

# **RICHMOND POLICE COMMISSION**

**Wednesday, July 2, 2014 – 7:00 p.m.  
Employment & Training Building  
330 – 25<sup>th</sup> Street  
Conference Room 1**

## **MINUTES**

### **I CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL, PLEDGE**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by **Chair Scott Gillespie**

#### **ROLL CALL**

**Present:** Therese Barquet  
Nemy Bautista  
Scott Gillespie  
Felix Hunziker  
Alejandro Navarro  
Bea Roberson  
Yenny Velazquez

**Absent:** None

**Vacancies:** Two

**Administrative Staff:** Terry Simpson, Investigator – Absent  
Malia Glover, Executive Secretary I – Present

**Council Liaison:** Jael Myrick, Council Liaison – Absent

**City Attorney's Office Representative:** Bruce Soublet, Assistant City Attorney – Present

### **II APPROVAL OF MINUTES – June 4, 2014**

Upon motion by **Commissioner Roberson** and second by **Commissioner Bautista**, the minutes for the regular meeting of June 4, 2014, were approved as written.

### **III REPORT OF COUNCIL LIAISON JAELE MYRICK**

A. Report on recent activities, events, incidents and related matters

No report

B. Report, discussion and action on the joint Celebratory Gunfire Prevention Project

No report

#### IV REPORT OF CHIEF OF POLICE (Chris Magnus or his representative)

- A. Report on latest crime statistics and ShotSpotter activity.

**Capt. French** said there was a 26% crime reduction year to date for violent and property crimes.

- B. Report of other recent activities, events, incidents, and related matters.

**Capt. Bisa French** was there to represent **Chief Magnus**. She reported on how budget reductions will affect the police department. There will be eight frozen positions – 6 officers, 2 sergeants. They will not have CCTV monitors or technicians. There will be a part-time staff reduction in the Crime Prevention program. They have to reduce their overtime budget by 1.2 million. There is a Code Enforcement subsidy that will be reduced from 3 million to 2 million; they don't anticipate any layoffs in Code Enforcement.

**Commissioner Bautista** asked if there will be uniformed officers at the council meetings. **Capt. French** said they've reduced the number of officers from 2 to 1 except at meetings that have a potential for more people to be there or if there will be delicate issues being discussed.

**Commissioner Roberson** asked if they will reduce the amount of the contract with PAL. **Capt. French** said that hasn't been talked about to her knowledge at this time.

**Commissioner Roberson** asked what they were taking out of Crime Prevention. **Capt. French** said a part-time position will be impacted.

**Commissioner Hunziker** asked if they will be reducing training or professional development. **Capt. French** said the unions are talking with HR in terms of reduction in contracts. They've already reduced outgoing training and trying to get people to come to Richmond to give training here to address a broader section of personnel as opposed to sending one or two people out for training. There is some training that is state mandated that they have to attend.

**Commissioner Roberson** asked if they were dismantling the Crime Free Housing program. **Capt. French** said they are not dismantling the Crime Free Housing program. The program will be taken up by the foot and bike patrol officers.

**Commissioner Barquet** asked if they have an emergency fund for overtime. **Capt. French** said they have a fixed overtime budget but if it goes above that, the chief has to go to the city manager to request additional funds.

**Commissioner Barquet** asked if there was still going to be a program set up in the high schools to educate the students about prostitution and human trafficking. **Capt. French** said all of the school resource officers are being trained regarding this subject and will be working with Community Violence Solutions and other community based organizations to get more education out to the high schools.

**Commissioner Navarro** asked if it would be possible to have volunteers run the CCTV cameras. **Capt. French** said that is something the chief will have to evaluate. They usually have retired police officers monitor the CCTV's.

**Commissioner Bautista** asked if the budget cuts would have an impact on the school resource officers. **Capt. French** said they are paid for by the school district.

**Commissioner Hunziker** asked if there was always one officer to cover during shift changes. **Capt. French** said yes. There are three shifts in a day – day, swing and graveyard. There is one officer per beat in each shift. They are trying to reduce some of the overlap. If an officer was on vacation and they needed an officer to fill in for that day, he would fill in for the entire shift. They are reducing the amount of hours he is filling in so that when swing shift comes on, then that officer can go home and the swing shift officer will be working. It is still filled but there is not the overlap they have on most days.

**Commissioner Bautista** asked about officers assigned to community meetings. **Capt. French** said they might have to reduce some of the meetings that they go to, or make sure that the officer is there for a few minutes to go over stats and not stay for the entire meeting.

