

**LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF MEETING
January 3, 2022**

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(Meeting starts at Time Code 01:50:40)

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A meeting of the Public Safety Committee was held on Monday, January 3, 2022. This meeting was held electronically, via Zoom, due to the Covid-19 Pandemic. The meeting was called to order at 8:46 P.M. by the Chair, Adrian Webber.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Adrian Webber, Chair; Abdul Osmanu, Vice Chair; Betty Wetmore; Laurie Sweet; Justin Farmer; Cory O'Brien, Majority Leader; Marjorie Bonadies, Minority Leader

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

PUBLIC INPUT: - There were 3 speakers

The following items were addressed:

1. Appointments of Rhonda Caldwell, Daniel Dunn, Elaine Dove, Frank LaDore and Vaughn Willis to the Police Commission for terms to expire December 31, 2023

-- Mr. Osmanu said he wanted to motion to divide the question and vote on them separately. The motion was moved by Mr. Farmer and Ms. Bonadies, seconded by Mr. O'Brien and approved unanimously.

Mr. Webber asked for a motion to divide this into 5 separate motions. Moved by Mr. Osmanu, seconded by Ms. Wetmore and approved unanimously.

Rhonda Caldwell: Moved by Mr. O'Brien, seconded by Mr. Osmanu. DISCUSSION: Mr. Farmer thanked all the potential commissioners tonight for taking time from their families to serve the community. After clarifying the expiration date Ms. Bonadies said she's got a great resume with a great background in housing and those are issues that the police Commission is going to be tasked with dealing with, but comments and actions that have been taken by this appointee give her great concerns and she will not support this candidate.

Ms. Wetmore said she agrees with Ms. Bonadies and will not vote in favor of this either. Mr. O'Brien said he will vote in favor of this and that he thinks it's important to have diverse opinions and backgrounds.

A vote was taken and the item passed with 2 opposed (Bonadies) (Wetmore) and 1 abstention (Farmer)

Daniel Dunn: Moved by Ms. Sweet, seconded by Mr. Abdul. DISCUSSION: Ms. Bonadies said she won't support this nominee for the same reasons she stated before. Mr. Osmanu said he will be supporting this, that he commends his prior work with the Town and is looking forward to his bringing hard work to the Police Commission. Mr. O'Brien said he will also support this appointment and that he particularly appreciates the different analytics and slicing and dicing of data that he's seen.

A vote was taken and the item passed with 2 opposed (Bonadies) (Wetmore) and 1 abstention (Farmer)

Elaine Dove: Moved by Mr. O'Brien, seconded by Mr. Webber. DISCUSSION: Mr. O'Brien said he will support this saying he thinks Ms. Dove's background as a Social Worker adds insight.

A vote was taken and the item passed with 1 abstention (Farmer)

Frank LaDore: Moved by Mr. Farmer, seconded by Ms. Wetmore. DISCUSSION: Mr. Farmer said he will not support this appointment tonight. He said diversity is our friend and we want diverse identities on our Boards and Commissions. Ms. Bonadies stated Mr. LaDore does represent diversity. Mr. O'Brien said he's agreed with Mr. LaDore on items and debated with Mr. LaDore on items and that he's going to defer to the Mayor and her appointment saying this is the diverse voice that she wants so he'll support it.

A vote was taken and the item passed with 3 opposed (Farmer) (Osmanu) (Sweet)

Vaughn Willis: Moved by Mr. Webber, seconded by Ms. Bonadies. DISCUSSION: Ms. Bonadies said she is happy to support this and that he has a great fitting background.

A vote was taken and the item passed with 1 abstention (Farmer)

Mr. Webber congratulated all the commissioners and said the Mayor did a great job on appointments with multiple voices in the room.

2. Appointments if Nancy Hill, Gary Tinney, Cherlyn Poindexter, Samod Rankins and Victor Mitchell to the Fire Commission for terms to expire December 31, 2023

-- Moved by Ms. Wetmore, seconded by Mr. Webber. DISCUSSION: Ms. Baez thanked all these folks but said she wanted to specifically thank Ms. Poindexter who has dedicated her life to public service. Ms. Wetmore said she is appreciative of Victor Mitchell and that he's a good public servant.

A vote was taken and the item passed with 1 abstention (Farmer)

**3. Order authorizing intradepartmental transfer 2021-2022 Fiscal Year Budget –
Fire Dept. - \$75,000 for Garcia Overtime (from Reg. Salaries)**

-- Moved by Ms. Wetmore, seconded by Mr. Farmer and approved unanimously after the Chief explained he was down 43% of his normal staff.

With there being no further business the meeting adjourned at 9:37 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Kim Renta, Clerk
for Adrian Webber