



**City Council Public Safety Committee \*\*\*Remote ONLY\*\*\* -  
Tuesday, February 15, 2022 at 5:30 PM  
2/15/2022**

**Public Safety Committee**

**Tuesday, February 15, 2022**

**Virtual Meeting, Burlington, Vermont**

**FINAL MINUTES**

**Members Present:** Councilor Paul, Councilor Hightower, Councilor Stromberg

**Staff Present:** Jared Pellerin (Assistant City Attorney), John Murad (Acting Chief of Police), Tyeastia Green (REIB Director), Kerin Durfee (Director of Human Resources)

Meeting called to order at 5:36 p.m. by Councilor Paul

**1. Agenda**

**1.01 Motion to adopt/amend agenda**

Motion to adopt agenda as amended, to include 4.02, a discussion on recording of meetings of the PSC Committee.

Motion by Councilor Hightower, Seconded by Councilor Stromberg

Final Resolution: Motion Passes

Yes: Unanimous/ Councilor Hightower, Councilor Paul, Councilor Stromberg

No:

**2. Public Forum**

**2.01 Public Forum**

Public forum was opened at 5:39 pm by Councilor Paul.



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Councilor Paul acknowledged that no one expressed a wish to speak during public forum.

Public forum was closed at 5:41 pm.

**3. Minutes**

**3.01 Approval of Minutes**

Motion was made to approve minutes of the February 8, 2022 meeting of the Public Safety Committee. Motion by Councilor Hightower, Second by Councilor Stromberg

Final Resolution: Motion Passed

Yes: Councilor Paul, Councilor Hightower, Councilor Stromberg

**4. Committee Discussion/Possible Action**

**4.01 Discussion on CNA Report and Next Steps**

**DISCUSSION:**

Working group members present: Jabulani Gamache, Melo Grant, Jeff Nick, Oren Byrne, Kerin Durfee, Chief Murad, Director Green

Discussion of the CNA report starting with 1.31.1 and created a projected timeline for the recommendation to be implemented or carried out. The Committee also prescribed a conclusion to each recommendation related to what the working group had discussed and its ultimate disposition. The working group was able to conclude their review of section one of the CNA report recommendations.

The Committee discussed the possibility for random review of body worn camera footage from Officers, recorded while on duty. There was mixed feelings about the priority of such an initiative and what type of work load that would require by the Department and City Staff.



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A discussion was had around the current level of staffing for Detectives in the Department and it was agreed upon that the number of detectives should remain at the current threshold at the very least.

The Committee continued to break out the priorities that relate to the negotiations of the impending employment contract between the BPOA and the City. Councilor Paul assured members she would see to it that the recommendations related to the contract negotiations are received by the appropriate parties.

Director Green discussed implicit-bias training and that she felt there was a need for such training within the Department. She spoke about the current on-going training as anti-racism training, which is distinct training from implicit-bias. She expected the Burlington Police Department to conduct their anti-racism training within the third trimester of the year, i.e. late summer/early fall.

Councilor Paul spoke to the need for BPD to provide the Police Commission and the Public Safety Committee/City Council with a review of all of the trainings that the Department has undergone, as well as the trainings planned to take place. Would like to know who has been trained, on what topics and how long or intensive are the trainings.

**\*\* Please see BPD CNA Assessment Recommendation Matrix attached on BoardDocs \*\***

#### **4.02 Discussion of Recording of Committee Meetings**

This was an added agenda item to discuss the need or desire to record and post all meetings of the Public Safety Committee to Town Meeting TV.

Commissioner Melo Grant stressed her desire to have all of the meetings posted on Town Meeting TV so as to increase transparency and access to the meetings.

Councilor Paul agreed that it was a good idea and indicated that the Committee would work to get all meetings posted to Town Meeting TV and at the very least have them available via BoardDocs.

Councilor Paul asked Assistant City Attorney Pellerin to look into what it would take to get the videos posted and he assured her that he would look into it and report back at the next committee meeting.

#### **1. Any Other Business**



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The Committee discussed that they will have two weeks off from meeting because the 22nd of February is a scheduled meeting of the City Council and the following Tuesday is Town Meeting Day.

The Committee plans to meet on March 8th and Councilor Paul asked that all working group members get their notes and rankings done for sections 2 and 3 of the CNA report and to have them to Assistant City Attorney Pellerin by Monday, March 7th.

The Committee will plan to meet on March 8th, 15th, 22nd and 29th in hopes of finishing the review of the CNA recommendations before the new Council takes office in April and the possibility of the make-up of the Committee changing.

**1. Adjournment**

Motion to Adjourn by Councilor Hightower, Seconded by Councilor Paul

Final Resolution: Motion Passes

Yes: Unanimous/ Councilor Hightower, Councilor Paul, Councilor Stromberg.

No:

The meeting was adjourned at 7:18 p.m.