**Commissioner Roberson** said when officers attend neighborhood council meetings, they should be allowed to speak first so that they can leave and go back on the street. **Capt. French** agreed. She said they need to evaluate this.

**Commissioner Navarro** asked if he could go along on a foot patrol. **Capt. French** said there is no set time that they go out on foot patrols. It would be best to do a ride along and it could possibly be incorporated with when they do their foot patrols during their shift. He asked if she could let him know who does foot patrols so that he could do a ride along with them. **Capt. French** said yes.

**Chair Gillespie** asked who was in charge of the traffic unit. **Capt. French** said she was. He asked if there was a procedure for motor units calling in traffic stops. He said there is a safety issue for the person that is pulled over and the officers themselves. **Capt. French** said there is no policy that traffic officers have to call in all of their traffic stops. They let them use their own judgment as to whether they need to call it in for extra coverage.

**Commissioner Barquet** asked if they are going to make a policy where all stops will be called in, logged in, or possibly to just give the license plate number. She said it would be for the protection of the officers as well as the person that was stopped. **Capt. French** said they would have to look into it.

**Commissioner Hunziker** said earlier in the year Berkeley passed an ordinance that requires their officers to call in all stops. He asked Chief Magnus what he thought about it. The chief responded to him in an e-mail and Commissioner Hunziker read the response out loud.

**Capt. French** reminded the commission that National Night Out is next month. She thanked the commission for the work they did on the celebratory gunfire reduction flyers.

**V POLICE COMMISSION'S RECOMMENDATION TO CHIEF MAGNUS REGARDING REPORTING OF ALL CAR STOPS**

**Chair Gillespie** said the context of calling in traffic stops by motor units came as a result of a citizen's complaint. There is a consensus that this particular incident could have been avoided had the officer called in the vehicle stop. He said he wasn't sure if the commission was prepared to make any kind of recommendation at this point. **Commissioner Roberson** suggested that the commission ask **Capt. French** to do some research on what other cities do regarding calling in traffic stops and then report back to the commission. After discussion, **Asst. City Attorney Soublet** asked that he be allowed to review the incident that brought up the discussion so that he could discuss it with **Chief Magnus**; then they can see if he has some ideas on how to alleviate the problem. **Chair Gillespie** said that he would pass the information on to **Mr. Soublet**. **Commissioner Roberson** made a motion to continue this item another day. It was seconded by **Commissioner Hunziker**. All were in favor.

**VI PUBLIC FORUM**

**Jaime Mojica** said that he had filed a complaint with the police commission. He said he recently received a disposition letter and that he had never been interviewed. He said the investigator contacted him three times by phone. He said he was told by the police department that they had a year to file charges against him with the district attorney. He said he told the investigator for the police commission that he was going to wait a year and if nothing happened then he would go with a complaint. He feels that he should have received a letter giving him a time frame to get in touch with the investigator. He wanted to know if the case could be re-opened. **Asst. City Attorney Soublet** said that a decision had been made and the case was closed.

**VII REPORT ON PROGRESS OF STUDENT SURVEY (Commissioner Barquet)**

**Commissioner Barquet** said she had been in touch with some of the schools. She said they have shown an interest in the survey, but it would be best if they continue this until the first part of September.

**VIII DISCUSSION AND ACTION REGARDING POLICE COMMISSION CONTACT LIST (Commissioner Bautista)**

**Commissioner Bautista** said that he would like the commissioners to receive the contact log with information only pertaining to the police commission. **Commissioner Barquet** agreed. **Chair Gillespie** suggested a motion to continue the contact list through the end of the year and make a decision in January. **Commissioner Roberson** made the motion which was seconded by **Commissioner Navarro**. All were in favor.

**IX REPORTS BY:**

- **CHAIRPERSON**
- **COMMISSIONERS**
- **STAFF**

**Chair Gillespie**

- Said he will have automated license plate readers (ALPR) on the agenda at the September meeting and asked the commissioners to send him any specific questions relating to policy #462 so that he can add them to the agenda.

**Commissioner Barquet**

- Suggested having a sign-up sheet at meetings prior to events such as Cinco de Mayo and Juneteenth. That way, commissioners could list what time slot they would be available to participate.

**Commissioner Roberson**

- Went on a Ride-along
- Attended Juneteenth

**Asst. City Attorney Bruce Soublet** suggested getting the agenda items regarding the ALPR's to the chief a few weeks in advance of the meeting so that he'll have time to do any research needed. **Chair Gillespie** asked the commissioners to send him the agenda items by the end of July.

**X ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:48 p.m.

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Scott Gillespie, Chair