

9/3/20 Springfield Police Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

Location: Remote GoToMeeting

Committee Member Attendance: Joe Pishioneri-Councilor, Barry Lind – Faith Community, Michael Bean – Local Business, Isa Aviad – Neighborhood At-Large (1), Jack Martin – Neighborhood At-Large (2), Teresa Dillon – Neighborhood At-Large (3), Johnny Kirschenmann – Neighborhood At-Large (4), Jenna McCulley – School District 19, Eric Adams – Willamalane

City Staff Attendance: Chief Lewis, Lt. Crolly, Jessica Crawford, AJ Ripka

1. Welcome and Call to Order – 6:08pm.

- a. Roll call completed.

2. Minutes Approval for August 6, 2020 Meeting

- a. All in favor of approval.

3. Chief Lewis Updates

- a. Provided update of recent fatal incident at 7100 block of Main Street. Incident initially believed to be a Hit & Run accident, but upon investigation determined to have begun with an assault incident that left the victim in the roadway.
- b. Provided update on outside expert reviewing Use of Force used at Thurston Protest. City Manager's Office advised Chief that they are close to selecting an individual to perform that investigation. When information is made available to the public, SPD will let the committee know. SPD is almost complete with the internal investigation in to the Thurston Protest, which will be provided to the external investigator.
- c. Update on the letter from public statements regarding an individual's ex-husband that was a victim of assault. A detective was assigned to the case and further investigation is in progress.
- d. Noted the August meeting included public comment at the meeting. Public comment is not planned to be included in Police Advisory Committee meeting going forward. Written public comment will continue to shared and routed through the Police Department and the committee's staff liaison Jessica Crawford. The public comment at the August meeting was requested by City leadership because of the situation. Chief Lewis asked if anyone had questions regarding that approach.
 - i. Michael Bean asked why the decision for no public comment was made.
 1. Chief Lewis responded that the decision was made to return to the format the committee has historically followed. The charge of the advisory committee is to help with long-range plan and policy work related to the police department. If the Police Advisory Committee would like to change that, the committee has the authority to make the change. The decision was made because the public comment last month was treated as an exception.

2. Michael Bean commented that the August meeting was the first time anyone from the public has requested to address the committee as a group.
3. Chief Lewis confirmed that the meeting bylaws clarify the meetings are available to the public. He further noted that an advantage of the COVID situation is the move to virtual meeting environments, which seems to make the meetings more accessible to people. In the many years he has been involved with SPAC, only a handful people of members of the public have attended past meetings.
4. Michael Bean commented that he read 28 emails that were forwarded to him from the public. Some were quite stunning. The one that was most stunning, from McRae, was the one the Chief mentioned earlier about having further investigation.
 - a. Chief Lewis confirmed it was the McRae case he had referenced. Once complete, he hoped to provide the Committee an update to that case.

4. Key Policy Update – Chief Lewis provided the update.

- a. Code of Conduct, 26.1.1 – Chief Lewis referenced the proposed changes to policy 26.1.1 and acknowledged the changes included “Duty to Intervene” language required by State law. Chief Lewis asked if there were any questions or comments.
 - i. Joe Pishioneri – Noted he wanted to comment regarding the section in the Code of Conduct policy that the officer will provide identification of badge number when requested. He shared that per OAR 259.060.0030 regarding licensed professionals by DPSST, identification should be provided “upon reasonable request”. Suggested updated language to include “reasonable” to allow officers time to provide identification when reasonable and safe, which may not be immediately.
 1. Chief advised the suggestion made sense and SPD will review and incorporate the recommended update.
 2. Joe commented that the other policy changes were in the right direction.
 - ii. Michael Bean – He heard a rumor that SPD was having to write a new Use of Force policy as a result of a lawsuit. Is that correct or a rumor?
 1. Chief advised not a whole policy is required, but it is accurate that some additions are required due to the result of a lawsuit and noted many of the changes were going to be made anyway. The Department is in the midst of those changes now.
 2. Michael advised the information was in one of the letters that was forwarded. He would like to see the updated policy when it is available.

