



Lansing Police Department

Board of Police Commissioners

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BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS

MEETING MINUTES

TUESDAY, May 19th, 2020

Via Zoom Virtual Meeting

MEMBERS PRESENT	MEMBERS ABSENT	PUBLIC and GUESTS PRESENT
Chairperson Drew Macon	Commissioner William Renfrew	Daryl Green, Chief of Police
Commissioner Robert Noordhoek		Ruth Grant, Administrative Specialist
Commissioner Clyde Carnegie		HR Director, Linda Sanchez-Gazella
Vice-Chair Sandra Kowalk-Thompson		Kim Coleman, HRCS
Commissioner Bishop Aaron I. Milton		Brian Aure, Commission Investigator
Commissioner Patty Farhat		Mary Bowen, City Attorney's Office
Commissioner Julee Rodocker		
Note: Commissioner Rodocker and Milton were present however experienced technical difficulty during some of the voting.		

CALL TO ORDER After establishing a quorum by roll call, Chairperson Macon welcomed everyone and called the Zoom Virtual meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. Chairperson Macon asked for a moment of silence for the father of Vice-Commissioner Sandra Kowalk-Thompson and extended the Board's sympathy at this time.

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

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS: None.

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA: None.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Board members reviewed and approved the February 18th, 2020 meeting minutes. A motion was made by Commissioner Kowalk-Thompson for approve these minutes; supported by Commissioner Farhat; motion approved in favor (5-0) by roll call.

EDUCATION PRESENTATION: None.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT – Chief Daryl Green:

- Established new COVID-19 guidelines for LPD since February.
- Mitigation Phase I implemented on March 12, 2020 with new procedures for cleaning and sanitizing LPD offices, cars, cell phones, as well as, switching to 12-hour shifts for patrol and practice social distancing.
 - A main focus was the limit the exposure of possible COVID cases for police department and community.

“Capital City's Finest”

- o Since March, there has not been any COVID-related illnesses of LPD staff.
 - o Conducted and maintained PPE inventory.
 - o Trained officers on usage of PPE, hygiene, and made sure vaccinations were up-to-date.
 - o Since March 12th, any sick employees were to stay home.
 - o Since March 16th, civilian employees were equipped to work from home to carry on operations.
 - o All trainings were cancelled and any meetings were handled by virtual meetings.
 - o Established alternative call responses. Requested citizens to utilize online reporting for certain crimes.
- Mitigation Phase 2:
 - o Continuing hygiene practices.
 - o Decontamination and quarantine sites established. Decontamination of buildings, equipment and vehicles. In addition, rescheduling work to 12-hour shifts has lessened exposure.
 - o Special assignment officers were re-assigned to Patrol. Officers had vehicles assigned to also lessen cross-contamination.
- All precautions established thus far have been for the protection of LPD personnel, families and the public.
- Mitigation Phase 3:
 - o Will be resuming some normal work routines. Civilians coming back on May 18th.
 - o Special assignments of VCI/SOD officers will be returning.
 - o LPD is taking COVID-19 recommendations from CDC and ICHD.
 - o Central Dispatch has been screening the 911 calls for any COVID-19 symptoms before officers arrived.
 - o Extra precautionary steps have been taken by the Detention Unit, taking samples for drug and fingerprinting.
- Staffing:
 - o Captain Diehl, Sgt. Vaugh, Lieutenant Churchill and Detective Kasha Osborn were promoted to respective ranks. Ofc. Anthony VandeVoorde will become the new Community Services Officer.
 - o Retirements: Sgt. Todd Johnson and Det. Quincy Scroggins. Preparing for some retirements in June.
 - o Hired a detention officer, three patrol officers and all seem to be doing well.
 - o Currently, there are six in the academy. Their tenure is on hold due to pandemic however hope to get back into training in June.
 - o Have three at Ferris State University that will be starting soon.
- Protests:
 - o Numerous protests have occurred protesting the governor's executive orders.
 - o LPD is fully prepared and coordinating with Michigan State Police. The police are not to escalate situation of protesting.
 - o Bike patrols are engaging with some leaders to communicate.
 - o Numerous open carry citizens were present at the protests. The Capital grounds is under the jurisdiction of the Michigan State Police and LPD will only assist if requested or if there is an active emergency.
- Budget: The budget was approved as of March 17th, 2020.
- Ingham CO Radio Project: Moving ahead with project and training officers.

LEGAL AND ADVISOR REPORT: Mary Bowen, Assistant City Attorney

- Due to COVID-19, courts adjusted the scheduling and proceedings. The ordinance docket has resumed. Any jury trials have been rescheduled after June to mid-July.
- City Attorney office is practicing social distancing.

HUMAN RESOURCES COMMUNITY SERVICES: Director Kim Coleman

- Director Coleman began her new position just as work schedules were adjusted due to COVID-19. Ms. Coleman looks forward to working with newly hired HRCS Investigator Brian Aure and the Board.
- Ms. Coleman has been working with shelters for their needs, services and recovery during the pandemic.

