
Investigator
Commissioner Clyde Carnegie, Member
Commissioner Bill Renfrew, Member
Commissioner Kecia Coats, Member
Commissioner Sandra Kowalk-Thompson, Member
Commissioner Linda Sanchez-Gazella, Member

OTHERS PRESENT

Kasha Osborn, Neighborhood Watch

Bernard Brantley, Commission

Mike Yankowski, Chief of Police
Kristen Simmons, Legal Advisor
Cherie Ballor, Recording Minutes
Joan Jackson-Johnson

PUBLIC/GUESTS PRESENT -

Norma Bauer Lansing resident and representing Black Lives Matter.

CALL TO ORDER - After establishing a quorum, Chairperson Farhat welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 5:34 p.m.

Chairperson Farhat led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Moment of Silence was observed in honor of Lansing Fire Department Captain Stephen Babcock who passed away on February 3, 2016.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS -

Norma Bauer spoke of her activism in the Lansing Community and her involvement with Black Lives Matter. She invited members of the board to attend the 21st Century Policing Forum occurring on March 24, 2016 at the Media Center, 2500 South Washington Ave. at 6:00 p.m. Chief Yankowski has committed to attend. Bauer appreciated Chief Yankowski's leadership and attendance at the forum. The group has sent out surveys to area police agencies thus far only 3 have responded. There is a wide disparity in the opinion of progress between police agencies and community members. Bauer was interested in what the Police Board of Commissioners did. Bauer offered her services to assist the mayor in finding suitable candidates for Commissioners as terms expire.

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA - None, there were no additions to the Agenda.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION - None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES - The Board reviewed the January, 2016, meeting minutes. The year on the minutes was incorrect. A motion was made to approve the minutes as amended by Vice-Chairperson Noordhoek; supported by Commissioner Kowalk-Thompson; approved unanimously. The minutes of the regular meeting of January, 2016 with the corrected year, were approved and will be placed on file with the Lansing City Clerk's Office.

EDUCATION PRESENTATION -

Officer Kasha Osborn is the Neighborhood Watch Officer with 13.5 years of service with the Lansing Police Department. She provided business cards and phone numbers to the board members. She described her duties to include;

- Neighborhood Watch, Business Watch and School Watch
- Community meetings
- Crime Prevention and Safety Tips
- Participates in Youth Programs ie. GREAT program
- Alarms
- Participates in the Citizens Police Academy
- Scheduling McGruff
- Currently 198 Neighborhood Watch groups

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT from Chief Mike Yankowski

- Showed video of Jeremie's thank you party for police. The segment will be shown on Friday Feb 19 at 6:30 on CBS and again on the program "Sunday Morning" also on CBS.
- Saturday, February 20, 2016 is a surprise birthday party for Jeremie. He is a special kid with a bigger purpose.
- Thanked Norma Baurer for attending the meeting.
- Gave update on officer involved shooting, case was forwarded to Calhoun County Prosecutors Office for review.
- Gave update on Body camera program, waiting for the new generation to arrive, 120 were ordered. FY17 budget will reflect to enhance program. The program will hold officers and citizens accountable as well as a useful prosecution tool.
- Completed the command wide Procedural Justice training, (8 hours). Other trainings which have occurred or will be occurring are Implicit Bias, Emotional survival and Annual training.
- This year's annual training topics are: Handling of Critical Incidents, Exposure to Biohazards, Use of Force and the Chief discussion on philosophy, expectations and questions
- Chief attended the National PERF conference, along with 200 other Chiefs. A group went to Scotland to look at how non-firearm related encounters are handled and best practices. 30 recommendations came out of the research, one was more training.
- LPD is retooling training to provide better training. Chief tasked a committee with this objective. One recommendation would include a Professional Standards Unit.
- Police Officer Hiring Process is continuing with the Interview stage. There will be 3 detention officer openings by July 1. There are 14 PO1 vacancies.
- Promotional test for the ranks of Sergeant and Detective will be held on February 17, 2016, with interviews in March.
- Lead Detention Officer Gregg Rosenberry resigned. Two new lead Detention Officers were promoted, Robert Davis and Jason Davis.
- Chief attended Active Violence table top event. Reiterated the importance having a plan in place.
- Citizen's Police Academy currently underway. It is free and encourages community members to attend.
- Award procedure was revised and includes a new Community Excellence award. Chief provided examples of officers' actions befitting this award.

