



BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS  
MINUTES OF MEETING  
TUESDAY, July 24, 2018  
Approved

A meeting of the Board of Police Commissioners was held in the Burlington Police Department Community Room on Tuesday, July 24<sup>th</sup>, 2018. Chair Michele Asch called the meeting to order at 6:06 PM.

The following Commissioners were present: Chair Michele Asch, Vice Chair Shireen Hart, Commissioner Robert Simpson, Commissioner Randall Harp, and Commissioner Peter Bahrenburg. Also present: Chief del Pozo, Deputy Chief Jan Wright, Lt Mike Warren, Corporal Kratochvil, and Police Commission Clerk Laura Cheney.

**Additions or Modifications to Agenda:**

~ None

**Public Forum:**

~ None

**Chief's Report**

~ Chief del Pozo reported on the amazing support received following his accident, and expressed his appreciation that this would be extended to any officer in a time of crisis.

~Chief noted that we are in the midst of the process of hiring for the DC position. By mid-August we hope to wrap up the 2<sup>nd</sup> round and have a selection.

**Drone Presentation**

~ Jarlath O'Neil-Dunne, Director of the University of Vermont's Spatial Analysis Laboratory shared insight into their program and the development of UAV technology and the work they've done.

~Chair Asch suggested having a preliminary contract with UVM in order to partner if the need arose, such as a missing person case.

~Commissioner Simpson noted the need for a policy if drone technology was used by the BPD.

~Chief del Pozo noted the existing restrictions on surveillance would be used to create a policy around the use of drones.

**Review of Incoming Correspondence:**

~Clerk Cheney shared a few highlights.

~Chair Asch would like to consider ways to share these with the public and would like to add this to the agenda for further consideration.

**Status of the Civilian Oversight Initiative**

~Chair Asch believes we have honored the request of the Public Safety Committee and the City Council in the process of reviewing complaints with the Command staff and that we can report back on this.

~Commissioner Simpson remarked that counseling the Chief and acting as a judicial body for the Union could be a conflict.

~Chief del Pozo brought up the idea whereby several commissioners would be assigned to a complaint, so that the Union would have the remaining commissioners to step in if a case required further attention.

~Vice Chair Hart requested that Union members be present as this process is outlined.

~Commissioner Simpson raised Commissioner Dunn's concerns that a weak commission is worse than having no commission. We should have a policy in place for the worst-case scenario, if that day comes.

~Chair Asch noted that up to this point, there have not been complaints that warrant a higher level of oversight and

involvement. Additionally, the Chief has looked for counsel in order to arrive at the best course of action.  
~Clerk Cheney will pass along the resolution on the role of Police Commission in oversight of the BPD.  
~Chair Asch proposed returning to this topic at the next meeting, with the Union present, and to consider recommendations to present to the Public Safety Committee.  
~Commissioner Bahrenberg will speak with Dave Hartnett in the meantime to keep the City Council updated.

**Commissioners' Updates/Comments:**

~Chair Asch welcomed Commissioner Harp.  
~Vice Chair Hart thanked DC Wright for her availability in providing information around incidents that are brought to her attention by community members.  
~Vice Chair Hart relayed community concern about the use of cell phones while driving.  
~Chief del Pozo noted the BPD will be looking more closely at the data and enforcement of this.  
~Chair Asch requested that Commissioners contact her and Clerk Cheney if they will not be able to attend a meeting.  
~Chair Asch extended gratitude to DC Wright for her hard work in keeping the dept running since DC Burke's retirement and the Chief's accident.

**Update on Vicious Dog Hearing:**

~ Vice Chair Hart noted that she believes it has been resolved.

**Update on 2017-2018 Annual Police Commission Report Due to City Council:**

~Vice Chair Hart noted updates made since the last draft, in response to inquiries from Commissioner Harp.  
~Commissioner Simpson noted we should include info on officers staffing the airport and how that impacts the department.  
~Commissioner Harp motioned to accept, Commissioner Bahrenburg seconded, all Commissioners voted in favor, report approved.

**Consent Agenda – Minutes of Previous Commission Meetings: June 26<sup>th</sup> Minutes**

~Vice Chair Hart motioned to accept, Commissioner Bahrenburg seconded, all Commissioners voted in favor, minutes approved.

**Next Meeting's Agenda Items and Date:**

~Next meeting will be August 28<sup>th</sup>  
~Chair Asch would like to consider how to share Commendation letters with the public  
~Civilian oversight & Reporting back to the Public Safety Committee

**Executive Session:**

~ Requested by DC Wright

**Adjournment:**

~ Commissioner Bahrenburg motioned to adjourn, Vice Chair Hart seconded. Adjourned at 7:40 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Laura Cheney  
Police Commission Clerk

7/24/2018