5. Budget Update – Jessica Crawford provided the update

- a. Grant updates

- i. The 2020 Justice Assistance Grant from the DOJ, is a federal, non-competitive grant and Springfield was awarded \$18,685. The proposed use of the funding is to support partial cost of a new CAHOOTS van upfit. The van will be purchased with other funding, but grant funds can be used to customize the interior of the vehicle, which may cost approximately \$30,000. The City and SPD are still working on finding all the funding for the new van. As per grant requirements, the grant application purpose will go before City Council for consideration. We wanted to share the application content with the committee.
 1. Michael Bean commented he thought White Bird had a fleet of vans. Is it a need or are we just helping? He thought it was a good idea, just asking.
 - a. Jessica advised the current van dedicated to Springfield services and owned by Lane County. The van was purchased by Lane County years ago, has about 257,000 miles on it and has been well used. The White Bird fleet vans are likely used for back fill when primary vans are receiving maintenance.
 - i. Total cost of a new CAHOOTS van and upfit will be close to \$75K.
 - ii. Lane County is willing to contribute some funding towards the new van, as well.
 2. Joe Pishioneri asked how emergent is the work and if it needs to be prioritized in Council agendas to allow for progress?
 - a. Jessica advised the current van maintenance is becoming costly and repetitive. So the van replacement is important, but is still functioning.
 - b. Jessica will communicate with the City Manager's Office if this topic needs to be prioritized in Council's agenda schedule.
 3. Barry Lind asked to clarify if there was a need for additional funds for the CAHOOTS van, as he may know of other funding opportunities for a portion of the van cost. Jessica will follow up with Barry.
 - ii. Oregon DOT issued SPD traffic safety grants for additional overtime enforcement in areas of impaired driving, safety belt, speed, and distracted driving.
 1. Isa Aviad commented she was glad to hear about traffic safety grants.
 2. Michael Bean had a question for Joe Pishioneri regarding potential City budget shortfall like the State of Oregon's budget.
 - a. Joe advised the City does not know what the impact will be, but there will be some negative impact.
6. **Body-Worn Camera Project Update** – Lt. Croll provided the update. Lt. Croll shared a Body-Worn Camera project update. The Body-Worn Camera project has been labor intensive including identifying vendors, testing proposed systems, and seeing to all the details to manage the project. SPD reached out to several vendors and ended up testing Getac

and Axon body-worn camera systems. Both systems are nationally known and proven within the industry. Getac was tested 7/23-8/12/20 by six officers to provide varied perspectives. Axon was tested 8/13-8/25 and were tested by the same officers. Officers submitted standardized evaluation forms and shared pros and cons of the systems. A body-worn camera project team meets weekly and are currently compiling evaluations and looking to make a recommendation shortly.

While researching body-worn cameras, SPD has realized the value of in-car video (ICV) to complement the video footage gathered from body-worn cameras. Based on vendor demonstrations and research, SPD believes ICV provide and has tremendous value to provide additional information and perspective to incidents that would benefit public safety and the public. Additionally, ICV would provide efficiencies for the body-worn camera system by providing additional options of viewing body-worn camera video in the field. Therefore, SPD is actively looking in to cost and funding options to include ICV to the entire patrol fleet, in addition to issuing body-worn cameras to patrol officers. Both body-worn camera vendors that under consideration have an ICV solution.

Lt. Crollly advised an updated draft of the BWC policy has been developed through review of existing policies and noted best practices. The draft will be reviewed by SPD Command Staff, Springfield Police Association, and continue through the policy revision process.