All Board members welcomed Director Coleman aboard.

HUMAN RESOURCES REPORT Director Linda Sanchez-Gazella

- Reported all positions have been filled for detention officers and evidence technicians.
- Police Officers: Have 10 candidates interviewing. Five have passed, three have been selected to advance to hire. All are in background currently.
- On May 18th for certifiables: 1 female passed and is in psychologic evaluation.
- On June 8th three males are schedule to graduate from the academy.
- Cadets: Have two to approve.

Chairperson Macon presented to the Board the resolution that allows for two cadets to be approved. A roll-call was conducted and Commissioner Kowalk-Thompson moved for a resolution; six motioned to carry forward with approving the cadets. Director Sanchez-Gazella will get a copy of the Resolution.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None.

CORRESPONDANCE SENT AND RECEIVED: Commissioner Kowalk-Thompson motioned to accept and 7 motioned by roll call.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS: None.

BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- Government / Community Liaison Committee – Vice-Chairperson Kowalk-Thompson: Prior to pandemic had been doing great with committee. At this time no further meetings are scheduled.
- Awards & Incentives Committee – Commissioner Farhat: Nothing to report.
- Budget Committee – Commissioner Carnegie: Extending thank you to Joe McClure, commissioners, department heads and leadership who worked hard on the budget. Chief Green thanked Commissioner Carnegie for all the hard work he has done preparing the budget.
- Recruitment / Hiring Task Force - Chairperson Macon thanked Commissioners Farhat and Noordhoek for their participating in the hiring process in January. Brian Aure was hired as the commission investigator. Mr. Aure is a retired Westland Police Department officer and has already done tremendous reporting. The Committee welcomes Mr. Aure.
- Ad Hoc Committee on Board Policies and Rules - Commissioner Noordhoek: No board policies or rules to consider at this time.
- Complaint Committee - Commissioner Farhat: None to report.
- Commission Investigator Report: Investigator Brian Aure. Mr. Aure conveyed that he appreciates the opportunity for his new position as investigator. He had only been on the job for five days when he began working from home.
 - o In March, six citizen complaints were reviewed three coming from Internal Affairs. All were informational only; no policy violations. Two more came in but was unable to reach the complainant.
 - o On April 6th a total of 6 complaints were received; 2 routed through Internal Affairs which were informational only; no violations found. Four complaints were from HRCS which were resolved and informational only.

Commissioner Kowalk-Thompson noted the outstanding work and well written reporting of Mr. Aure for the short time he has been working. Commissions Noordhoek and Farhat agreed. Chair Macon looks forward to working with Mr. Aure. All on Board welcomes Mr. Aure.

COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS:

- Commissioner Milton: Conducting many counseling sessions over the telephone for members of the Lansing area effected by COVID-19. Locating resources and praying for families of those who have lost loved ones to the pandemic.
- Commissioner Farhat: Busy working from home and having conference calls. National Night Out is still scheduled for October 6th however needs confirmation.
- Commissioner Noordhoek: Glad to be healthy and able to attend another Board meeting. He thanks the Chair for scheduling this Zoom virtual meeting.
- Commissioner Rodocker: Glad to hear everyone is staying at home and socially distancing. Her workplace lost three employees to COVID and it has greatly affected the workplace environment and safety measures.
- Commissioner Carnegie: Gives outstanding work to everyone during this time of COVID. Complements to Joe McClure for his work on the budget. He also welcomes Director Coleman and Mr. Aure to the committee and looks forward to work with them. Thanks was given to Chief Green for his leadership of the Lansing Police Department and departments in the city, Chair Macon, and Director Sanchez-Gazella for all their work.
- Commissioner Kowalk-Thompson: Thank you to all for their kind words for her father's passing. Her comments mirror those of Commissioner Carnegie of the high quality leadership here. Commissioner Kowalk-Thompson thanked Director Coleman, Mr. Aure, Mary Bowen and Director Sanchez-Gazella for all their work and expertise they have given. She also complemented LPD's procedures put in place to prevent COVID within LPD.

Lastly, effective July 2020 Commissioner Kowalk-Thompsons has submitted her resignation from the Board after twenty years of serving. She remained on the Board through Chief Green's transition and has been very proud to work with him. She will be serving until a replacement is found.

Commissioner Macon stated it's been a pleasure and honor working alongside with Commissioner Kowalk-Thompson and appreciates all her contributions over the years to the Board and to Lansing Police Department.

OTHER BUSINESS: None.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Daniel Arnold complimented the department for work done during COVID. He also complimented Chief Green and Social Worker Bidwell for being instrumental in helping the mentally ill in the community.

ADJOURNMENT: A motion was made by Chairperson Macon to adjourn the meeting at 6:32 p.m.; all seven members approved by roll call.