

CITIZENS PUBLIC SAFETY OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE MINUTES
November 13, 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 Study Session Room located at 201 W. Gray Street on the 13th day of November, 2014, and notice and agenda of the meeting were posted at City Hall located at 201 W. Gray Street 24 hours prior to the beginning of the meeting.

PRESENT: Members Keith Allen, Malaka Elyazgi, Joan Goth, Lea Greenleaf, Matthew Leal, James Wheatley, David Wilson, and Chair Eddie Sims

ABSENT: Steve Lucas

COMMITTEE LIAISONS: Robert Wasoski, FOP (absent)
Jill Tran, OU
IAFF (position vacant)

STAFF PRESENT: Suzanne Krohmer, Budget Manager
James Fullingim, Fire Chief
Jim Bailey, Deputy Fire Chief
Lt. Jamie Shattuck, NPD
Keith Humphrey, Police Chief
Jeff Bryant, City Attorney

OTHERS PRESENT: Roger Gallagher, citizen
Casey Holcomb, citizen
Bobby Stephens, citizen

The meeting was called to order by Chair Eddie Sims.

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Item 2, being:

APPROVAL OF THE CITIZENS PUBLIC SAFETY OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE MINUTES
OF OCTOBER 9, 2014.

Member Greenleaf moved that the Citizens Public Safety Oversight Committee minutes of October 9, 2014, be approved, which motion was duly seconded by Member Wilson;

and the question being to approve the Citizens Public Safety Oversight Committee minutes of October 9, 2014, a vote was taken with the following result:

YEAS: Members Keith Allen, Malaka Elyazgi, Joan Goth, Lea Greenleaf, Matthew Leal, James Wheatley, David Wilson, and Chair Sims

NAYES: None

Chair Sims declared the motion carried and the Citizens Public Safety Oversight Committee minutes of October 9, 2014, approved.

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ITEM 3, being:

FURTHER DISCUSSION OF MEETING DATES AND TIME CHANGE

After a brief discussion, Committee is in agreement to continue meeting on the 2nd Thursday of each month from 3:30 pm to 5:00 pm in the Study Session Room.

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ITEM 4, being:

MONTHLY UPDATES

Finance Report

Monthly Detailed Finance Report was presented by Suzanne Krohmer. Questions were asked about Patrol expenses as listed on the first page. Suzanne gave instances of what expenses were covered. Emergency Communications expenses covered 1st installment payment of the consulting expenses of the new radio system. Malaka Elyazgi asked if the amount of the account line items is doubled, please specify more clearly and identify purchases.

Fire Department

Chief said the Fire Department always has new fire engines delivered by having them driven to Norman. The newest one being delivered failed on the way when the fuel tank collapsed. Next week will be delivery of the 2nd fire engine and both units will be in service in December. Three new replacement brush units will be here by year-end and in service.

Chief reported on the upcoming Academy beginning first of the year. Currently have 5 vacancies, 6 this week and they anticipate a total of 7 vacancies. The Academy will start in January and recruits will graduate in May.

Police Report

Lt. Jamie Shattuck gave the report. There was 870 Community Oriented Policing (COP) hours activity in October. At the National Night Out, there were 49 neighborhood parties with participation of 33 officers. This by far is the largest National Night Out event to date.

The next Academy will start in June 2015. Hiring for the spots will be in December this year. Chief said 7 of the spots for the next Academy will probably be the School Resource Officers.

Lea Greenleaf had attended a Coffee with a Cop and was very impressed. The officers in attendance were very engaging with the public. Lt. Shattuck said National Night Out was a big part of COP hour jump.

Lea Greenleaf gave kudos to the Police Department for two incidents with outstanding outcomes, the hostage situation and the jumper situation.

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ITEM 5, being:

RCC CONSULTANTS, INC. (RADIO CONSULTANTS) UPDATE AND UPDATE ON EOC/DISPATCH FACILITY/DISPATCH BUILDING SITES

Chief Humphrey says the next meeting with the consultant will be either December 3rd or 4th to update the City as to where the potential facility sites are. It is progressing very well. There will be a Study Session with the Council on November 25th, proposing locations for the Emergency Operations Center. One location is City owned property.

Lea Greenleaf asked for locations to be proposed. Chief said there were multiple and he could not say more at this time.

Keith Allen asked how the City expects to pay for 3 locations when we read about sales tax collections being down. When two years ago City was only paying upkeep for one structure, how can City afford three now? Infrastructure upkeep will be very expensive on 3 different structures. City should look at not having a 3rd facility, and try to incorporate the EOC/Dispatch facility in existing facilities.

Chief said communication system is currently located in basement. The current PD is not in a prime location for the new radio system or for an EOC.

Keith Allen asked Chief to explain how City can afford a third facility. Chair Sims said we should ask Mayor or Anthony Francisco to address this at the next committee meeting.

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Item 6, being:

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

Chief Humphrey said the MOU is still ongoing. Jeff Bryant said they are still working on drafts that are going back and forth between the City and the Norman School District as negotiations are ongoing. We don't have anything to present at this time. Chair Sims said he understood at the last meeting that they had told the committee, when they have something, they will bring it to the committee.

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ITEM 7, BEING:

LETTER RECOGNIZING SUCCESS OF COTTONWOOD RIDGE APARTMENT PROJECT

Suzanne Krohmer prepared a letter from the Committee to the Norman Police Department recognizing the department's success with the Cottonwood Ridge Apartment project. Motion was made by Lea Greenleaf to approve letter as prepared and send to Council, Mayor, and City Manager, which motion was duly seconded by Member Goth;

Member Allen asked if the excessive number of calls from that complex was a primary reason for partnership between police and apartment owners and renters. Chief Humphrey said the initial problem was that police did not know who to contact when a problem was reported.