- Joe Pishioneri asked if in-car video are being reviewed in lieu of body-cameras or in addition to body-cameras.
 - o Lt. Crollly clarified in-car video is being evaluated in addition to body-worn cameras.
 - o Joe stated he thinks that would be the way to go, with both body-worn cameras and in-car video. The more views and perspective the better. He would like to see the bottom line.
 - o Joe summarized to confirm the SPD wish list is first body-worn cameras, second in-car video. Lt. Crollly confirmed that was correct.
 - o Chief Lewis shared this really came to light for him after watching different camera perspectives from demonstrations. There was a particular scenario shared that showed body-camera footage of a steering wheel and moving images when individuals are running, but the in-car video shows a steady image of an individual running from police with a gun in his hand. This example of ICV helped Command Staff and testing officers realize how ICV provides a more complete perspective of incidents. Additionally, ICV will help capture the reason for a traffic stop on video.
 - o Joe responded that he supports the ideas.
- Jack Martin commented he recalled cloud storage was very costly and asked if anyone was looking in to that?
 - o Lt. Crollly advised the Project Team is evaluating cloud storage and on-site storage by cost and efficiency. Storage is costly regardless, but will be evaluated.

- Barry Lind commented that this technology seems to have many advantages. There are likely positive safety opportunities for the officers. Are there some advantages to the public, such as to keep the officers at the highest integrity?
 - o Lt. Crolly agreed. Body cameras help officers with evidence and document incidents. SPD officers are public employees and are accountable to the citizens of Springfield. Body-worn camera video will provide documentation of incidents, as well as behavior of citizens and officers. There will be situations where officers are shown in a positive light. There may be situations where officers are less than professional, which can help with keeping officers accountable. Lt. Crolly believes body cameras are an asset to all involved.
- Michael Bean shared a personal story where he was contacted by an Oregon State Patrolman and acknowledged the positive impact the officer's body-worn camera had on his behavior during the interaction.
- Mr. Bean also shared his employer has 24x7 surveillance video at their building, which has provided a lot of information, even some shared with police, and emphasized the value of having video footage in general.
 - o Lt. Crolly commented that most, if not all, officers are looking forward to having body-worn cameras.

7. Jail Update – Chief Lewis

- a. Chief Lewis shared the jail is still in a COVID prevention environment, utilizing single cells and physical distancing. The jail has an inmate population in the mid 30s. So far the jail has been fortunate and has had no COVID positive inmates. Proactive communication with partners, such as Lane County Jail, is very beneficial.
- b. Springfield Municipal Jail recently joined the Oregon State Sheriff's Association (OSSA). OSSA will provide an inspection team to review facility and policies and make recommendations on best practices. Lieutenant Neiwert is overseeing the jail and is currently gathering required information prior to inspection. OSSA was gracious enough to open up membership to our municipal jail. Inspections are performed every two years.
 - i. Joe Pishioneri commented he was glad to hear this was happening. Based on his past participation with OSSA, he shared some information on Jail Standards, how the inspection process is conducted and how recommendations are handled. Adhering to State Jail Standards will provide the City of Springfield a more defensible position and holds our facility to higher standards. He would love to see or hear about the final report.
 - ii. Isa Aviad commented she would be interested in taking a tour of the jail, as she had not done so. Other committee members mentioned interest. Chief Lewis advised that could be arranged after COVID concerns are lessened.

8. Short-term Initiative Check In – Chief Lewis Led Discussion

- a. Department short-term initiatives or goals were discussed in the last meeting. Chief Lewis shared that the COVID environment has impacted SPD's Community Outreach

efforts. SPD plans to utilize Facebook to coordinate some regular outreach efforts. Chief Lewis invited other ideas of goals during or after the meeting.

- i. Michael Bean commented that outreach via social media is a good idea.

Commented that he heard the department would be giving out popsicles.

- 1. Chief Lewis and Terri Dillon clarified the Department would be giving out certificates good for 7-11 Slurpees to reward youth making good choices, such as wearing a helmet while riding a bike. This program was going to start in the next few days.

- ii. Joe Pishioneri asked if all officers have personal business cards to hand out?

- 1. Chief confirmed they do and can be handed out.

