



City Council Public Safety Committee *Remote ONLY*** -
Tuesday, April 26, 2022 at 5:00 PM
4/26/2022**

Public Safety Committee

Tuesday, April 26, 2022

Virtual Meeting, Burlington, Vermont

FINAL MINUTES

Members Present: Councilor Paul, Councilor Magee, Councilor House, Councilor Dieng

Staff Present: Jared Pellerin (Assistant City Attorney)

Meeting called to order at 5:20 p.m. by Councilor Paul

1. Agenda

1.01 Motion to adopt/amend agenda

Motion to adopt agenda as written.

Motion by Councilor House, Seconded by Councilor Paul

Final Resolution: Motion Passes

Yes: Unanimous/ Councilor Paul, Councilor Magee, Councilor House

No:

2. Public Forum

2.01 Public Forum

Public forum was opened at 5:06 pm by Councilor Magee.

No one appeared to address the Committee during Public Forum. Councilor Magee mentioned that if anyone wishes to



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speaking in the future, to please raise their hand so they could be recognized.

Public forum was closed at 5:08pm

3. Minutes

3.01 Approval of Minutes

There were no minutes to be approved at this meeting.

4. Committee Discussion/Possible Action

4.01 Update on Proposed Accountability and Oversight Ordinance with Police Commissioners

Police Commissioners Stephanie Seguino, Jabu Gamache and Melo Grant appeared before the Committee.

Commissioner Seguino gave an oversight of the proposed changes to the Police Commission under the draft ordinance. She discussed that the Commission wishes to see broader stakes and provisions that would allow the Commission more flexibility in their ability to conduct police oversight.

The Commission would like to see the codification of funds to allow for investigations by the commission or outside entities. Councilor Paul discussed that the original 25k earmarked for the Council was not a reflection of a full year's worth of work and that this number would need to increase.

Concerns with the specificity of the language and that it seems too restrictive.

Commissioner Grant expressed that the draft doesn't reflect the best practices in Police Oversight and really needs to reflect those things. She also expressed that the draft feels in conflict with the goals of the Mayor.

There is still a desire to see what is not feasible under the Charter and the CBA, Councilors would like to see a memo with that breakdown.



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The Commission is working on a memo with their thoughts and comments on the proposed draft ordinance and are going to seek that it be revised and resubmitted to the Commission for further review and discussion.

Councilor House thanked the Commission for their work and stated that she looks forward to reviewing their memo.

4.02 CSL/PIO Background Discussion

Councilor Paul discussed that the Police Commission passed a resolution encouraging the addition of a Public Information Officer and additional CSLs within the Burlington Police Department.

There was discussion around the need for greater community engagement and a flow of information as a two-way street. Discussion of the need to have a back and forth exchange of information from the Department to the Community and vice-versa.

The Committee spoke about how these positions should be taken into consideration of the entire Police Department budget and there needs to be genuine consideration about the creation of the new positions and the timing behind when these positions could be implemented.

Councilor Magee shared a concern that the Public Information Officer would only report to the Chief of Police and that the position needs to be collaborative. There should be communication with REIB, etc. and that he looks forward to discussing during Budget presentations.

Councilor House agreed with Councilor Magee and wants to see this PIO as a collaborative position.

4.03 CAN Matrix Discussion

Councilor Paul gave a detailed run down on how the previous Public Safety Committee analyzed the CNA report and developed recommendations and next steps.

Discussion on how the Police Commission has taken on a lot of the review of the Department's rules and directives, along



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with analyzing whether or not these policies need to be rewritten in part or in whole.

Committee agreed that Community engagement needs to remain the priority and that this must at the forefront of any implementation of the CNA report's recommendations.

1. Any Other Business

Councilor Dieng appeared before the Committee to encourage the Committee to bring forth a resolution to the full Council at their May 9th meeting to denounce hate and the recent vandalism at the Burlington Pride Center. He asked the Council to also include support for the Mayor's message that such hate and destruction will not be tolerated.

Councilor Magee, House and Paul all supported this idea and agreed to discuss how to best develop and bring forth such a resolution.

The Committee discussed having their next meeting on May 25th at 5pm. They want to consider inviting members of the CNA working group to participate in discussing the final report which Councilor Paul is actively working on completing.

1. Adjournment

Motion to Adjourn by Councilor House Seconded by Councilor Paul

Final Resolution: Motion Passes

Yes: Unanimous/ Councilor Paul, Councilor House, Councilor Magee

No:

The meeting was adjourned at 6:03pm