



Andy Schor, Mayor

LANSING POLICE DEPARTMENT
BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS

120 WEST MICHIGAN AVENUE
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Daryl Green, Chief

**BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS
MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, November 17, 2020 - Via Zoom Virtual Meeting**

MEMBERS PRESENT	MEMBERS ABSENT	PUBLIC and GUESTS PRESENT
Chairperson Patty Farhat		Daryl Green, Chief of Police
Commissioner Clyde Carnegie		Ruth Grant, Administrative Specialist
Commissioner Bishop Aaron I. Milton		HR Director, Linda Sanchez-Gazella
Commissioner DeYeya Jones		Mary Bowen, City Attorney's Office
Commissioner Holly McDermitt		
		Public:
MEMBERS EXCUSED		Daniel Arnold
Commissioner Julee Rodocker		Sarah Lehr
Vice-Chairperson William Renfrew		Kara Berg

CALL TO ORDER Quorum was established by roll call. The Commissioners also established at roll call they are presiding in Lansing, Michigan for the meeting. Chairperson Farhat welcomed everyone and called the Zoom Virtual meeting to order at 5:32 p.m. Chairperson Farhat asked for a moment of silence and condolences for Bonnie Ludwig, mother of Captain Katie Diehl who recently passed.

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

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS: None.

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA:

- Commissioner McDermitt would like the committee to have a discussion concerning:
 - Creating an official Board of Commissioners social media page stating this would be a good mechanism for the citizens to discuss and help with transparency as well as information about board meetings.
 - Chairperson Farhat asked that this discussion will be suspended until December when Commissioner Rodocker can be present.
 - Mary Bowen: Office of City Attorney can look into further however 1) social media page would have to be managed in some particular way and unsure of the logistics; 2) if social media page is maintained a municipality, there has to be rules of the comments – ie., allow all comments or do not allow any.
 - Re-instate the Recruiting and Hiring Sub-Committee. HR Director Sanchez-Gazella welcomed the commissioners to meet with her and the hiring specialists. Chairperson Farhat requested any commissioners interested in this committee to contact her. A roll-call vote was taken to reinstate the Recruiting and Hiring Sub-Committee, all were in favor (5-0).

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APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Board members reviewed and approved the October 20th, 2020 Board of Police Commissioners minutes. Commissioner Carnegie moved for approval of the minutes with Commissioner Milton seconding the motion. All were in favor (5-0) by roll call.

EDUCATION PRESENTATION: Mary Bowen, Office of the City Attorney

- The presentation was of the Board of Commissioners duties and responsibilities under the City Charter and the Robert's Rules and Order in conducting meetings and various articles.
- Open Meetings Act was also discussed.
- Ms. Bowen explained the Commissioner does have the ability to and power to subpoena however this is not a court-ordered subpoena and is not enforced, and there is no recourse if there is no response to a subpoena.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT – Chief Daryl Green

- Major crimes have increased in 2020:
 - 2020 has 15 homicide victims, 12 which were from violence, six being open and activity worked by detectives. In 2019 we had a total of 13 homicide victims.
 - For heroin overdose statistics: Currently observing 93 total overdoses and 17 are fatalities. Trending high compared to 2019, there was 198 overdoses and 20 deaths for whole year.
- Baker Street Arrest Incident: Police were alerted to a video on social media of officers making an arrest of a 25 year old male. This occurred on 11/10/2020 in the 1100 block of Baker St and involved a fight between 5-6 people. One suspect was being placed under arrest for an assault incident for a misdemeanor offense. Suspect resisted and additional officers responded to assist arresting officer. The suspect continued to be combative and during a lengthy struggle to secure the suspect, officers deployed a Taser. The suspect was eventually arrested and transported to a local hospital for medical evaluation, standard protocol for any type of Taser deployment. The suspect was cleared from the hospital and transported to LPD Detention center. Formal charges are sought with Ingham County Prosecutor Office (ICPO). That case was dropped from ICPO pending further investigation. Two officer sustained minor injuries during efforts to arrest subject. Three officers involved in arrest have been placed on administrative leave; Michigan State Police (MSP) will investigate and conduct an independent review of the incident and arrest and will present their report to Ingham County Prosecutor. LPD is fully cooperating with the MSP investigation and limited on discussing further on this incident.
- A letter from the Lansing Branch of NAACP was released to the media requesting additional police training and reform after the Baker Street incident and arrest. The NAACP specifically asked for the implementation of a robust and comprehensive training on crisis intervention and de-escalation training for all police officers which Chief Green supports. The NAACP also requests appropriate discipline for all officers that violated department use of force policies and again, Chief Green supports that as well.
- Summary of Election Security Planning prior to the Presidential Election: LPD partnered with a group called CP21 – Community Policing 21 Solutions. This company is owned by Chuck Ramsey, from the Obama Administrations 21st Century Policing Task Force and they reached out to LPD reference information and resources supplied by Governor's Association over voter protection. They assisted with various information to help protect the 1st Amendment rights of those protesting, to have a sufficient and effective plan to guarantee the safety of in-person voting. There was no reported incidents on the night of the election. CP21 Solutions does a review of police departments across the county and give an assessment the departments and if in alignment with the 21st Century Policing Task Force guidelines and pillars. This has been relayed to the Mayor's office as well as his committee MRJEA relative to bringing a contractor to assist LPD with a review of our agency.

