

Governing Body Minutes – July 5, 2022

CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, Topeka, Kansas, Tuesday, July 5, 2022. The Governing Body members of the City of Topeka met in regular session at 6:00 P.M. with the following Councilmembers present: Councilmembers Hiller, Emerson, Kell, Dobler and Duncan -5; and Councilmembers Valdivia-Alcala, Ortiz and Lesser participated remotely -3. Mayor Padilla presided -1. Absent: Councilmember Naeger -1.

Public comment for the meeting was available via Zoom or in-person. Individuals were required to contact the City Clerk's Office at 785-368-3940 or via email at cclerk@topeka.org by no later than 5:00 p.m. on July 5, 2022, after which the City Clerk's Office provided the Zoom link information and protocols prior to the meeting start time. Written public comment was also considered to the extent it was personally submitted at the meeting or to the City Clerk's Office located at 215 SE 7th Street, Room 166, Topeka, Kansas, 66603 or via email at cclerk@topeka.org on or before July 5, 2022, for attachment to the meeting minutes.

AFTER THE MEETING was called to order, Councilmember Emerson, provided the invocation.

THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE was recited by meeting participants.

Mayor Padilla announced there was a need for an executive session for matters related to an individual company regarding possible economic development.

Councilmember Dobler moved to recess into executive session not to exceed 20 minutes to discuss matters related to an individual company regarding a possible economic development issue which will involve the discussion of confidential financial affairs pursuant to KSA 75-4319(b)(4). The open meeting will resume in the City Council Chambers. The following staff may be needed to assist the Governing Body in its deliberations: Interim City Manager Bill

Cochran, Planning and Development Director Bill Fiander, Utilities Director Braxton Copley, Finance Director Steve Wade and City Attorney Amanda Stanley. The motion seconded by Councilmember Hiller carried unanimously (8-0-0)

Councilmember Lesser joined the meeting remotely.

Following a 20-minute time period, the meeting reconvened into open session and Mayor Padilla announced that no action had been taken during the executive session.

BOARD APPOINTMENT recommending the reappointment of Beverly Hall to the Topeka Metropolitan Transit Authority for a term ending July 1, 2026, was presented.

Councilmember Hiller moved to approve the board appointment. The motion seconded by Councilmember Dobler carried unanimously on roll call vote. Mayor does not vote. (9-0-0)

CONSENT AGENDA was presented as follows:

RESOLUTION NO. 9333 introduced by Councilmember Christina Valdivia-Alcala, granting Fiesta Mexicana an exception to the provisions of City of Topeka Code Section 9.45.150, et seq., concerning noise prohibitions, was presented. (*Council District No. 2*)

APPROVAL of CONTRACT NO. 50473 for a Public Works engineering contract with Alfred Benesch and Company to aid the City with providing design services in the amount of \$189,730 for the reconstruction of SE Quincy Street from SE 10th to SE 8th Streets, was presented.

MINUTES of the regular meeting of June 21, 2022, was presented.

APPROVAL of the following Cereal Malt Beverage license applications were presented:

<u>Business Name</u>	<u>Address</u>
Buy & Ride #7	810 SE 15 th St
Good Trip	1900 N Topeka Blvd
Valero	2044 NW Tyler St

Councilmember Kell moved to approve the consent agenda. The motion seconded by

Councilmember Emerson carried unanimously on roll call vote. (9-0-0)

DISCUSSION regarding options to address capital needs and rate adjustments to sustain the downtown parking system, was presented.

Bill Cochran, Interim City Manager, stated Staff would present options for consideration by the Governing Body, based on previous discussions and specific directive from the May 31, 2022, Special Meeting of the Governing Body.

Hannah Uhlrig, Public Works Deputy Director, provided an overview of the following assumptions:

- If Parking continues to operate as an enterprise fund, revenue cannot be allocated to support City expenses outside of Parking.
- Demand is based on 2019 parking use level prior to COVID-19.
- Capital expenses were adjusted for inflation based on the 2017 Desman Study and Garage Assessments as of 2020.
- The repair fund is based on parking study recommendations which would be \$130 per stall annually for garages and \$32.50 per stall annually for on-street parking/lots.

