

## 4/1/21 Springfield Police Advisory Committee Minutes

Location: Zoom virtual meeting

### Committee Members Present

Joe Pishioneri-Councilor, Brittney de Alicante – Cultural Minority Community, Barry Lind – Faith Community & Committee Chair, Michael Bean – Local Business, Jack Martin – Neighborhood At-Large (2), Teresa Dillon – Neighborhood At-Large (3), Jenna McCulley – School District 19, Eric Adams – Willamalane Parks

Absent: Isa Aviad, Johnny Kirschenmann

1. Welcome and Call to Order at 6:02pm.
2. Roll Call – completed.
3. Minutes Approval for February 4, 2021 Meeting – Terri Dillon motioned to approve as stated, Jack Martin seconded. All approved.
4. Business From the Audience – Barry Lind clarified that this segment is typically allotted 20 minutes, with 2 minutes from each speaker, but acknowledged it had been extended to 30 minutes as needed in the past. Committee agreed to 30 minutes, as needed. Barry and Joe Pishioneri shared reminder that emails and other written communications can also be used to communicate with the committee, as well as communication to City Council directly.
  - a. Lauren Williams – Ward 2. Comments directed towards Mr. Martin from his prior meeting's statements regarding opinions and personal experience with SPD officers. She inquired if his thoughts evolved based on recent lawsuits and stated.
  - b. Kirsten Vinyeta - Ward 2. Expressed gratitude to Nancy Newton regarding approach to police misconduct and investigation. Commented lawsuits and complaints towards SPD are a pressing matter to the community. Hoping to see more services like CAHOOTS to handle non-violent calls and restructure and assessment of SPD for screening and training of officers.
  - c. Amy Cothron – Formerly Ward 5. Would like to know the status of the complaint she filed February 6th. Has been contacted by Mayor VanGordon, by the City Manager and a City Council member. No communication from SPD. Shared that body cameras have been found to be ineffective if they are turned off and there needs to be regulations and consequences if they are tampered with. Now is the time to restructure and get the department in order.
5. Committee Response - Chair Lind conveyed thanks for those who spoke.
  - a. Joe Pishioneri – Has a high amount of interest in the recent happenings. Has read recent reports thoroughly. There are areas that can be improved to protect the City and citizens and he is looking forward to debrief from reports. Would like this board to provide input on recommended policy change and convey the recommendations to City Council.
    - i. Barry asked how does this committee accomplish the suggestion regarding policy recommendation.

- ii. Joe shared recommended process.
  - b. Brittney de Alicante – Conveyed appreciation and support of policy review by the committee. Asked SPD to follow up with Amy Cothron regarding the complaint she mentioned.
  - c. Michael Bean – Commented that Chief Lewis had noted some of the 38 recommendations made in the recent independent report had been implemented. Asked for transparency regarding what recommendations have taken place and which will not be. Stated he was stunned and outraged regarding sexual impropriety. He wanted to go on record that it needs to be dealt with and should have been addressed years ago.
  - d. Lt. George Crolly is present on SPD management’s behalf. Lt. Crolly indicated he is limited on what he can share due to litigation and investigations, as well as direction from the City Manager’s Office. Conveyed he agrees with many concerns posed by Joe, Brittney and Michael and that things much change. He cannot speak specifically on the Thurston report or investigations, but wanted to reiterate it is being taken very seriously.
6. Business from Springfield PD
- a. Chief Administrative Leave – Lt. Crolly confirmed Chief Lewis has been placed on administrative leave and per the City Manager the leave was in order to protect the integrity of the investigation. Lt. Matt Neiwert is currently the acting Chief of Police, with support of himself and Lt. Rappe’. The City is going to evaluate if another individual will be brought in as acting chief so the lieutenants can fill their assigned roles. Lt. Crolly stressed that the vast majority of SPD employees are good, hard working employees that are doing the hard work. The department needs to address the employees that do not represent the department and community.
  - b. Independent Assessment of Thurston Demonstration – Lt. Crolly stated that due to active lawsuits, multiple attorneys advised not to speak in detail on this topic, but he can share some generalized information.
    - i. Michael Bean summarized his inquiry on what recommendations from the Thurston report have been implemented (see 5c above). Brittney asked if the response could elaborate on whether implemented recommendations were prompted by a different lawsuit.
    - ii. Lt. Crolly responded that some training had been identified as necessary after protests, but prior to the report. Additionally some policy changes were already taking place. Additionally, ICM and NIMS (federal incident management system) training needs had been identified.
    - iii. Michael Bean noted the irony that the lawsuits create a situation not speak on topics that would seem to benefit from transparency and shared information.
    - iv. Joe Pishioneri referenced Mr. Braziel’s report and its reference when a use of force “report” is required. Lt. Crolly confirmed Mr. Braziel’s reference to use of

force report in the referenced instance was likely intended to reference use of force “review”. Joe inquired and Lt. Crolly responded regarding use of force report criteria and when use of force incidents are reviewed by command staff and instructors. Joe commented that cadre changes are beneficial to adapt to new approaches, technology, and policies.

- v. Brittney asked Joe about City Council’s plan for the Thurston report. Joe advised Council members just received the report and it is so new a specific plan is still being developed.

c. Policy Review (standing agenda item):

- i. Body-Worn Camera policy & project update – Lt. Crolly confirmed the policy had been finalized, the department website has been updated to include FAQs, and he has contacted media and begun community outreach regarding the project. Lt. Crolly noted his intention to contact Brittney and others regarding additional outreach opportunities. Confirmed project is still on track for May 2021.