LEGAL ADVISOR UPDATE from Kristen Simmons - None

HUMAN RELATIONS AND COMMUNITY SERVICES LIAISON REPORT from BERNARD BRANTLEY FOR DR. JOAN JACKSON-JOHNSON

- Bernard Brantley will continue as the Police Commission investigator as a contract employee working approximately 20 hours a week. He will continue to take complaints and if necessary work additional hours to complete the investigation. He continues to be a valuable asset responding to citizens issues.
- Magnuson Hotel in Lansing; Police response in December brought this situation to light. Dr. Joan Jackson Johnson brought up several concerns and issues facing families with children and individuals that are residing there, working on what can be repaired and other housing options.
- The mobile food pantry took place at Tabernacle of David Church and First United Methodist.
- Cold weather concerns continue to be addressed by her staff. Good hearts within our community offering coffee, businesses open all night are allowing people to come in and sit for as long as they like to stay warm.
- Continues to work to address homeless veterans

FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE - No comment, no representative was present.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS - None

CORRESPONDENCE SENT AND RECEIVED - Commissioner Kowalk-Thomson made a motion to receive and place on file correspondence for the month of January; supported by Commissioner Renfrew; carried unanimously. It was endorsed to send a thank you letter to Jeremie from the board as well as a card.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS - Commissioner Renfrew made a motion to receive and place on file department reports for the month of January; supported by Commissioner Kowalk-Thompson; carried unanimously.

BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Gov't/Community Liaison Committee - Commissioner Kowalk-Thompson will continue to explore meeting locations that meet the needs to all, will provide updates as move forward.
- Awards & Incentives Committee - Vice-Chairperson Noordhoek stated the awards committee had a good meeting, discussing the nomination forms and voting on the awards. There is an addition to the procedure for a new award, The "Community Excellence" award. The ceremony is May 4, 2016 at the Lansing Center.
- Budget Committee - Commissioner Carnegie stated he spoke with the Budget Controller. They will have a committee meeting on Wednesday or Thursday (February 25 or 25, 2016) to discuss the Budget. A special meeting with the whole Board of Commissioners will be scheduled afterwards
- Recruitment / Hiring Task Force: - No Update
- Ad Hoc Committee on Policies and Board Rules - None.
- Complaint Committee - Chairperson Farhat stated the committee had a good meeting.
 1. Commission Investigator Report - None.

COMMISSIONER'S COMMENTS

Commissioner Kolwalk-Thompson acknowledged Bernard Brantley for everything he has done for the Board of Commissioners and the Lansing community. We are fortunate to have his continued experience. She extended thoughts and prayers for Michelle Reddish's recovery. An invitation had been extended to City Council members with no attendees.

Commissioner Coats stated it has been a pleasure working with Bernard Brantley.

Commissioner Sanchez-Gazella stated she was glad Bernard Brantley was staying and recognized the work he had done. She is currently participating in the Citizens Police Academy. He provides a different perspective of the police officer, what they do and why. She commends young people taking this to see how things can happen quickly and easily. She is enjoying the experience.

Commissioner Renfrew recommended a youth academy, a five day type course. He likes the way the department is moving. He is having health issues and asked to keep him in your prayers.

Commissioner Carnegie thanked Mr. Brantley for the way he has assisted citizens and how much he is appreciated. He also thanked Dr. Joan Jackson Johnson for her efforts, the need to continue and how grateful we are.

Commissioner Noordhoek also was happy Bernard Brantley was staying around to work with us. He appreciated Bernard and Dr. Jackson Johnson for their help. He attended Jeramie's thank you celebration at Don Johnson field house. It had a great turn out with Law Enforcement Officers from all over with LPD front and center. It is a birthday an 11 year old boy will never forget. Also a reminder the awards banquet on May 4, 2016 at the Lansing Center.

Commissioner Farhat thanked Bernard Brantley for his service. She also attended the thank you party event.

OTHER BUSINESS/DISCUSSION ITEMS - Procedures

Procedure 700-28 Cell Check

These were recommended changes after the internal review board to increase the number of cell checks, using best practices of observation, and communication. Commissioner Renfrew commented that he comes to detention every Sunday and observes officers doing a good job and is proud of their work.

Procedure 300-21 Awards and Citations

Discussed above

A motion was made to approve the procedures by Vice-Chairperson Noordhoek; supported by Commissioner Renfrew; approved unanimously

PUBLIC COMMENT -

Norma Bauer hoped to see members at the 21st Century Policing forum. There is a disconnect in the surveys between the police and the community. She is grateful for the Chief's commitment to the forum and will be working toward getting other police agencies to complete the surveys.

ADJOURNMENT - The meeting was adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, March 15th, 2016 at 5:30 p.m., at the Headquarters
Bldg, 2nd Floor Alexander Lang Conference Room.