Jason Tryon, Public Works Business Services Division Director, provided an overview of the following parking revenue model options:

- General Fund Infusion: Existing Parking System - Parking can sustain a self-funded enterprise model with the existing City Operated Parking System with rate increases and paid parking on Kansas Ave/100 blocks if there is an one-time infusion from the General Fund to cover deferred capital repairs
- General Fund Infusion: Garage Reduction - The removal of Townsite and Coronado from the existing parking system has an estimated annual operating impact of -\$3.6 million over the next 10 years. Rates would need to increase in year 1 by 63% (\$104.00)
- On-Street Only - Parking could operate an on-street only model as a self-funded enterprise fund with rate increases and paid parking on Kansas Ave/100 blocks.
- Bond Deferred Capital: Existing Parking System - In order to support the debt service to catch up on deferred capital repairs, the parking rates would have to increase 68% in 2023 and 10% every 4 years following
- Bond Deferred Capital: Garage Reduction - The removal of Townsite and Coronado from the existing parking system would increase the required garage rates by 119% in 2023 and 11% every 4 years following

Councilmember Hiller referenced the Desman Study which estimated plans based on full occupancy of the downtown resulting in the need for all the garages; however, at this time there is sufficient parking.

Councilmember Duncan asked if the model includes the elimination of warning tickets. He referenced the wide range of hourly parking (2 to 10 hours) and asked how hour meter parking will be determined; and what will the long-term impact be on the maintenance budget.

Business Services Director Tryon confirmed the on-going downtown development will be included in future parking model plans and the elimination of warning tickets was not included. He reported 17% of parking tickets fall under the parameters of warning tickets and if enforced, it would generate approximately \$30,000-\$35,000 annually.

Deputy Director Uhrig reported assumptions include long-term maintenance; they plan to change hourly rates to be more consistent; however, it would require the retool of all parking meter equipment; and the 2-hour parking on Kansas Avenue has not been solidified and is open for discussion.

Councilmember Dobler asked how capital needs were determined and how much it would cost to convert existing parking meters to a smart meter platform. He stated it appears there was a need to bond approximately \$20 million over a 10-year period to sustain the parking system.

Councilmember Emerson asked if the 63% rate increase will make the parking fund revenue neutral or will there still be a need to infuse funds.

Business Services Director Tryon reported the estimates used are a combination of two different studies and solid assumptions; the conversion of existing parking meters was not included in the cost proposal, and there are no plans at this time to do so until a determination has been made regarding a smart meter parking system; and the proposed model would be revenue neutral

moving forward.

Deputy Director Uhrig confirmed there would be a need to bond approximately \$20 million for 10 years to sustain the parking system.

Councilmember Duncan asked if they have considered removing all parking meters and implementing a completely contactless parking system, eliminating meter maintenance issues in general.

Business Services Director Tryon stated there have been conversations about shifting to a completely contactless system; however, they have not calculated the actual savings. He reported they will continue to monitor service trends and noted, they currently must serve cash customers as well as mobile application customers.

Councilmember Hiller inquired on the cost savings of financing funds with taxable bonds over a 30-year period compared to financing with nontaxable bonds over a 20-year period. She stated it was her understanding, if the City maintains ownership of all parking garages, cheaper financing would be available. She stated she is pleased to see on-street meter parking rates are lower than anticipated in the Desman Study and spoke in support of keeping the entire system of parking garages because it fits with the revitalization and growth of Downtown as well as maintains control of parking rates. She commented on the option of funding the parking system with cash and bonded funds.

Finance Director Wade reported there are less expensive financing options available; however, the proposal included a 30-year taxable bond option because Staff was unsure if the Governing Body wanted to maintain ownership of the parking garages. He noted if they decide to utilize nontaxable bonds the City would essentially be committing to maintaining ownership of the parking garages.

Councilmember Dobler inquired on the City's Request for Proposal (RFP) responses for the managing, maintenance and financing of the parking garages and entire parking system. He stated they must do something as the infusion of funds will be necessary to keep the system sustainable.

Interim City Manager Cochran reported there are companies interested in owning/managing the parking garages and system; however, Staff will need directive from the Governing Body on how they would like to proceed.

Councilmember Dobler expressed the importance of exploring all feasible options including management by a private company.

Mayor Padilla stated he concurs with Councilmember Dobler and believes all feasible options must be considered.

Interim City Manager Cochran reported Staff would compile a report on the RFP responses and provide it to the Governing Body.

Joseph Ledbetter recommended the City sell several of the older fee simple garages that have high maintenance costs. He requested the Governing Body receive monthly reports on funds being spent in regards to bonds as well increased construction costs. He suggested dealing with on-street parking and charge those who park along Kansas Avenue, which in essence would force people to utilize parking garages. He stated warning ticket revenue needs to be captured. He expressed concern with the assumptions in the Desman Study reflecting pre-COVID-19 pandemic numbers.

