

## **PUBLIC SAFETY ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Regular Meeting Minutes  
Wednesday, August 4, 2021  
Zoom Virtual Meeting

### CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 5:16 p.m.

### ROLL CALL

Public Safety Advisory Committee Members Present: Alan Hart, Ken Witkoe, Ray Dotson, Mark Peila, James Hairston, Tod Wolf, Mark Terry and Karen Ferreira

Public Safety Advisory Committee Members Excused: None

Public Safety Advisory Committee Members Absent: None

City Councilmember Present: Councilmember Mike Brandstetter

Fire Department Staff Present: Assistant Fire Chief Scott Adams

Lakewood Youth Council Present: No Youth Council Present; out for summer.

Staff Present: Chief Mike Zaro and Committee Staff Support, Joanna LaVergne, Administrative Assistant

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mark Peila motioned to approve the June meeting minutes. All ayes; minutes approved.

### PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comments.

#### PRESENTATION: Tiffany Speir, ARPA Funds

Tiffany Speir gave a presentation regarding the ARPA (American Rescue Plan Act) and asked for input from PSAC/community members with how the money given to the City of Lakewood could best be used. Discussion ensued. Ms. Speir will send the presentation information to Joanna LaVergne, who will send it out to the PSAC members for continued perusal and any comments can be sent back to Joanna or Tiffany.

#### CITY COUNCIL LIAISON COMMENTS

Councilmember Mike Brandstetter stated that 2021's National Night Out was smaller than usual, but it did happen, and the events were all well attended. Councilmember Brandstetter stated that the City Council approved a purchase for the Chief to purchase a 3D crime scene scanner to replace an outdated version currently in use.

Councilmember Brandstetter stated that there had been a lot of Legislative changes in the last couple of months, and a lot of them had to do with Public Safety. One item of discussion for the City Council was using the ARPA funds to purchase body cameras for the police officers.

Mr. Mark Peila asked if the City had a list of food banks within the City and if it was possible to get that list. Councilmember Brandstetter stated there is a list and he will get it to PSAC.

#### FIRE CHIEF COMMENTS

Assistant Fire Chief Scott Adams echoed Councilmember Brandstetter's summary of National Night Out, and agreed that the Fire Department had fun getting out and connecting with community members. The Fire Department lobbies are back open and they will return to in person meetings starting August 16<sup>th</sup>.

Assistant Chief Adams gave an update on Squad 21. Assistant Chief Adams discussed the wildfires and the call volume related to those, as well as the cooling stations which WPFR, LPD and the City worked together to open during the heat waves.

Assistant Chief Adams gave a 4<sup>th</sup> of July recap as well as upcoming events such as September 11<sup>th</sup> and Fall Safety Day in October.

#### POLICE CHIEF COMMENTS

Chief Michael Zaro gave a presentation on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Crime Stats and then did some Legislature updates. Discussion ensued.

Mr. Alan Hart asked about recruitment efforts. Chief Zaro stated the Department is working very hard on recruitment of both entry-level and lateral hires. Discussion ensued.

#### YOUTH COUNCIL COMMENTS

No Youth Council present; out for the summer.

### UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Chair Ken Witkoe asked if there were any updates on the Clover Creek Crossing; Councilmember Mike Brandstetter had left so couldn't comment.

Ray Dotson showed off his PSAC gear, which was previously discussed, and stated that he will send the digitals to Joanna LaVergne, in case any other PSAC members are interested in purchasing some for themselves.

### NEW BUSINESS

Chair Ken Witkoe asked about the noise complaint that had been sent in by a member; Mr. Alan Hart stated he was worried about speeding through neighborhoods. Chief Zaro directed everyone to MyLakewood311 to report speeding so that patterns and needs could be quickly and easily addressed. Mr. Hart had forwarded a Facebook complaint regarding car stereos and Chief Zaro stated that noise complaints are subjective, both to the person and per the RCW so those are harder to enforce.

Chair Ken Witkoe reminded everyone that the Joint City Council/PSAC meeting is next week, August 9<sup>th</sup> and went over the accomplishments list for that meeting. Discussion ensued.

Chair Ken Witkoe asked about PSAC recruitment. Joanna LaVergne explained the PSAC selection process was solely at the discretion of the City Council, who have repeatedly said they were okay with the current number. As of Monday, they have appointed two new members, and that seems to be all they are interested in adding at this time.

The City is hosting the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary on September 18<sup>th</sup>. Discussion around PSAC having a presence at the event ensued. It was agreed the committee didn't have enough members available to pursue the idea.

Chair Ken Witkoe reminded everyone that the October meeting was "scheduled" to be face to face, but in light of changing mandates, etc. he suggested we not bank on that right now, but rather keep it open to being another Zoom meeting, for now.

### REPORTS FROM BOARD MEMBERS & STAFF

Members discussed their Neighborhood Associations, as applicable; most are either not meeting or meeting via Zoom right now.

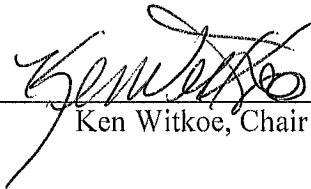
Mark Peila asked if there was a list of the Neighborhood Association meetings to include a contact email or number, so they could ensure the meetings were still taking place. Joanna LaVergne stated she would check with the City Clerk to see if such a list existed.

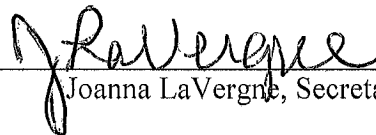
ADJOURNMENT

Mark Terry motioned to adjourn the meeting; all ayes. Meeting adjourned at 7:21 p.m.

Public Safety Advisory Committee:

Attest:

  
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Ken Witkoe, Chair

  
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Joanna LaVergne, Secretary