

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

March 9, 2021

A meeting of the Public Safety Committee was held this date beginning at 2:04 pm, by video conference.

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

PRESENT

Committee Members: Councilmember Shahid (Chair), Councilmember Seekings (Vice Chair), Councilmember Shealy, Councilmember Mitchell, and Mayor Tecklenburg

City Staff: Chief Dan Curia, Chelsea Frances, Anthony Gibson, Steve Ruemelin, Shylah Murray, Beth Brownlee, Julia Copeland, Cassandra Payton, Mallary Scheer, Jason Kronsberg, Susan Herdina, Tracy McKee, Councilwoman Jackson, and Bethany Whitaker.

1. Invocation

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

2. Approval of Minutes

On a motion of Councilmember Shealy, seconded by Councilmember Mitchell, the Committee voted unanimously to approve minutes from the February 23, 2021 meeting.

3. Approval to submit the Letter of Intent to participate in the 30x30 pledge to increase the recruitment, retention, and promotion of women in policing

Chelsea Frances said this was a pledge, through the Policing Project at the NYU School of Law, that encouraged law enforcement agencies to improve the representation and experiences of women in policing. The goals of the pledge were to inform the agency process and its progress through data collection information sharing and identify and understand barriers to progress, like resources, capacity, and authority. Sergeant Gibson and Officer Cherry were overseeing the project within CPD. Councilmember Shahid clarified that this was simply a letter stating CPD would be a part of this program. Councilwoman Jackson said the Commission on Women had learned a lot about the issues women face, and they thought this was an excellent opportunity to encourage the careers of women in policing. She said that women were wired differently than men, and this difference in thinking and problem solving was a testament to how women could change the dynamic in policing situations.

On a motion of Mayor Tecklenburg, seconded by Councilmember Shealy, the Committee voted unanimously to approve the submission of the Letter of Intent to participate in the 30x30 pledge to increase the recruitment, retention, and promotion of women in policing.

4. Law Enforcement Assistance Support Agreement with York County Sheriff's Office (information only)

Steve Ruemelin said CPD had an investigator who worked on the Internet Crimes against Children Taskforce, which was doing some work in York County. The investigator posed as an underage person,

entered chat rooms, and investigated people who may be trying to communicate with minors for illicit purposes. This would allow her to participate in that taskforce. Councilmember Shahid said other counties were very much in tune with this issue and were making a concentrated effort to address this pornography problem and exploitation of children.

On a motion of Councilmember Mitchell, seconded by Mayor Tecklenburg, the Committee voted unanimously to approve the Law Enforcement Assistance Support Agreement with York County Sheriff's Office.

5. Approve the MOU with ATF for CPD's participation in National Ballistics Information Network

Steve Ruemelin said the National Ballistics Information Network would allow CPD's forensic team to test shell casings. Each shell casing has unique markings after it has been discharged from a firearm. Participating in this Network would allow that information to be entered into the system so that those shell casings could be matched to other incidents or crime in the State or Country. Councilmember Shahid asked if SLED was involved with this, which Mr. Ruemelin confirmed. Mayor Tecklenburg asked how much of a fingerprint shell casings were. Mr. Ruemelin said that shell casing marks were unique to each individual firearm.

On a motion of Councilmember Mitchell, seconded by Councilmember Shealy, the Committee voted unanimously to approve the MOU with ATF for CPD's participation in National Ballistics Information Network.

6. Update on Fire Station #11

Beth Brownlee said that DRB provided conditional approval of the building on February 26. The only outstanding item was decorative sign posts, which were easy to address. They had passed all of their inspections and were waiting for close out of permits and as-builts. As soon as the contractor submits that information, they should be able to request a certificate of occupancy. She was waiting for the contractor to submit a substantial completion to her so that they could begin doing punch list items. All of the interior floors, including the stairs and elevator, would be done by the end of the week. Everything in the rear and front of the building had been regraded and resoded. They still needed to replace some plants that had been rejected, finish some access control and security cameras, and install two windows in the apparatus bay doors that had initially been sized incorrectly. The apparatus bay doors and all of the electrical and masonry work had been completed.

Councilmember Shahid thanked Beth and Jason's team for all the work they had done to stay on top of the project. Chief Curia said it would take 2-3 weeks, after receiving the certificate of occupancy, to move in all the equipment and furniture. He said they were trying to be moved in by the time the Sofa Super Store Memorial recognition took place. Mayor Tecklenburg asked Ms. Brownlee what she thought of the floors. She said they looked fantastic, the surface was a consistent color with a durable finish, and that they shouldn't have cracking, discoloring, or delaminating issues. Mayor Tecklenburg conveyed his thanks to Ms. Brownlee and said she deserved a gold star. Councilmember Shahid asked Chief Curia if they would have the opportunity to slide down the new pole. Chief Curia said Rick Markiewicz in Safety might have something to say about that. Councilmember Seekings suggested they hold a Public Safety meeting in person at the new fire station and give Ms. Brownlee her gold star at that point.

Councilmember Shahid said they could do the same thing for the CPD's new forensic building. Councilmember Shealy asked how moved in CPD was with the forensic building. Jason Kronsberg said they were fully moved in and occupied. Cassandra Payton said they were working on a ribbon cutting ceremony for the building. Councilmember Shahid said there would be a competition between CPD and CFD as to who could throw the biggest shindig. The Committee thanked all the staff members for the work they put into these projects.

Having no further business, the Committee adjourned at 2:23pm.

Andrea Derungs
Clerk of Council's Office