

CITY OF BARRE POLICE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MEETING MINUTES

(Monday, August 8, 2022, 6:00 Pm)

Location of meeting: Hybrid meeting: virtual and in-person at the public safety building conference room, 15 Fourth street Barre, Vermont 05641.

<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 meeting agenda, Abby seconds. All in favor

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

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

4. **Receive guests:**

- Bob Nelson, Steve England, Kristin Beaudin, Chief Vail, Abby Blum, Teddy Waszazak

5. **Councilor Waszazak's Report**

- New city manager, about two weeks ago – Nicolas Storellicastro. Nick is starting to settle in.
- Council approved new city vehicles and weapons (guns.) The current duty handguns need replacing, they are 11-12 years old. The Barre City PD will receive 3 unmarked vehicles, these do not need to be outfitted. The fire department will receive 4. The expense for the vehicles is coming from the capital fund and the expense for the duty handguns will come from the asset's forfeiture fund.

6. **Chief's report**

- Upgrades to the communication center, we're making the equipment identical in Montpelier as well as the workstations where this equipment sits. This will ensure that if someone needs to use the equipment for any reason, they can. This expense is coming from the capital plan, there has been money going into it for this since 2018.
- National night out in was successful – about 200 people came out.

- The Mental Health Clinician, Susan, has returned to Massachusetts. Washington County Mental Health has posted this position, it's very important.
- August 21st is National Fentanyl Prevention and Awareness Day. The DEA has launched a "One Pill can Kill" campaign. BCPD has more information posted on their Facebook page.

7. Discuss Media Relations Procedure - Editing was done on the copy of the policy – these are some key points.

- Felony and serious misdemeanors. There is what's called "Top 12." example; Domestic assault – aggravating, not to the point of a felony.
- Adult victim's names will not be released unless they are a danger to the public.
- Mugshots will not be released without a public records request.
- Criminal history is protected, this cannot be released
- You cannot restrict access to the media in an open place beyond the crime scene tape. This means the media is free to take pictures, record video of anyone or anything.
- If someone is recording or taking pictures at a crime scene and it may be pertinent to the case, police can get a warrant to seize that information "order to seize property."
- Kristin motions to approve policy, Abby seconds. All in favor

8. Discuss Medical Waste Disposal Program Procedure – edits were made directly to policy

- Anyone, not just Barre City residents can bring their unused prescriptions down to the Barre City Police Department for disposal.
- You can remove the labels on the prescriptions if you would like but, you do not have to. These all go into plastic which then go into a box. The box is sealed and its incinerated.
- Drug take back, there is no cost to us for this.
- CDS – Controlled Dangerous Substance
- Syringes cannot be placed into the "bin" at the Police Department for disposal. These go through a different process than prescription drugs. They are ground into sand, not incinerated.
- Five times a year you can bring these prescription drugs down to Concord. There is a charge of \$175.00 and 2 officers are needed.
- Funeral Parlors used to offer their services but, they no longer do that anymore. There are a lot of environmental factors.
- Big liability with drug take back
- Steve motions to approve policy, Abby seconds. All in Favor

9. Discuss Property and Evidence Management Procedure

- If items are found with no identification there will be several ways the Police Department will get this information out to the public. If the item is not claimed it will go elsewhere. Ex: if a car jack is found aside the road, attempts are made to locate the owner, but no one claims it the Department will find a car garage that might need it.
- Kristin motions to approve policy, Steve seconds. All in favor.

10. Miscellaneous

- Approve ride along procedure form – amended. The only part that was changed was prior to, you could not request a specific officer you would have one assigned to you. Assuming you get approval you should be able to now. Abby motions to approve amended policy, Steve seconds.
- All policies that have gotten approval will go into effect September 1, 2022
- The Police presence downtown in Barre has been great. Keep up the good work. Residents, business owners like seeing it.
- Where did the Bumble bee's go? Still have the bicycles and Chief Vail is not opposed to the idea, especially downtown and the bike path. It would be beneficial to the public and the officers to have them around and could take police action.
- Schools – currently there is no clear map of the schools in case of emergency. Chief Vail has started District safety meetings, the first one was on July 11th, and they are held monthly. The goal is to get all updated, clear maps of the school. They want everything labeled well such as classrooms and these need to be easily accessible. Also, key control.. who has access.
- Thank you, Chief Vail for your hard work on the policies.

11. Adjourn

- Steve motions to adjourn the meeting at 7:10, Abby seconds. All in favor