

Police Advisory Committee Meeting

Minutes from December 11th, 2024, Meeting

Present:

Bob Nelson, Steve England, Abby Blum, Sandy Rouse, Teddy Waszazak, Poa Mutino, Chief Vail

Meeting call-to-order:

Bob Nelson called the meeting to order at 6:00pm

Absent:

Agenda:

Abby Blum approved the Agenda, Sandy Rouse 2nd
Carried unanimously

Minutes from last meeting:

Steve England motion to approve, Abby Blum 2nd
Carried unanimously

Guests:

None

Councilor Waszazak's Report:

- Councilor Waszazak provided his final report as a member of the Police Advisory Committee. He discussed the procedures for naming a replacement Council Liaison to the Committee.
- Councilor Waszazak highlighted the hiring of Chief Vail and the good work of the committee over the past 4 years as a highlight of his time of service on the City Council

Chief Vail's Report:

- The Chief reports that the department has hired a new officer, and that 2 more are headed to the Police Academy. If all of these individuals complete their onboarding and training, we would be down to 3 vacancies in the Department
- The Chief is working with the City Manager on the drafting of a Public Conduct Ordinance that will go before the Council
- He is working on pulling together than annual end-of-year statistics document, which in the future will be in the form of a Department Annual Report
- The Department has officially received the JAG grant, and is working on spending down the remainder of the DHS grant funding.

Discuss and consider approving policy 207 Fiscal Management:

- The Committee discussed the details of the Cities towing procedures in light of recent changes to the Overnight Parking/Winter Parking Ban ordinance and practices

- The Committee asked Chief Vail to provide additional details about the use of the Impressed Fund
- Abby Blum made a motion to approve the policy as amended, Steve England 2nd.
- Carried Unanimously.

Discuss and consider approving policy 301 Personnel Allocation & Classification:

- The Committee offered a few grammatical/formatting edits to the policy
- Abby Blum made a motion to approve the policy as amended, Poa Mutino 2nd.
- Carried Unanimously.

Discuss and consider approving policy 315 Work Related Injury & Exposure:

- The Committee offered grammatic edits to the policy.
- Abby Blum made a motion to approve the policy as amended, Steve England 2nd.
- Carried Unanimously.

Discuss and consider approving policy 407 Arrest, Custody, and Transport:

- The Committee discussed updates make to the policy to reflect recommended language from community partners around interactions with the LGBTQIA+ community.
- Abby Blum made a motion to amend policy 407, Steve England 2nd.
- Carried Unanimously.

Discuss and consider approving policy 412 Emergency Medical Assistance & Examination:

- The Committee discussed the community impacts on the impending closure of the psychiatric facility at the Central Vermont Medical Center, and expressed their concerns about the impact of this on our Police Department and other City/Nonprofit service providers in Barre, and asked Representative-Elect Waszazak to focus on this issue
- Abby Blum made a motion at approve the policy, Steve England 2nd.
- Carried Unanimously

Discuss and consider approving policy 432 40mm Less Lethal Launcher:

- Abby Blum made a motion to approve the policy, Poa Mutino 2nd.
- Carried Unanimously.

Discuss and consider approving policy 801 Field Reporting:

- Steve England made a motion to approve the policy, Abby Blum 2nd.
- Carried Unanimously.

Discuss the PAC's mission/charge:

- The Committee discussed updating the mission/charge document of the Committee to remove all reference to the word "Board" and replace it with the word "Committee".
- The Committee instructed the Chair to alert the City Manager that, with the exception of those edits, the Committee Charge is good for presentation.

Miscellaneous:

- The Committee expressed thanks to Councilor Teddy Waszazak for his years of service on the Committee and the formation of the Committee.
- The Committee expressed wishes of a Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays, and Happy New Year to all members of the Barre City community.

Adjourn:

- Steve England made a motion to adjourn, Abby Blum 2nd.
- The Policy Advisory Committee adjourned at 7:18pm.