



**CITY COUNCIL PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE - The meeting will be entirely Remote with Virtual Access: Link to join Via zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83347236814?pwd=aTFiR012eExSSHdNZEhJSkkwb0hPZz09>; Password: \_\_\_\_\_**

Public Safety Committee (held via Zoom)

August 4, 2020

DRAFT Minutes

Committee Members: Councilors Perri Freeman (PF) (Chair); Zoraya Hightower (ZH); Franklin Paulino (FP) (arrived at 5:17 p.m.).

Others Present: Richard Haesler (RH), City Attorney's Office (Committee Staff); Acting Police Chief John Murad (JM), BPD; Lieutenant Wade Labrecque (WL), BPD; Peter Clavelle (PC), Lisa Jones (LJ), City Attorney's Office.

At 5:12 p.m. Chair Freeman commenced the meeting.

1. **Agenda:** Motion to amend by PF (amending to table 4.01, 4.03 & 4.05 – each of which are to be placed on the September agenda).

Second by ZH;

Agenda as amended passes 3-0

1. **Approval of minutes of 7/7/2020:**

Motion by ZH; second by FP– passes 3-0

1. **Public Forum:**



**CITY COUNCIL PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE - The meeting will be entirely Remote with Virtual Access: Link to join Via zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83347236814?pwd=aTFiR012eExSSHdNZEhJSkkwb0hPZz09>; Password:**

Peter Clavelle spoke to the issue of reduction of police from 105 to 78; that such a move may be precipitous and cuts should be exercised carefully and impacts studied – supplemental services explored; in order to meet the needs of the community.

No other speakers.

1. **4.02 – Police Department – Call Volume and Dispatch – Presentation & Discussion**

Intro by Chair Freeman

Acting Police Chief John Murad (JM) – Powerpoint Presentation

- Dispatchers are a resource – they establish institutional knowledge of the community and its issues – Mental Health, etcetera, for purposes of identifying proper dispatch (specialized personnel)
- Police calls – 28,500 calls
- Fire calls – 8,300 calls
- 1050 overlap
- 5 % mental health
- Presently 89 sworn officers

Lt. Wade Labrecque (WL) presenting shift flow model for a typical day – 34 call shift provides example of typical movement – demonstrating many instances of being stretched to full capacity.

This illustrates how dispatch must be constantly involved – call volume decisions re area officer – when to trigger neighboring department calls for assistance

(JM) What outcomes do we seek?

Questions/Comments from the Committee:

ZH: Thinking we should explore the fabric of non-emergent calls





**CITY COUNCIL PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE - The meeting will be entirely Remote with Virtual Access: Link to join Via zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83347236814?pwd=aTFiR012eExSSHdNZEhJSkkwb0hPZz09>; Password: \_\_\_\_\_**

FP: Should examine the metric re calls/to # of officers in service at any given time – determining needs – are they being met

What do they look like for other communities?

JM: need also to note that the paperwork requirements for our officers re their calls is different than some communities – some communities have staff for paperwork in order to keep their officers out in the field – we don't have that

FP: would we be open to exploring arrangement to enable UVM police to respond to their own incidents

PF: main question is perhaps a deeper dive into the numbers – example, 5 % mental health seems low to me – what constitutes a mental health call – what checks that box?

JM responds. Discussion follows re primary presenting issue

Categorizing re data

How much do demographics come into play?

What are the definitions of the classifications?

Shifts – Days – Eves – Mids

How long are officers assigned to an area?

JM and WL respond: Most officers tend to stay in an area for years when possible.

Establishes a connection with a neighborhood, and institutional knowledge – of course we are mindful of burnout and needing to offer a change when that is occurring

Assigned per call volume to area officer where possible



**CITY COUNCIL PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE - The meeting will be entirely Remote with Virtual Access: Link to join Via zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83347236814?pwd=aTFiR012eExSSHdNZEhJSkkwb0hPZz09>; Password: \_\_\_\_\_**

Define: Assist agency calls

JM: example – DCF needs officer assistance for a home welfare check

ZH: Which Level 1 offenses as categories of offenses could be bundled to be handled by community liaisons instead?

FP: We can't have it all. We have to make choices – sacrifices – making the right choices, knowing where a sacrifice needs to be made and why and what the cost is for making the sacrifice will take time if we want to do this right. And it will probably be expensive in order to get the outcomes we want

1. **Other business:**

FP: Street Outreach is interested in presenting at the next meeting – but maybe that is redundant if they are going to be called to present to the Joint Committee as well.

PF: Joint Committee scheduled for August 13 at 5:15

See Taisha Green – seeking to address broader issue of root causes

Next meeting –

September 1 at 5 p.m.

1.  
i. **Adjournment**



**CITY COUNCIL PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE - The meeting will be entirely Remote with Virtual Access: Link to join Via zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83347236814?pwd=aTFiR012eExSSHdNZEhJSkkwb0hPZz09>; Password: .....**

(PF) ok – do I have a motion to adjourn?

(FP) moves

(ZH) second

Motion passes 3-0

Meeting adjourned at 7:03 p.m.