



CITY OF HIGHLAND PARK

BOARD OF POLICE AND FIRE COMMISSIONERS

Return to Excellence

Hubbert Yopp
Mayor

BOARD OF POLICE AND FIRE COMMISSIONERS

Minutes of March 27, 2019

The meeting was called to order at 6:11 pm by Chairman Napoleon.

Roll Call:

Present: Chairman Napoleon, Commissioner Hicks, Commissioner Curis; Secretary Erica George, Charles Lackey, Chief Logan, Chief Coney

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of February 27, 2019, were approved.

Police Department

Chief Logan: "Deputy Chief Tolbert has a homicide case in Detroit that a news article came out with stating Tolbert lied. There was a fourteen year old taken to custody in this case. I am told Tolbert took a piece of paper and asked the boy to draw the bodies how they were in the home. There were fourteen deaths. Tolbert is accused of lying and the attorney stated there was not enough evidence on Tolbert. Currently, the young man has been let out of jail."

Chairman: "How did all of this come about?"

Chief Logan: "I do not know the author of the article but he called the Mayor for a statement."

Chairman: "I recall this story about ten years ago. He was commander in charge. Anytime someone is put into position of authority they are going to write something. If he was charged then that would be one thing but he was not charged."

Commissioner Hicks: "Was that the only coverage?"

Chief Logan: "Yes, George Hunter wrote it in the Detroit news."

Commissioner Hicks: "There are no other controversy besides him being in the news, correct?"

Chief Logan: "Yes, only in this article. This has haunted him since it has happened."

Chairman: "Any update that fired and suing us?"

Chief Logan: "No update on Officer Dupree. He was let go from several departments."

Fire Department

Chief Coney: "On the Knox Box, there are codes. The keys registers with the fire fighters. We are waiting on the ordinance to past before being able to use it. I have been trying to survey the community. I asked the store person how long it would take him to get here if there was an emergency. He stated about thirty minutes. I explained if we have a Knox Box then we could get in and we do not have to cut open their security doors or gates which will cost the business. One person disagreed about security of the Knox Box. I explained it would take a lot for them to get it off and the box is fire proof. I want to get a representative from Knox Box and other others to come out."

Commissioner Hicks: "Would everyone get a code?"

Chief Coney: "Only the supervisors will get a code."

Chairman: "A supervisor will have to be on the truck if an emergency happens."

Chief Coney: "Correct. The other issue is the hydrate flags. One complaint I get is the grass being too high for people to see the hydrates. It will be a reflective flag about 4-5 feet tall attached to the hydrate."

Chairman: "How is it attached?"

Chief Coney: "It is a 2 X 2 metal plate that is bolted on. It is fiber glass so if you try to take it the glass will break into tiny pieces. We started at Tennyson installing the flags. Recently, we put an ordinance in place where people cannot paint the hydrates so we have repainted the hydrates red. Currently, we are doing daily training in a house and keeping the house clean."

Commissioner Hicks: "Where is it?"

Chief Coney: "On Buena Vista but we keep it boarded up. We have been giving out smoke detectors to the seniors. We have batteries to install as well and trying to publicize. I spoke with the Mayor about doing a well-being check for seniors."

Chairman: "Do you have a list?"

Chief Coney: "Yes. I saw a survey that asked questions about if they live alone. We had a case where a senior was found after two weeks rats been eating her so we do not want that to happen. I think if we get this in place then it will help this not to happen and it gets us to know the citizens better."

Chief Logan: "It will help as the weather change from cold to hot."

Chief Coney: "We continue to work with the police department on these matters too. Also, we invite the block clubs to come to the fire station so they know what's going on."

Chief Logan: "I suggest that we meet at the fire station so we do not have to find someone to man the front door at City Hall."

Commissioner Hicks: "Will meeting there interfere with the department?"

Chief Coney: "No, you will meet in the training room."

Chairman: "How will we publicize this change of location to the public?"

Chief Coney: "We can have it posted online or on the City hall bulletin board. I think you will get more citizens to attend the meetings as well. I added a bench last summer and we had a person regularly come. We are also trying to get a door bell that will tell if it is an emergency."

Chief Logan: "We were just trained on Narcan Training and all officers received a kit."

Commissioner Hicks: "We talked about doing a letter for Erica to get paid."

Chairman: "I will work on this tonight and get it to the Mayor."

Commissioner Curis: "I make a motion that we move to the fire station once we figure out where it gets posted."

Lackey: "I can post it online with the new location by tomorrow. Chief wanted me to let you know that Allen Park, number one, and Ecorse, number two, are ranked as highest in overdoses. We received a grant through the state, joint with Ecorse another distressed community, for the blue light. Highland Park will be the lead as far as the monitoring center and paperwork. Our plan is to put seventy-five cameras in Highland Park and Ecorse. We are trying to put in scan of license plates, faces, etc. components to this software. There is a lot of back and forth of retaining it."

Chairman: "One thing people will have to understand is you cannot get mad of someone taking a picture of you in public. This happens on social media."

Lackey: "We want to do this scan in public areas and we can input in the system specific details that will break down intersections, plates, etc."

Commissioner Curis: "I was in a meeting with the Mayor and received push back for the green light being in private places and using the similar scan system."

Lackey: "Places like London have been doing this for twenty years."

Commissioner Curis: "If you need any private property we will be happy to do it."

Lackey: "City Hall and the Recreation Center has the blue light. We want to add a two way speaker at the intersections where we can talk through this system to the citizens. We believe this will deter crime."

Chairman: "How can you bring up a specific recording?"

Lackey: "The analytical program goes into play to store information. We are going to use approved cloud criminal justice storage. It would not be stored in Highland Park. We will have retention periods and would not be able to keep it forever."

Chairman: "This will be great and can exonerate people."

Lackey: "The goal is to take the proficiencies we have in Highland Park and Ecorse and put it in this system. We got a new car in this deal. Now we have five new 2020 Explorers. We did get a citizen complaint yesterday for traffic. It has been assigned to the supervisor and results should be out in forty-eight days."

Commissioner Curis: "I think your technology is great. It is making the city and citizens safer especially having someone like Lackey who understands it."

Lackey: "We did get new Tasers. It took seven months for is to get approved through city council."

Chairman: "The Detroit City Council said it was inhumane and took many years to pass Tasers."

Lackey: "We do have new in car printers, which I paid for out of my budget. The traffic cars had them but now we are trying to get the printers in more vehicles. We are getting cars under warranty and replace them every two years. The trucks are about thirty thousand a piece. The new patrol trucks has a safety feature that will alert the car and roll up any rolled down windows if someone walks up on the car and lock it. We have a group study called CORES. On April 1st, we will have the first group study."

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 7:12 pm

Next Meeting: Wednesday, May 15, 2019, 6:00pm, Training Room, Fire Station

cc: City Clerk