

ORDINANCE and CHARTER CHANGE JOINT COMMITTEE

Thursday, September 7, 2023

Bushor Conference Room and Remote via Zoom

DRAFT MINUTES

Members Present: Councilor Traverse (Ordinance Committee Chair), Gene Bergman (Charter Change Committee Chair), Councilor Carpenter, Councilor Hightower

Staff Present: Kim Sturtevant (Acting City Attorney), Jon Murad (Chief of Police), Jordan Redell (Mayor's Chief of Staff), Shannon Trammell (BPD)

Others in Attendance: Jake Schumann, Mike Hoey, Scot Sweeney, Tyler Boronski

Meeting called to order at 5:35 PM.

1.0 Agenda

Motion to adopt/amend agenda

Motion to Adopt Agenda with the agenda item 'Adjournment' moved to the end of the agenda.

Motion by Councilor Hightower, Seconded by Councilor Carpenter

Final Resolution: Motion Passes

Yes: Unanimous

2.0 Adopt the Draft Minutes from August 2 and 3.

Motion to Adopt Minutes as is.

Motion by Councilor Bergman, Seconded by Councilor Carpenter

Final Resolution: Motion Passes

Yes: Unanimous

3.0 Public Forum

No members of the public wished to speak for this agenda item.

4.0 Discussion of Proposed Pathways from Councilors

Councilor Bergman wants to have an independent body for higher-level disciplinary incidents. He also wants to do any charter changes first and to have them ready by the end of the calendar year. The language for this independent body would be similar to the Mayor's memo from December of 2020 and this body should have a budget for staffing.

Councilor Carpenter believes there should not be two separate bodies. There should be staff budgeting to alleviate the time strain that the Commission is already dealing with. City Council could restructure the Police Commission if there is a need to improve their independence, but it is already a citizen Commission.

Councilor Traverse raised several legal questions for research. What are the concerns around the Police collective bargaining agreement when it comes to auditing or oversight?

Jordan Redell (Mayor's Chief of Staff) stated that the current system allows the Commission to review body worn camera footage for incidents so long as there is a reason. The Commission cannot randomly audit footage without a reason.

Chief Murad added that all incident reports are noted in the monthly report given to the Commission and they may pick incidents to review fully. Six months ago, the Commission asked to see all incident reports and the BPOA did not want that to be the practice.

Councilor Traverse raised another legal question: If an oversight body were allowed to categorize the severity of incidents, what are the potential issues with the current collective bargaining agreement? If the body changed its mind on the level of an incident and wanted to change its categorization, are there any issues with that? If the Police Commission hears disciplinary appeals, should the collective bargaining agreement allow officers to appeal to arbitration, beyond the Commission?

The Committee decided on the following dates for next meetings:

9/25 at 7:00PM

10/3 at 7:00PM

10/28 at 7:00PM

11/1 at 5:30PM

5.0 Adjournment

Motion to adjourn.

Motion by Councilor Traverse, without objection.

Yes: Unanimous

The meeting was adjourned at 6:41 PM.