

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

January 11, 2021

A meeting of the Public Safety Committee was held this date beginning at 2:30 pm, by video conference.

Notice of this meeting was sent to all local news media.

PRESENT

Councilmember Shahid, Chair; Councilmember Seekings, Vice Chair; Councilmember Shealy; Councilmember Sakran; Mayor Tecklenburg **Also Present:** Chief Curia, Chief Reynolds, Heather Mulloy, Susan Herdina, and Beth Brownlee.

The meeting was opened by an invocation led by Councilmember Shealy.

CPD After Action Report

Ms. Mulloy said that they extended the deadline for public comment for another month to December 31, 2020. They had received a few more comments from the public, 3 more for a total of 28 responses. They were reviewing that information, which will take some time. She said they were also gathering property damage information, per the committee's request. She said they would have the report, called Strengthening Charleston, in a final form around the end of the month or beginning of next month. Chairman Shahid said that he'd like for the report to come to the committee first, before presenting it to the full Council.

CFD Station #11

Ms. Brownlee said that they had made significant progress on the fire station. That morning they had met with NBM's subcontractor, Brad Wolf from Wolf Installations. They were the ones grinding the first and second concrete floor, which was happening that day and tomorrow. A sample for viewing would be available for the Fire Department on Wednesday afternoon. Once they had approval and everything looked good, they would be working to refinish the floors the week of the 18th and then begin moving appliances back in that had to be taken out and putting in baseboards again. Ms. Brownlee said that once the floors were finished she would like to invite everyone that came out November 18th to come view the finished product. Regarding other outstanding items, NBM had continued to work with their subs to complete the pre-punch list. She thought they had between 50-75% of the punch list complete. Of the completed items, there were a few that they had questioned if they were acceptable but were going to wait until the final punch list to provide that feedback. They had also had some site work occur, such as raising some of the inlets, but there was some difficulty in getting the original landscape contractor back out to perform the outstanding items, so NBM was working with a different landscaper to try to resolve the items. It seemed like the biggest thing holding up the project was the building itself. They could not get DRB to approve the building because the exterior had not been finished. They didn't have all the fire and mechanical inspections because they hadn't been able to call them in. There were still stormwater and engineering things that need to be wrapped up. Once NBM received the CO, they would be able to perform the final punch list.

Chairman Shahid asked if the floors were being included in the pre-punch list items, or if that was a separate pre-punch list. Ms. Brownlee said the floors were a part of the pre-punch list but that she was holding them separate. She said the floors were the biggest thing on the inside because they couldn't get the firefighters in until the floor was acceptable. Chairman Shahid asked when she thought the floors would be ready to the point that they could move things back inside. Ms. Brownlee said they had claimed that on the 22nd the floors would be set and ready for people to walk on. Chief Curia said that Beth, Edmund, and Jason had been with the project the whole time and that he was just trusting in the process. Chairman Shahid thanked the staff members for their persistence and work. Mayor Tecklenburg said thank you. Chairman Shahid said he'd like to keep this on a monthly update so that they could mark the progress on it. He said he thought it would be good for the contractors to know that they were being watched and would give Beth a bit more muscle. He thought the incremental progress reports were important. Councilmember Seekings said he thought Chief Curia had touched on the theme on 2021: be patient and trust in the process. He said that a year ago when they had these meetings, he thought they had very much doubted they would reach this point and be having this conversation with NBM still in the game. Councilmember Shealy thanked them for all the work.

Councilmember Shealy said he knew it wasn't on the agenda but asked if everything was running on time for the forensics building. Chairman Shahid said they had had a tour out there about a month ago and that it was magnificent. He asked Chief Reynolds if he wanted to comment on the building. Chief Reynolds said it was on time and that it would be a game changer for them. Chairman Shahid said he was looking forward to a ribbon cutting in the not too distant future. He asked Chief Reynolds about the Bridgeview incident and gave kudos to Councilmember Mitchell, the Mayor, and the Chief for their leadership and bringing the community together. He said he was looking forward to SLED's final report on those five officers and that it could have been a lot worse. Mayor Tecklenburg said that he knew they had already talked about the forensics building and how well it was going, but he thought that Mr. Kronsburg had been ready to give an update from Capital Project's point of view. Mr. Kronsberg said that he didn't have any dates to give, but the contractors were working on the floors right now and that substantial completion should be coming up quickly. He said that they could provide a very specific update during the next meeting if they were not open at that point.

Having no further business, the committee adjourned at 2:47 pm.

Andrea Derungs
Council Secretary