- o Barry mentioned community member concern of cameras being turned off. Lt. Crolly responded by discussing when policy permits cameras being turned off (sex abuse victim, tactical, etc.) and if officers turn off the cameras outside of policy the action is open to discipline.
- o Brittney noted that she had gone through the policy and anticipated being able to ask questions and provide comment. She encouraged future policy review to provide that opportunity. She extended her thanks that the policies are online.
  - a. Jessica noted that the December 2020 meeting did include SPAC review and input of the body-worn camera draft policy.
  - b. Barry suggested Brittney meet with Lt. Crolly. Result of meeting reported back to the group. All agreed.
- o Joe asked where it states in the policy that a violation of body camera policy triggers discipline. Lt. Crolly clarified that elsewhere in the policy manual it clarifies any policy violations may initiate discipline.
- o Lt. Crolly mentioned that he looks forward to the time when SPAC members can go on a ride along and see firsthand how cameras work and the daily process for officers and employees.

ii. Pending future SPAC review:

- o Use of Force – draft version currently under City Attorney review. Once finalized, training will be arranged for officers. Also coordinating training for use of force review board.
- o Business Cards – Still being finalized. Provided update that cards are ordered and have been slightly delayed from the vendor due to staffing issues.
- o In-car video – still in progress.

- d. FY2021-22 Budget Process – Shared City’s budget process is coming up, to include the police department. Supporting documentation of the proposed budget are available mid-April and budget meetings begin late April and early May.
  - i. Proposed position reductions – Noted that this topic was suggested for further discussion by Brittney. Clarified this is a proposed reduction and was previously discussed at SPAC as it was a topic at a Council meeting. Ultimately, budget reduction decision is up to the budget committee.
    - o Brittney asked if the reduction results in a service reduction. Lt. Crollly responded that this would not result in a service reduction. The position has been vacant for years and was identified for reduction as the least impact to the community.
- 7. Business from the Committee – Barry suggested member information share be discussed before meeting frequency.
  - a. Member Information Share – Barry shared his recommended approach to this section of meetings. He would like the content to be more community minded and to share topics of discussion that members want to be included in future meetings. He requested input.
    - i. Joe – Good thorough updates from the PD about what is happening and what has changed since the last time the committee met.
    - ii. Michael – commended Lt. Crollly for his attendance this evening.
    - iii. Barry – Commented that he was encouraged by the new public relation position LT. Crollly mentioned and would like to invite the new employee to a meeting.
    - iv. Jenna McCulley – Commented that she would like the committee to make space and amplify department’s community outreach effort. Jenna advised she will share some ideas with PD. Also asked what the department’s policy review schedule is for the department to see if the committee could develop a work plan regarding policy review and provide an opportunity for public discussion. Lt. Crollly responded that policies are reviewed annually or as needed. Policies are online for public review (unless classified as confidential).
      - o Barry asked what Jenna would suggest. Jenna shared SPAC could prioritize policies that could benefit from community input, explanation and review throughout the year. She has yet to see the committee “pull” policies and thought the committee could be more involved in what policies are reviewed.
      - o Eric Adams asked if Springfield Public Schools has a calendar review date. Jenna advised SPS is currently developing an updated policy review plan.
    - v. Michael Bean asked for information regarding policies on relationships between supervisors and subordinates. It was a notable issue several years ago. Michael also commented on an update on ethics training, which his organization approaches in a different way. Ethics and integrity approached as a core value, it helps others speak up.

- Lt. Crollly shared the department recently had ethics training.
  - Lt. Crollly advised the City updated an administrative rule regarding supervisor/subordinate relationships and the PD has a policy in progress to clarify the role of “supervisor” within the department.
- b. Future Meeting Frequency (discussed after 7b below)– Barry reminded members the committee must meet quarterly. In the past monthly and every other month has been scheduled. Asked about committee’s interest in frequency of meeting and for direction.
- i. Terri Dillon commented that there is so much to deal with and believes monthly meetings are still a good idea. Echoed by multiple SPAC members.
  - ii. Referencing Jenna McCulley’s comments in Eric Ward asked if someone could propose a list of policies for SPAC review to be used to develop content. The committee could meet monthly, but have the ability to cancel a meeting if content did not warrant a full meeting.
  - iii. Barry proposed that a few SPAC members work with Jessica to develop a list of policies for committee review. Terri, Brittney, and Jenna volunteered. The sub-committee will meet prior to the next SPAC meeting and will report back. Jessica will coordinate the meeting.
    - Eric Ward noted public meeting law regarding emails, sub-committee meeting, etc. may need to be reviewed to ensure compliance.
      - a. Jessica to follow up with City Attorney for clarification on sub-committee and email correspondence considerations.
  - iv. Monthly meetings will continue.
    - Jessica asked for clarification of protocol in the event a meeting may need to be canceled.
    - Jenna suggested that the committee be responsible for submitting agenda topics to the Chair &/or Jessica by the Thursday prior to a regularly schedule meeting. If after deadline, agenda is light and may not warrant a meeting, PD staff reach out to chair/vice-chair for decision point. Consensus was this process would work.

Next meeting May 6<sup>th</sup>.

Meeting Adjourned – 7:41pm