Lt. Shattuck asked if a letter could be sent to the Cottonwood Ridge Apartments thanking them for their help and cooperation with the situation. Chief said to get the letter to the apartment complex to him and they would get it to the right people.

Member Allen suggested that other apartments be copied to show success of partnership with community members.

and the question being to approve letter as prepared and send to Council, Mayor, and City Manager, a vote was taken with the following result:

YEAS: Members Keith Allen, Malaka Elyazgi, Joan Goth, Lea Greenleaf, Matthew Leal, James Wheatley, David Wilson, and Chair Sims

NAYES: None

Chair Sims declared the motion carried to approve letter as prepared and send to Council, Mayor, and City Manager.

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ITEM 8, being:

LETTER OF SUPPORT TO THE CITY MANAGER AND COUNCIL FOR THE PD RESCUE VEHICLE

Member Allen – This item does not affect our committee.

Chair Sims – With the second election, we are transitioning to an advisory committee. We have identified this vehicle as a need and need to move forward with the purchase.

Member Allen – We will open up a Pandora's box with this item.

Member Leal – I agree with Member Allen.

Chair Sims – This is not any different than the Highway 9 signage project a few months back that we were asked to make calls on.

Member Allen – Can we get a legal opinion on this item?

Chair Sims – The committee has changed to an advisory committee going forward.

Member Allen – This is not our jurisdiction since they are not using “our money”.

Chair Sims – What does everyone else think about this?

Member Leal – I agree with Keith Allen, it would open us up to other things.

Member Greenleaf – This would be the same as any request to us, we would either support or not support, just a recommendation.

Member Allen – A 15 minute presentation to us doesn’t give us the “expertise” to make a decision on the vehicle.

Chair Sims – We will have these opportunities going forward. We are a group to give our recommendations.

Member Goth – As individuals, we can choose to not have an opinion.

Chair Sims – We get to decide what is valid.

Member Elyazgi – Who put this item on the agenda?

Chair Sims – I did. I wanted the Chief to talk about the vehicle, etc.

Member Elyazgi – With the event in Norman a few days ago, I can see the need for the equipment.

Member Allen – I see the need for the equipment but I don’t think this committee should have anything to do with it.

Member Elyazgi – We can choose not to have an opinion.

Member Allen – This has to do with protocol because it is coming from a different funding source.

Member Wilson – It would help us to have the City Attorney clarify the committee’s role.

Member Allen – This is outside the scope of this committee since it is a different funding source and does not involve Public Safety Sales Tax Fund. This decision is up to Council.

Member Greenleaf – What if we wanted to endorse it individually and not as a committee. Maybe we should defer to next meeting.

Jeff Bryant, City Attorney, returned to the meeting a short time later. Chair Sims asked if we could get an opinion. Jeff Bryant said the Ordinance is specific to Committee responsibilities as the PSST Fund and/or other issues assigned by Council.

Chair Sims – If you really feel City needs this vehicle, write a personal letter to Council member recommending the purchase.

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Item 9, being:

ESTABLISH MEETING CALENDAR FOR 2015 AND CHAIR RE-APPOINTMENT

It was previously established that the Committee will meet on the 2nd Thursday of each month in the Study Session Room at 3:30 pm until 5:00 pm.

Motion was made by Member Wilson to reappoint Eddie Sims as Chairperson for 2015, which motion was duly seconded by Member Elyazgi;

and the question being to reappoint Eddie Sims as Chairperson for 2015, a vote was taken with the following result:

YEAS: Members Keith Allen, Malaka Elyazgi, Joan Goth, Lea Greenleaf, Matthew Leal, James Wheatley, David Wilson, and Chair Sims

NAYES: None

Chair Sims declared the motion carried to reappoint Eddie Sims as Chairperson for 2015.

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Item 10, being:

ESTABLISH AGENDA TOPICS FOR THE NEXT DECEMBER 11TH MEETING

Greenleaf - Update on COP program

Allen - Update on RCC

Allen - Update on MOU

- Financial funding for EOC and question was asked to discuss financing scope of radio purchasing, too.

- Sims – Rescue ladder presentation from Fire Department

Allen – Where is this on the priority list?

Member Greenleaf – Is there a timeline for projections on the new radio system, dollars, number of radios? Chief told him that is part of the consultant’s responsibilities. In about 6 months, we will have more information. Member Greenleaf asked if PSST Fund is being used for radio system, and are sanitation radios going to be paid out of PSST Fund. Chair Sims said Public Works and PSST Funds are paying for total project. Member Greenleaf said the system in place is great for public works and sanitation; it’s the public safety side that needs to be addressed. Member Wheatley said parts for the current radio system are obsolete, so all of the system needs to be replaced.

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ITEM 11, being:

MISCELLANEOUS COMMENTS

Bobby Stephens has attended Coffee with a Cop and would like to see Coffee with a Firefighter started. As an advisory committee, he would like a letter from the committee supporting an east side emergency route. He asked exactly what is safety, and what exactly is role of committee. He said more clarification needs to be made on role committee plays.

Copies of Wall Street Journal article talking about student discipline in schools. Incident at Norman High School was mentioned.

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ITEM 12, being

ADJOURNMENT

Member Leal moved that the Citizens Public Safety Oversight Committee meeting adjourn, which motion was duly seconded by Member Greenleaf;

and the question being to adjourn the Citizens Public Safety Oversight Committee meeting, a vote was taken with the following results;

YEAS:	Members Keith Allen, Malaka Elyazgi, Joan Goth, Lea Greenleaf, Matthew Leal, James Wheatley, David Wilson, and Chair Sims
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NAYES:	None
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Chair Sims declared the motion carried and the Citizens Public Safety Oversight Committee adjourned at 4:23 pm.