



Andy Schor, Mayor

Lansing Police Department Board of Police Commissioners

120 West Michigan Avenue
Lansing, MI 48933
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Ellery Sosebee, Chief

BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS MEETING MINUTES Tuesday, November 15, 2022

Location: Lansing Police Department, Headquarters, 2nd Floor Conference Room, 120 E. Michigan Ave., Lansing, MI 48933

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 Abood, Brewster, Carnegie, Farhat, Jones, Milton and McDermitt.

Excused Commissioners Lopez.

By Vote: Absence approved at 12/20/2022 meeting by Commissioners Farhat, Brewster, Carnegie, Abood, and Milton

Also Present: Assistant Chief Rob Backus, Assistant City Attorney Matthew Staples, Delvata Moses, and Ruth Grant.

Public attendees: 1

Roll call was taken, and quorum was present.

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

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS: None.

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA: None.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

The Board meeting minutes from September 20, 2022, were moved by Chairperson Farhat to approve and place on file. Motion carried by Commissioner Brewster with Commissioner Jones seconding the motion.

By Vote: Yeas: 7
Nays: 0

The Board meeting minutes from October 18, 2022, were moved by Chairperson Farhat to approve and place on file. Motion carried by Commissioner Milton with Commissioner Jones seconding the motion.

By Vote: Yeas: 7
Nays: 0

EDUCATION PRESENTATION: None

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ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT: Assistant Chief Rob Backus

- For the months of October and November, officers have been allowed to have beards for a \$50 donation to two different charitable cancer groups for the two months. They have raised approximately \$4,000. The money will be donated to breast and prostate cancer foundations.
- The new union contract for police officer supervisors has been approved by the city council and by LPD Supervisors. This contract will be in effect from July 2022 and for the next four years. The non-supervisors' contract for all other officers will be voted on and is anticipated to pass.
- One officer has resigned to seek other employment into the information technology fields. The four recent hires are out of FTO and now are able to patrol individually which helps with patrol staffing. The three recruits in the academy are doing well and will be sworn in as police officers next month. For the January academy, nine individuals are planning on attending.
- Public Information Director Jordan Gulkis has become a full-time city employee now.
- In regard to the Officer Involved Shooting, the case is still being investigated by the Michigan State Police and they have, not as of yet, forwarded their findings to the Attorney General.

Commissioner Farhat congratulated LPD for the passing of the millage for a new public safety facility and all the outstanding efforts LPD made in knocking on doors to talk to the community face to face.

NEW BUSINESS: None.

LEGAL AND ADVISOR REPORT: Assistant City Attorney Matthew Staples

- The OCA reported Assistant City Attorney Mary Bowen has resigned from her position to seek employment elsewhere. Everyone wishes Mary success and expresses what a great resource she was to LPD.
- No other reports from OCA.

HUMAN RESOURCES REPORT: Reported by Commissioner McDermitt

- Central Records Principal Clerk: One vacancy for this new position.
- Detention Officer: 1 male and 3 female vacancies. 1 male and 1 female are scheduled to begin Nov. 21st pending preemployment physical results. One of the female positions will be filled by a male candidate per approval of LPD; however, the position will be reported as the 3rd female vacancy is needed.
- FOIA Analyst – Two vacancies and two candidates have been moved to background.
- Certified/Certifiable: Positions are posted to Neogov and accepting applications. One applicant is pending psychological evaluation.
- Recruits: For the January 2023 academy, eleven candidates are pending new hires for the sponsorship.
- Radio Technician: One vacancy. The job description was updated and posted. Since then, four candidates have applied and will be screened before being sent to HR for review.
- Secretary – One vacancy. Currently a contract worker in the position until February 2023. Currently working with department to determine if position will need reclassification as the job description has

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been significantly updated and now encompasses more job duties related to the Crime Research Analyst Contract position.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None.

CORRESPONDANCE SENT AND RECEIVED: None.

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

Approval: 7
Nays: 0

Moved by Chairperson Farhat to accept and place on file the October 2022, department reports. Motion carried by Commissioner Milton and seconded by Commissioner McDermitt.

Approval: 7
Nays: 0

BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- **Budget Committee:** In September the budget committee met with Ms. Cheryl Rupprecht from LPD Budget. The Budget process is moving along, and a meeting is scheduled for December 8th, 2022, prior to the next Board of Police Commissioners meeting in December where the budget will be placed for vote.
- **Government Liaison Committee:** No report.
- **Awards & Incentives Committee:** No report.
- **Ad Hoc Committee on Board Policies and Rules:** No report.
- **Complaint Committee:** Chairperson Farhat reported a meeting has been requested with the Internal Affairs staff.
- **Recruitment and Hiring Committee:** No additional report from that provided in the HR section above.
- **Commission Investigator Delvata Moses:** For the month of September 2022, there were 4 complaints received, six complaints closed and in September there were no complaints forwarded to the Chief for disciplinary action. For October, there were six complaints received, seven complaints closed, and four complaints were forwarded to the Chief for review.

COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS:

- Commissioner Brewster: He heard the presentation conducted by Ms. Moses at the Neighborhood Watch (NW) Coordinators meeting and at the Citizens Police Academy (CPA) both were very good. He also gave thanks to Officer Anthony VandeVoorde for coordinating the CPA and the NW meetings.
- Commissioner Milton: Commended the Chief and Assistant Chief for the handling of the Officer Involved Shooting with the parents of the deceased and of being very professional and transparent. He also thanked them for allowing some of the faith community to review video footage prior to the release to the public.

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- Commissioner Carnegie: Thanked Assistant Chief Backus for being at the meeting and his reports. He also thanked and appreciates Ms. Grant, Secretary, for her assistance with the Board.
- Commissioner Farhat: Agrees with Commissioners Brewster and Milton's comments. Silver Bells is this Friday and for the first time the majority of the NW Advisory Board will be riding the float together.
- Commissioner Abood: No comment.
- Commissioner Jones: No comment.
- Commissioner McDermitt: No comment.

OTHER BUSINESS: None.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

- Daniel Arnold – Supports good police work. Suggests the CIT training be extended to Lansing Fire and EMS services.

ADJOURNMENT: Chairperson Farhat concluded by thanking everyone and moved to adjourn the meeting; motion to adjourn at 6:00pm.

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

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