Greg Braden, City Centre Parking Garage representative, spoke in support of developing a parking model that would help keep the parking system sustainable and implement much needed repairs. He thanked Staff for their hard work and assistance in presenting parking model options.

DISCUSSION regarding the Summary of Recommendations from the Police and Community Special Committee, was presented. (*The Police and Community Special Committee recommended approval of the recommendations as amended by a vote of 3-0-0 on June 29, 2022.*)

Councilmember Ortiz, Police and Community Special Committee Chair, provided an overview of the history and role of the Committee and noted approximately 23 meetings were conducted for over a two-year period, with the goal of discussing every topic brought to the attention of the Committee. She reported the Committee focused on efforts to meaningfully engage and inform the public while being aware of what was going on locally and at the national level as well as identifying and resolving misinformation. She highlighted the eight recommendations being presented by the Committee. (Attachment A) She noted the questions submitted by Councilmember Hiller on June 29, 2022, have been answered and will be posted on the City's website.

Councilmember Hiller thanked Staff and Committee members for providing responses to her questions.

Councilmember Valdivia-Alcala stated that she still has questions that need answers. She inquired on the annual salary of the Independent Police Auditor (IPA); if IPA Quarterly Reports are being filed, distributed to the Governing Body, and posted on the City's website; and how people can contact the IPA. She expressed concern with the practice of the Topeka Police Chief receiving complaints in the absence of the IPA and believes it is a direct conflict of interest and lacks transparency. She made the following comments:

- Expressed concern with interactions between City Staff members and the Topeka Human Relations Commission. She requested copies of HRC minutes from January 2020 to present be distributed to the Governing Body.
- An Independent Citizen Review Board should be created for the people – separate from the civil service commission. Those who would serve on the board need experience with disciplining and hiring new employees.

- The Governing Body needs to slow down before taking action on the recommendations because the issue of injustice still continues and has not changed since the Committee was formed in 2020. She referenced the June 24, 2022 Topeka Police Department officer-involved shooting of Christopher D. Kelley and asked why crisis intervention was not called and utilized.

Interim City Manager Cochran stated he would distribute the IPA reports and Human Relations Commission meeting minutes to the Governing Body; the IPA is in the office every three weeks and has a mobile and desk phone available.

Mayor Padilla noted anyone has the opportunity to contact the Topeka Police Chief at any time to file a complaint.

Councilmember Duncan spoke in support of the Civil Service Commission and noted the Commission meets on a regular basis and consists of citizens that take these issues seriously. He encouraged the Governing Body to allocate funding to support Crisis Intervention Team services 24 hours a day. He expressed the importance of not losing sight of what is included in the recommendations and the hard work that has been performed by the Committee while also recognizing that as elected officials they have the ability to make necessary changes at any time.

Councilmember Kell suggested they create a standing committee to replace the special committee and expressed the importance of moving forward with the recommendations with no further delays. He volunteered to serve as a member on the standing committee.

Councilmember Hiller suggested a 6-month and/or 12-month review after recommendations are approved by the Governing Body. She also suggested changing committee members if they continue with a special and/or standing committee.

Mayor Padilla encouraged citizens to use their respective council representative as a voice to bring their concerns to the Governing Body as a whole for consideration. He stated change will always happen and they have to place good faith effort in the recommendations and trust they are

improving the services for the citizens of Topeka. He thanked Councilmember Ortiz for serving as the chair and Councilmember Hiller for her attention to detail. He expressed his appreciation for being allowed to serve on the committee.

Councilmember Valdivia-Alcala stated she was open to discussion and feedback; however, she turned down the opportunity to serve on the committee because she felt she was too cynical and wanted to allow the process of the Special Committee to work as intended by the Governing Body.

Councilmember Lesser stated he appreciates the courage of the Committee members and those that participated in the process. He spoke to the integrity of the Committee members and stated he understands the critical need to have a 24-hour crisis unit in place to address community mental health concerns.

Sandra Lassiter expressed concern with the lack of availability to the community by the IPA and that he is not on-site in the State of Kansas. She stated she understands he was a former Police Officer; however, she has many other questions she would like to ask the IPA employee.

Danielle Twemlow stated she was disappointed with the recommendations because the document does not outline an action plan. She expressed the importance of implementing a citizen review board by adopting the ordinance that was drafted in 2020 by educated citizens outlining a detailed plan that works across many communities. She asked the Governing Body to place their trust in the community and help create a check and balance system for citizens.

