

CITIZENS PUBLIC SAFETY OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE MINUTES
June 12, 2014

The Citizens Public Safety Oversight Committee of the City of Norman, Cleveland County, State of Oklahoma, met at 3:30 p.m. in the Norman Investigations Center Conference Room at the Norman Investigations Center (NIC) located at 1507 W. Lindsey Street on the 12th day of June, 2014, and notice and agenda of the meeting were posted at City Hall located at 201 W. Gray Street and the Norman Investigations Center 24 hours prior to the beginning of the meeting.

PRESENT:	Members Keith Allen, Lea Greenleaf, Matthew Leal, Steve Lucas, Chair Eddie Sims
ABSENT:	Members Malaka Elyazgi, Joan Goth, James Wheatley, David Wilson
COMMITTEE LIAISONS:	Robert Wasoski, FOP (present) Koby Harrington, OU (absent) IAFF (position vacant)
STAFF PRESENT:	Suzanne Krohmer, Budget Manager Keith Humphrey, Police Chief James Fullingim, Fire Chief Leah Messner, Assistant City Attorney II Todd Gibson, Police Captain
OTHERS PRESENT:	Mayor Cindy Rosenthal Bobby Stevens, Citizen Christine Stevens, Citizen

The meeting was called to order by Chair Sims.

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Item 2, being:

APPROVAL OF THE CITIZENS PUBLIC SAFETY OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE MINUTES
OF MAY 8, 2014.

Member Allen moved that the Citizens Public Safety Oversight Committee minutes of May 8, 2014, be approved, which motion was duly seconded by Member Greenleaf;

and the question being to approve the Citizens Public Safety Oversight Committee minutes of May 8, 2014, a vote was taken with the following result:

YEAS: Members Keith Allen, Lea Greenleaf,
Matthew Leal, Steve Lucas, Chair Eddie
Sims

NAYES: None

Chair Sims declared the motion carried and the Citizens Public Safety Oversight Committee minutes of May 8, 2014, were approved.

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ITEM 3, being:

MONTHLY UPDATES

Finance Report

A question was asked about the negative Fiscal Year-To-Date total?

It was explained that there will be an end of the year transfer from fund balance to cover the negative total.

Greenleaf – Asked about the current radio system

Humphrey – Explained that the replacement of the radio system will be around \$15 million and we have to build the EOC/Dispatch Facility first. The cost of the facility is an estimated \$6.5 million. The radio system has not gone out to bid yet. We are looking at consultant requirements for the bid.

Fire Department

Chief Fullingim said that the recruit graduation is June 30th. We will still be short some positions due to recent attrition.

Police Report

Chief Humphrey gave the monthly Community Oriented Policing (COP) update. There were about 300 COP hours in May.

Hiring for the 52nd Police Academy begins on September 5th. Thirty people are still in the process. Applications were up about 25% than previous academies. We will hire 20-22 recruits.

Starting this July is the Junior Police Academy. It is from 8:30-12:00 for two weeks and it is for 7th, 8th and 9th graders. This is a great tool for future applicants.

Last Monday was Coffee with a Cop and covered various topics. We received a very positive response from citizens. The next one will be at Michelangelo's.

Citizens' Police Academy established in 2011 – it is a 12 week program with 6 classes. We have had 115 graduates so far. We are developing an Alumni Program for volunteer scenarios, etc.

Safety Town is in its 37th year. About 400 kids per year participate and it is held in June for 6 year olds. The School House was renamed “Mrs. Newell’s School House” after retired officer Jennifer Newell that was in charge of the Safety Town program.

Our DDACTS program is outstanding and we have been asked to teach the program nation-wide.

Officer Bob Moore is retiring to focus on the program he started called “My Body, My Life”

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ITEM 4, being:

UPDATE ON MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU) BETWEEN THE CITY OF NORMAN AND NORMAN PUBLIC SCHOOLS FOR THE SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER (SRO) PROGRAM.

Messner – We are still working on the preliminary draft with the NPS Attorney Karen Long out of Tulsa.

Mayor Rosenthal – The Council would like input from the Committee.

Chief Humphrey – The SRO program will be effective in the fall of 2016 when the first seven officers will be hired and in the schools. We have not made a final decision on one of two Lieutenants that will be in charge of the program. They are going to workshops for training.

We are meeting with the school principals in the fall and we are starting the initial process to implement the SRO program. Major Foster is working with the two Lieutenants on the process. We are going to have a program specific to the City of Norman.

We will go through the interview panels with NPS when selecting the officers. We have to put the right people in the program. We have been approached by Little Axe schools to add the SRO program there as well. The final hiring decision is the City of Normans, but the NPS will be in the interview process and ask questions and give input into the hiring process.

Messner – The MOU will lay out the roles of the NPS and CON officers.

Chief Humphrey – Citizens that have gone through the academy understand why we do what we do. A partnership with NPS has to be balanced.

Lucas – What is the City of Norman’s money part?

