



CITY OF HIGHLAND PARK

BOARD OF POLICE AND FIRE COMMISSIONERS

Return to Excellence

Glenda McDonald
Mayor

BOARD OF POLICE AND FIRE COMMISSIONERS

Minutes of June 7, 2023

The meeting was called to order at 6:02 pm by Chairman Johnson.

Roll Call:

Present: Chairman Ryan Johnson, Commissioner Brenda Hicks, Commissioner RJ Watkins, Commissioner Curis, Commissioner/Secretary Erica George, Internal Affairs Investigator Lackey, Inspector Newine, Chief McMann, Chief Hollowell

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of March 22, 2023 were approved.

Open Remarks

Chairman: I know we had some adjustments but thank you for being flexible hopefully this is our permanent date.

Police Department

Chief McMann: Since our last meeting we hired new people \. Our upcoming academy in August I hope to sponsor about 3 candidates. We did fill the K9 handler position and they are in training. We are happy with the progress. Our MOU for a School Resource Officer is being finalized. We hope to have in place by upcoming school year. Our blue teams is working really well. Our Clemis agreement is still moving forward. It is not completed but I do not anticipate any problems. The recent council meeting we were approved for cameras that allow us to locate vehicles associated with dumping and major crimes. We can read license and we can see their data base as needed. Our hiring and discipline board has been successful. I think we have been able to bring on some good candidates. We are working with Michigan homicide and we hope to increase our closure rate. Our vehicles arrived. Some still need to be outfitted but we are excited. The community appears to be excited as well. The grant allowed us to purchase it.

Commissioner Watkins: what group are you talking about partner with someone about cameras?

Chief: We are partnering with the Michigan State Police in terms of our homicides.

Chairman: I think he was asking about the licensing cameras

Chief: In terms of the Flock cameras, we can share and receive information out of our jurisdiction. It will help us locate that vehicle.

Commissioner Hicks: Why did you have to fire candidates?

Chief: WE did not fire anyone. We had some officers we had to discipline.

Commissioner George: How are the monthly meeting going?

Chief: I think they are going well. The last one I did not attend but they were able to get out information about human trafficking.

Chairman: I asked the chief about having a hard time getting in contact with citizens follow up on complaints. I asked we put a process in place that we would make a phone call, go to the home then send a certified letter. After these attempts, we would not try to contact the citizen anymore.

Commissioner Hicks: I believe we were trying to do that before. I agree with this process. Is there a timeline you are using chief from the time the complaint comes in to the time of dropping it?

Chief: This would be a new process so not right now. With investigation we try to close out within 120 days. Recently, we had issues with tracking a victim and an officer out the whole time with pay. I agree with Chairman's process.

Commissioner Hicks: Will the investigation continue without the complainant?

Chief: I can still investigate evidence and discipline as needed but the union may arbitrate it without the complainant.

Commissioner Watkins: Will the complainant be able to resubmit the complaint?

Chief: Yes, but once we issue discipline we could not reissue discipline which is called double jeopardy. The person could file a civil complaint.

Chairman: We had body cameras in one of these situations where chief was able to follow up

Commissioner George: Will we receive complaints that we can see and also be up to date on how this process is going?

Chief: Yes, we can share those complaints. With our new system, the complaints become apart of our IPRO document.

Chairman: How long before everything is officially working?

Chief: We are still learning the system. Director Lackey is proficient with it so he is constantly updating it. We are close.

Commissioners passed the motion to put a process in place for the complaints.

Fire Department

Inspector Newine: We are currently in the heart of inspections for the businesses. We are at 267 calls for the year. WE had a couple new building fires. We are a little more than last year.

Chairman: How is the EMS system going?

Inspector: Rapid is doing good right now. I do not have much updates.

Commissioner Curis: I appreciate Chief always being present.

Internal Affairs

Dir. Lackey: A technical update on our CAD partner, we are connected to the network. We are waiting on final things. We meet with Oakland County and Clemis in July as we go in front of their board. We are working on new policies and procedures. We had grant money for LEXIPO. This system deals with personnel complaints. It answers a lot of the commission's questions.

Public Comments

Chairman: No one is here from the public.

Closing Remarks:

Commissioner Curis: Thank you Chief McMann for doing a great job and being very accessible.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 6:28 pm

Next Meeting: Wednesday, July 5, 2023 6:00 pm, Zoom
cc: City Clerk