



Andy Schor, Mayor

Lansing Police Department Board of Police Commissioners

120 West Michigan Avenue
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Ellery Sosebee, Chief

BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS MEETING MINUTES Tuesday, April 19, 2022

Location: Alfreda Schmidt Community Center, 5825 Wise Rd., Lansing, MI 48911

The Board of Police Commissioners met in regular session and meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Chairperson Patty Farhat.

Present: Commission Members Brewster, Carnegie, Farhat, Jones, and Milton.

Excused: Commissioners McDermitt and Abood.

By Vote: Yeas: 5 (Brewster, Carnegie, Farhat, Jones, Milton)
Nays: None

Unexcused: Commissioner Lopez
Absence:

Also Present: Chief Ellery Sosebee, Assistant City Attorney Mary Bowen, CI Delvata Moses, and Ruth Grant.

Public attendees: 3

Roll call was taken, and quorum was present.

Chairperson Farhat asked for a moment of silence for: Former Mayor Tony Benavides, Patrick Lyoya, Tomaz Shessia, Andrew Smith, DB Hopkins, Jack Boyd, William Cleary, Malachi Williams and Alan Lavon Jackson.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: The Pledge of Allegiance led by Commissioner Brewster.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS: None.

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA: None.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

The Board meeting minutes from March 15, 2022, were moved by Chair Farhat to approve and place on file. Motion carried by Commissioner Brewster with Commissioner Carnegie seconding the motion.

Yeas: 5 (Brewster, Carnegie, Farhat, Jones, Milton)
Nays: None.

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EDUCATION PRESENTATION: None.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT: Chief Ellery Sosebee

- April 18th LPD swore in two new police officers, Marquis Washington and Michael MacGregor, and promoted three officers. Officers Robert Leiter and Dale Person were both promoted to rank of Sergeant and Officer Damian Manson to rank of Detective. The ceremony was well attended.
- Chief has been working through budget, budget agenda and budget justification process with city council and on April 25th he will present to Council a short overview of the changes and additions to the budget request.
- Lansing State Journal journalist, Kara Berg, and Chief met to discuss for media project updates. Project is still ongoing. OCA has approved of weekly report of data to all media for transparency.
- Visitor Diane Streeter complimented LPD for the quick response to an incident next to her home.
- Commissioner Carnegie complimented LPD for addressing juvenile arrests. He recently visited probate court and the indication was the degree of arrests has declined 80%. Also, possible training programs for de-escalating incidents with juvenile arrests might be programs from Highfield's, Child and Family Charities and the Office of Juvenile Justice Prevention.
- Commissioner Jones complimented Chief Sosebee and Captain Anderson for attending the Youth and Coaches meeting and the GREAT program on April 9th.

NEW BUSINESS: None.

LEGAL AND ADVISOR REPORT: Assistant City Attorney Mary Bowen

- No report.

HUMAN RESOURCES REPORT: Will be reported by Commissioner Brewster.

- Patrol Admin Assistant position - filled on 4/11; Detention – 1 male vacancy, interviews scheduled on 4/26 for 4 candidates (3 males and 1 female); FOIA Analyst – one vacancy, pending HR approval, 1 candidate in background, 2 external candidates completed psychological evaluations (sent to HR for review), one candidate withdrew; Cadets – One new hire started 4/18/2022, another cadet needs to follow-up with doctor for additional testing; Police officer Certified/Certifiable – currently posted on Neogov and accepting applications, two were hired on 4/18/2022; Social workers – two are in background check; Radio engineer- position has been filled on 3/28th with internal candidate; Radio technician – one candidate.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None.

CORRESPONDANCE SENT AND RECEIVED: None.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS: Moved by Chairperson Farhat to accept and place on file the March 2022 department reports. Motion carried by Commissioner Brewster and seconded by Commissioner Carnegie.

Yea: 5 (Brewster, Carnegie, Farhat, Jones, and Milton)

Nays: None.

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BOARD COMMITTEE REPOTS:

- **Budget Committee:** Commissioner Carnegie – The mayor’s recommended budget is moving forward and three of the Chief’s packages are includes positions of assistant police chief, FOIA analyst and public information coordinator.
- **Government/Community Liaison Committee:** No report.
- **Awards & Incentives Committee:** Commissioner Brewster – The committee finalized the awards last month and in process of putting the ceremony together. Date to be announced.
- **Ad Hoc Committee on Board Policies and Rules:** No report.
- **Complaint Committee:** Chair Farhat – Met with Internal Affairs and reviewed all the 2022 cases.
- **Recruitment and Hiring Committee:** Commissioner Brewster
- **Commission Investigator Delvata Moses:**
 - For month of March, 6 complaints were received of which 3 were citizen and 3 were Administrative/employee-based complaints.
 - 2 complaints were closed, both citizen complaints.
 - For March, there were no citizen complaints were sent to the Chief to apply the disciplinary matrix.

COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS:

- Commissioner Brewster: No comment.
- Commissioner Jones: No comment.
- Commissioner Milton: Commended Chief for handling the atmosphere in wake of the Grand Rapids Police Department shooting incident and his response to LPD of keeping Lansing comfortable.
- Commissioner Carnegie: Thanked Chief Sosebee for leadership in continuing to inform officers in making sure their approaches and interactions with the public are positive when carrying out difficult roles. He enjoyed the promotional ceremony and noted how LPD respects the Chief. Thanked for the improved data on juveniles and is interested on juvenile detention and how they are handling with resources and education programs by the Lansing School District. Also appreciated Chief’s newspaper article for officers to get assistance if handling a negative situation rather than turning into a tragedy like at Grand Rapids Police Department.
- Chairperson Farhat: Agreed with Commissioner Milton and complimented the promotional ceremony.

OTHER BUSINESS: None.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

- Daniel Arnold – Thanked LPD and the Commission for all their efforts. He continues to visit many government facilities and talk to many homeless each day Would like to see if there is a way to get more LPD pens coloring books for children of the homeless to distribute.
- Diane Streeter – Suggested using Officer McGruff more and offered her and Daniel Arnold’s assistance to connect with citizens.

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ADJOURNMENT: Chairperson Farhat concluded by thanking everyone. Farhat moved that the board meeting be adjourned at 5:58 pm.

Submitted by Ruth Grant, Recording Secretary, Lansing Board of Police Commissioners.

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