- iii. Barry Lind asked if we could support community dialog to bring multiple groups together to improve communication, he would love for Springfield Police Department to be a part of it.

- 1. Chief Lewis advised he has always tried to communicate with various groups and the public. He shared that he or another Command Officer is willing to go out and speak with different groups directly, regardless of the group size. He believes it is valuable to provide the community an opportunity to ask specific questions and have direct contact with the police department.

- 2. Joe asked that a concerted effort is made on this topic. He is willing to be a part of the future communication. It is important to meet and have good dialogue with groups that may be adverse to police. He would like to see healthy communication to identify what changes and expectations are requested from different groups. Joe can help from his position and include SPD.

- a. Michael Bean advised he has a diversity group that meets monthly and quarterly to gather input. Maybe City Council or Springfield Police can provide a meeting place or forum to allow for this type of outlet.

- b. Joe advised he is in agreement and would like to move forward.

- c. Johnny Kirschenmann advised he would like to be involved also. After reviewing letters from the public he is surprised how much communication is not happening.

- d. Isa Aviad great idea. She noted the need to include non-English speaking community and offered her assistance. Chief Lewis thanked Isa and mentioned SPD has several Spanish speaking officers that can be included in the discussion.

9. Member Information Share

- a. Jack Martin – Vandalism at the new sports park near his residence. Only new activity.
- b. Johnny Kirschenmann – Asked Lt. Crollly to confirm whether there is already body-worn cameras or in-car video at the department. Chief and Lt. Crollly responded that the DUII vehicle has had one in car video system in it and one officer wears a body-worn camera,

but that the tools are not available throughout most of patrol. Johnny noted he had a chance to tour the jail while on the planning commission just prior to the jail opening.

- c. Terri Dillon – Quiet and nothing to report in the Washburne area.
- d. Joe Pishioneri – Has had a few issues with transient individuals.
- e. Barry Lind – We are good. Grateful to be a part of us moving forward.
- f. Isa invited Lt. Croll to comment if he would like, asked if he lived in Springfield. Lt. Croll confirmed he does live in Springfield and no issues to share in his neighborhood. He noted that to the wider area of Springfield, no issue is too small to call. Don't hesitate to call about the smaller items.
- g. Michael Bean – Wanted to note that GoToWebinar is not great. Encourages the City consider using Zoom. In the Mt. Gate neighborhood, there is a about a 50-50 division of the neighborhood that is "left and right", but mostly positive exchanges. Has seen an increase in roaming adolescents ringing door bells and thefts from vehicles.
- h. Eric Adams – In the last few months Willamalane has seen the typical seasonal increase in challenging behaviors like graffiti, vandalism, and camping. Willamalane has received great support from Springfield Police. Pleased to announce the new park ranger position is staffed as of July by Allen Klein. Klein is a great asset and has over a decade of experience from the National Park system. Encouraged SPAC members to reach out to him with any concerns regarding Willamalane parks. Mr. Klein may be introduced to the committee in the future.
- i. Jenna McCauley – Springfield Public Schools are preparing to welcome students back soon. Kinder through 3rd grade plan to attend in person soon, 4th-12th will attend virtually until COVID infection rates come down. She wanted to take the opportunity on behalf of Springfield School District to express gratitude to SPD for the School Resource Officer selection process that was a collaborative effort. The newly selected School Resource Officer will be a great fit. Also mentioned to Jack, that the school facilities staff have been hard at work, but she has sent another note to facilities folks to follow up on the vandalism he mentioned earlier.
- j. Isa Aviad – She noted that bike thefts in the area have been trending up and her neighbors may have more information.
 - i. Lt. Croll advised the information would be helpful and asked for information to be emailed to him for follow up. Lt. Croll advised with the reduction of public outreach opportunities due to COVID, receiving general information via like this via email is helpful and provides SPD the opportunity for follow up with victims and to provide crime prevention information.

Adjourned – 1919 hours.