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- Mayor's Reliance of Justice and Equity Alliance Task Force (MRJEA): Chief Green has met multiple times with Criminal Justice/Public Safety workgroup which includes Pastor Melvin Jones, Ph.D., Pastor Stanley Jenkins, and Attorney Pamela Davis. The group has expressed the desire to understand how the city of Lansing can increase oversight and accountability concerning police officers. Specifically, Pastor Jones would like to research a civilian oversight board for city of Lansing. Chief Green is a member and liaison on the group from department and city, and will help produce a plan that they are comfortable with.
- COVID-19 Update: All should be aware of Governor Whitmer's new measures. The department has experienced COVID exposures: 6 positives and 4 waiting for results of testing. A total of ten people are out of work.
- Chief Green appreciates the reinstatement of the Recruitment Committee and welcome them to assist Human Resources and LPD.

Questions for Chief Green:

- Commission McDermitt asked if the increase in homicides was in concentrated area of Lansing?
 - Per Chief Green, the data and Crimemapping.com will give an idea of where the homicides are occurring throughout the city however most seem to occur in south end of Lansing.
- Commissioner Jones asked if the person recording on the Baker Street incident was viewed as an impediment to the arrest and was there a necessity of the officer to ask the recording person to move? In regards to the research on civilian oversight committee, what role would they play in either addition or in-lieu of Board of Police Commissioners?
 - Per Chief Green, negative to the videographer. Citizens have the 1st Amendment right to record anything specific to police response. Police are instructed on public right to videotape whatever they want to in a safe capacity. With this being an ongoing investigation, this is all he can speak on this case.
 - The MRJEA is a committee created by the mayor and are looking for input from this board on those particular subjects. Any commissioner wanting to volunteer to be on that workgroup you are welcome to attend.
- Commissioner Carnegie asked if MRJEA is a parallel effort of citizens to understand how an elected citizen group can supervise police operations? The Board is an oversight board by City Charter and he is not aware of a revision in the Charter to accommodate such an organization unless it is a study group. Dr. Carnegie questions if the board is acting as an oversight manner; he also asked about scheduling critical incident briefings; he requested a desegregated report of teen arrests by race, gender, age, etc. and asks for discipline taken for an inebriated employee under investigation.
 - Chief Green works for the Board and they can call any meeting or briefing.
 - Chief Green stated he shared with Commissioner Carnegie the FBI statistics previously and will try gather up to date teen reporting.
 - Chief Green consulted with Attorney Mary Bowen if the details of the disciplinary action can be released. This will be put on the table for later discussion.

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NEW BUSINESS: None.

LEGAL AND ADVISOR REPORT: Mary Bowen, Assistant City Attorney

- With the pandemic, the City Attorney's office is paying attention to the guidelines and requirements from the state of Michigan. City Hall will be closed to the public for the next three weeks to follow those guidelines this also effects the courts in terms of the types of hearings and any requirements. For the misdemeanor cases, information has been received from the court administrator that not as many court appearances are being required as in the past. For felon matters, the courts are limiting the amount of in-person appearances. Officers should pay attention to any notices to appear and they should receive updates for many court dates being rescheduled

HUMAN RESOURCES COMMUNITY SERVICES: Director Kim Coleman (Excused)

- None.