Messner – It is an equal contribution

Chief Humphrey – NPS has a security budget. This money will be set aside to use for the help of financing the SRO Program.

Greenleaf – Asked if the Committee can be enlightened.

Lucas – Don't they have around a \$400,000 budget?

Chief Humphrey – NPS has a \$400,000-\$500,000 budget.

Chair Sims – Asked about the SRO program being a nine month program and if the SROs would be involved in other programs, tasks, or training the other three months.

Chief Humphrey – The SROs are committed to the schools nine months out of the year and will be used for summer school, training and filling in during the other three months.

Leal – Will they be involved in extra-curricular activities such as sporting events?

Chief Humphrey – Yes, overtime could be used for those events.

Greenleaf – That would be a significant amount of overtime due to all the school events.

Chief Humphrey – The school would contract with off-duty officers, pay hourly, if extra officers are needed.

Mayor Rosenthal – Some other Council issues have been brought up. Mr. Stevens is here to discuss how we divert traffic around accidents on Highway 9. If the Committee feels it's an appropriate agenda item to discuss.

Committee agreed to address Mr. Stevens' concerns.

Stevens – Highway 9 has had problems for years with several fatalities. When we shut down the highway between 84th and 156th, people have to go south or completely around the lake and there are no signs to direct traffic to get back to Highway 9. The back roads have no striping, hills and no signs. It's a public safety issue. Signs would be beneficial to everyone that comes to our town.

Chair Sims – Asked about possible solutions.

Stevens – Put up signs on dead ends, 84th and Cedar Lane to help direct traffic when accidents occur and lanes are closed. Put up emergency route signs. Arrow signs would be helpful too.

Allen – Have you brought your concerns to the City Engineer?

Stevens – Yes, Angelo Lombardo told me this is "off his radar". Everyone would benefit from this.

Greenleaf – Is Highway 9 a multiple-aided highway? Who has authority, OHP, the City or tribal agencies?

Chief Humphrey – If it's in our City, we handle it. Outside the limits could be the County Sherriff, OHP or tribal.

Chair Sims – Would the Committee like to address this issue?

Allen – Who's in charge of signs?

Mayor Rosenthal – ODOT is in control of Highway 9 signs, we are in charge of the other road signs.

Greenleaf – We could make a recommendation.

Allen – Are 4-5 dead end signs needed?

Stevens - No, more signs are needed than that.

Chief Humphrey – Accident investigations can take hours, it just depends. We try to re-route people as best as we can.

Chair Sims – ACOG is addressing TIMS and clearing accidents. On next month's agenda let's ask someone from Traffic, Public Works. What determines when we shut it down, and what are solutions to the problem?

Mayor Rosenthal – What are the statistics of incidents?

Allen – How can our Committee handle this, if other agencies can't help?

Chief Humphrey – We try to leave passing if possible, we try to work under the Highway Safety Management System. Depending on the nature of the accident, we might have to shut all lanes down until after the investigation.

Greenleaf – If there is a way to keep it open, we should.

Chief Humphrey – We follow that rule and try to clear as fast as possible.

Greenleaf – Can the City engineers be involved in this?

Mayor Rosenthal – We can ask them for more signs.

Greenleaf – Agreed. We need to get additional signage.

Chair Sims – Do we want to look into this is depth?

Mayor Rosenthal – At a minimum we should post “No Outlet” signs.

Chair Sims – City staff should be able to assist

Greenleaf – Made a motion for staff to investigate first and take action with signs, and if additional input is needed the Committee will address.

Leal – Seconded

YEAS: Members Keith Allen, Lea Greenleaf, Matthew Leal, Steve Lucas, Chair Eddie Sims

NAYES: None

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Item 6, being:

ESTABLISH TOPICS FOR NEXT AGENDA IN JULY

Lucas - Update on the MOU, keep on every agenda until the MOU has been completed.

Greenleaf – How often the communication package is looked at, start having this on every agenda.

Chair Sims - New member history and orientation.

Mayor Rosenthal – Review of FYE 15 budget decisions regarding PSST. And the Resolution of committed funds (excess PSST) for the new communications system.

Chair Sims – Staff from the Legal and Finance Departments need to be present as well as the Mayor.

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ITEM 7, being:

MISCELLANEOUS DISCUSSION

Member Lucas – Wanted to announce that he is a Grandpa again. His daughter just had a baby.

Member Greenleaf – Wanted to thank the Committee and is looking forward to being on the Committee for a long time.

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ITEM 8, being:

ADJOURNMENT

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Motion was made by Member Lucas to adjourn the meeting, which was duly seconded by Member Allen; a vote was taken with the following results:

YEAS: Members Keith Allen, Lea Greenleaf,
Matthew Leal, Steve Lucas, Chair Eddie Sims

NAYES: None

Chair Sims declared the motion to adjourn is approved. The meeting adjourned at 4:38 p.m. and the tour of the NIC began with Captain Todd Gibson.

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Item 5, being:

TOUR OF THE NIC FACILITY