

CITY OF BARRE POLICE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MEETING MINUTES

(Monday, January 9, 2023, 6:00 Pm)

Location of meeting: Hybrid meeting: virtual and in-person at the public safety building

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83053276707>

Phone number: 1 929 205 6099

Meeting ID: 830 5327 6707

1. **Call to order:** 6:00 pm

2. **Consider approval of agenda:**

- Kristin motions to approve agenda, Abby seconds. All in favor

3. **Consider approval or adjustments of previous meeting minutes:**

- Bob motions to approve previous meeting minutes, Abby seconds. All in favor.

4. **Receive guests:**

- Bob Nelson, Kristin Tousignant, Chief Vail, Abby Blum, Teddy Waszazak and Steve England came in at 6:02

5. **Councilor Waszazak's Report**

- City Council is thrilled with the work the PAC has been doing – Great job, everyone.
- Council going through the budget process, projected 4.8% increase in property taxes due to inflation.
- The PAC will not be merged with any of the other committees. We are a specific group so that would be difficult to do.

6. **Chief's report**

- Happy LEAD
- Spring internship with two candidates. It's also a good recruiting tool as they have one from the last semester that will be sticking around.
- We'll be starting the Sergeants promotion process.
- Chief Vail to be going to a CIT training. There is a grant he has applied for because it's \$795 a piece for every officer to go – that would be ideal. "John Law Scholarship" Annually through VLCT

- Analysis have been done on two of the policies we have gone over – this identifies any deficiencies. The Use of Force policy will take some time. Where can we train better? De-escalation training for all.
- Budget – Capital improvement plan, it's a very robust plan over 3-5 years. Identify projects like renovations and infrastructure. We go line by line to see if there are any savings. It's a good process that takes a couple days.

7. Consider approving the Vehicle Pursuits and Roadblocks policy from 12/22 Stricken from agenda

- Abby motions to approve this policy, Steve seconds. All in favor

8. Discuss and consider approving Arrest, Custody and Transport policy— edits were made directly to policy

- Strip searches are not normally done. If one must be done it's done in a safe area. If it's a female that must be searched this will require a female officer. Out of camera view.
- Body cavity searches. Again, not normally done however, if one did need to be done it's done in a medical area. The paperwork for this must be brought to the court the next day.
- Flex cuffs – 1 to 2 pairs of cuffs
- They are like giant zip ties, and they are easier to use for a mass amount of people.
- Not painful
- Officers carry some in duty bag, duty belt and car
- Anyone in mental crisis does not belong in a jail cell, they need help in a Hospital. Their mental health takes priority over the normal processing procedure.
- Abby motions to approve, Kristin seconds. All in favor

9. Discuss and consider approving Processing and Temporary Detention policy

- Female and male detainees will not be held within site or hearing of one another, including during escort.
- Emergency situations for Officers, hit the alert button. Once this done everyone is alerted, used for everything. Accreditation standard, alert system.
- You cannot enter a processing area with your gun in case of a scuffle. You can, however, carry your gun in the interview room. Generally speaking, someone who is in the interview room will not try getting into a scuffle with you. It's not saying that it won't happen however, they are not the people on trial so there should not be too many issues.
- In the current interview room, there is no video/audio. When the BCPD gets their body cameras those could be used however, it's in the Capital Improvement plan to get what it needed for the interview room.
- When someone is escorted to the holding area at a courthouse by an Officer they are not allowed to carry their gun.
- Cleaning crews cannot clean cells if anyone is being held. It's the city staff and they follow the same process if something is found that is unsafe.
- Steve motions to approve, Abby seconds. All in favor

10. Discuss and consider approving Promotional Process policy

- Promotional announcements are posted
- All documents are sent through Power DMS, they are also e-mailed. Through Power DMS the document(s) must be signed by whoever is reading them. There is a report that can be run to see who has or has not signed. That report is given to the Supervisor.
- Total length of service will be considered
- Achieving certain benchmarks to move “up”
- Abby motions to approve, Kristin seconds. All in Favor

11. Discuss and consider approving Sergeant-Corporal Promotion process policy

- This was sent out to everyone at the BCPD
- There is 1 officer that would not be eligible, they just started
- Three can go for Corporal and Sargent
- Written test based on current policies
- 50 multiple choice questions. Officers have no idea what the questions will be so they must read everything. All are in Power DMS
- Emotional intelligence Assessment online and not graded. This shows where they need to improve, online screening. Asks questions, gives you scenarios
- Panel interview, will include 5 people
- There is a written exercise for the Sergeants position “perception of Barre “Scary Barre” Plan to attack this, scored.
- Other than that, written exercise the process is the same for the Sergeants and Corporals promotion process
- Not a policy, no need to approve

12. Miscellaneous

- Perhaps at the next meeting we could schedule 15 minutes, prior, to tour the cell area.
- Happy LEAD! Law Enforcement Appreciation Day
- Chief Vail to possibly be able to show us Power DMS
- Anything in any member of the PAC’s e-mail is subject to public record

13. Adjourn

- Bob motions to adjourn meeting at 7:17 pm
- Steve motions to approve, Abby seconds. All in favor