HUMAN RESOURCES REPORT: Director Linda Sanchez-Gazella

- Commission Investigator: The job description had been modified and this resulted in more applications being received. HR had a total of 52 applicants of these 27 have been screened, contacted and are out for review with Director Coleman and Director Sanchez-Gazella.
- Detention Officers: Have currently two female vacancies, have 14 that are ----- with eight that are currently in the job shadowing processes. Three interviews, one female and two males, are scheduled for November 18th. One male is pre-employment physical results and he has a tentative date of November 23rd.
- FOIA Analyst – One vacancy and working to post this position.
- Police certified certifiables: LPD is accepting positons. Had three interviews both on October 27th and October 29th. Three applicants passed the first interview and three that did not. HR is awaiting on approval on who will move forward to background check.
- Police Recruits: Six recruits are recommended to 2021 police academy, they have passed all phases of the hiring process. Will need a vote from the commissioners to proceed. Chairperson Farhat called for a vote. Commissioner Carnegie made the motion and Commissioner Jones seconded it. Approved by roll call (5-0)
- The commissioners are welcome at any time to come to Human Resources to review the hiring process.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None.

CORRESPONDANCE SENT AND RECEIVED: Chairperson Farhat asked for a motion to accept and receive on file. Commissioner Carnegie made a motion and Commissioner Jones seconded; all in favor by roll call (5-0).

DEPARTMENT REPORTS: Chairperson Farhat asked for a motion to accept and place on file. Commissioner Carnegie made a motion, Commissioner McDermitt seconded the motion; all in favor by roll call (5-0).

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BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS:

There are few committees needing board representation. Chairperson Farhat is working on placement of commissioners on the subcommittees as the following;

- Government / Community Liaison Committee –Commissioners Rodocker, Jones and Carnegie.
- Awards and Incentives Committee – Chairperson Farhat and Vice-Chair Renfrew.
- Budget Committee – Commissioner Carnegie and Jones.
- Ad Hoc Committee on Board Policies and Rules: Commissioner McDermitt
- Complaint Committee – Chairperson Farhat, Vice-Chair Renfrew and Commissioner McDermitt
- Commission Investigator Report: Position currently is not filled.
- Recruitment and Hiring Committee -

Budget Committee Report:

- The department finance officer has received the city’s instructions for developing the budget for fiscal year 2021. Line items will remain status quo including decision packages. The original date for submitting budget from the commission to administration is December 4th; however, the department budget must be approved by the Board prior. The Budget Committee will meet to review the budget on December 7th (Commissioner Jones, Chairperson Farhat and Vice-Chair Renfrew, Chief Green, Commissioner Carnegie and budget director) prior to the books being distributed to the commissioners. Action item for the approval of the budget is requested to be placed for December.

COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS:

Commissioner McDermitt: No comment.

Commissioner Jones – No comment.

Commissioner Milton: No comment.

Commissioner Carnegie: Inquires on when the critical incident meeting will be scheduled to be briefed by Chief Green. Commissioner Carnegie reviewed the virtual 2020 Awards Ceremony and thanked all for a good ceremony.

Chairperson Farhat: Thank you all for being here tonight and giving Mary Bowen attention to her presentation and expressed a safe happy holiday.

OTHER BUSINESS: None.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

OTHER COMMENT: Commissioner Carnegie voices concern about the teen report and arrest report. He asked if the officers will carry the LPD Complaint Process to give to citizens? Chief Green has spoken to command officers regarding this suggestion and the cost. There is already a pamphlet for the complaint process, however this will be reviewed for the best and most cost effective way to distribute. Commissioner Carnegie requests the pamphlets be placed in the schools. Chief Green will reach out to his contacts at the school district to keep pamphlet on hand. The juvenile arrests report will be updated and distributed.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned by Chairperson Farhat at 7:27 p.m.

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