Pastor Karl Frasier, Center for Peace and Justice, stated they submitted recommendations to the Committee for consideration. He encouraged the Governing Body to pass a no choke hold ordinance and place timeframes on the recommendations. He stated there is a need to deal with

the recruitment of African-American and Hispanic police officers. He stated there is a need to consider the recommendations that are right for the Topeka community.

PUBLIC COMMENT was provided by the following individuals:

Patrick DeLapp distributed a handout related to code violations he reported. He expressed concern with the property violations process and stated he believes he is being treated unfairly by City Staff members because he actively supports the rights of property owners and the maintenance of their property at the State level. He stated there is a need for City professionals to handle code violations in an efficient manner.

Jim Parrish distributed a handout related to the financial analysis of the Uptowner Parking Garage. He asked the Governing Body to consider allowing a transition period if they chose to close the parking garage.

Joseph Ledbetter spoke to the reform of certain City policies and the management of the Governing Body agenda. He stated as a Topeka Metropolitan Transit Authority Board member he receives a monthly report outlining all expenditures, revenue and financial targets. He requested the City create a similar report that outlines all debt including bonds which may identify or solve potential financial problems now and in the future.

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE CITY MANAGER, MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL;

Brenda Younger, City Clerk, provided an overview of the July 12, 2022, Governing Body Meeting agenda.

Bill Cochran, Interim City Manager, announced the City of Topeka 2023 Proposed Budget has been posted on the City's website at <https://www.topeka.org/finance/budget/>.

Councilmember Emerson thanked Staff for the format of the 2023 budget. He expressed

his frustration with the allegations made by Patrick DeLapp that the City Attorney and Interim City Manager ignored a property violation due to a citizen taking an active interest in defending property rights at a State level.

Councilmember Kell announced July is Independent Retailers Month and encouraged citizens to spend locally.

Councilmember Dobler expressed his appreciation to Staff for presenting a 2023 budget with a mill levy decrease.

Councilmember Duncan thanked Staff for presenting a 2023 budget with a mill levy decrease. He reminded citizens the ARPA funding application deadline is July 31, 2022.

Councilmember Lesser referenced comments made by Patrick DeLapp and noted the City's Changing Our Culture of Property Maintenance initiative is moving forward and will hopefully correct some of the issues with processing code violations. He stated he does not appreciate the verbal attack on the credibility of the City Attorney and Interim City Manager.

Councilmember Hiller thanked all the neighborhoods for hosting 4th of July celebrations. She thanked Staff and Committee members for their hard work on the Changing Our Culture of Property Maintenance and many other City initiatives.

Councilmember Ortiz announced the Fiesta Mexicana event would be held at the Our Lady of Guadalupe Church from July 14-16, 2022. She announced Chase Middle School located at 2250 NE State Street will host the Gibbs Elite Basketball Academy from July 11-14, 2022 for 6th, 7th and 8th grade students.

Mayor Padilla announced July 12, 2022 is the deadline to register to vote.

Councilmember Kell moved to recess into executive session for a period of time not to exceed 15 minutes to discuss matters related an individual employee, pursuant to KSA 75-

4319(b)(1). To aid in the discussion, the following individuals were present: Members of the Governing Body; Interim City Manager Cochran and any other staff he deems necessary. No action was anticipated when the meeting resumed open session in the City Council Chambers. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Ortiz.

Mayor Padilla asked all those in favor of recessing into executive session to indicate so verbally by saying “yea” and those opposing to indicate so verbally by saying “no.” After the voice vote occurred, Mayor Padilla announced the motion carried on voice vote. (9-0-0)

Following a 15-minute time period, the meeting reconvened into open session and Mayor Padilla announced no action was taken during the executive session.

NO FURTHER BUSINESS appearing the meeting adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

(SEAL)

Brenda Younger,
City Clerk

Attachment A

Summary of Recommendations from the Police and Community Relations Committee

a. History and Role of the Police and Community Relations Committee

The Police and Community Relations Committee was formed by the direction of then Mayor Michelle De La Isla. Members of the Committee were selected by then Deputy Mayor Tony Emerson. Those Councilmembers selected by the Deputy Mayor were Karen Hiller, Sylvia Ortiz, and Michael Padilla. Sylvia Ortiz was selected to serve as the Committee's Chair.

In the wake of brutality against Black individuals, in particular the murder of George Floyd by a police officer in Minneapolis, community police relations rose to the top of many people's minds. Topeka voices, including the local chapter of Black Lives Matter, brought specific issues to the attention of the Topeka Governing Body. The Committee was tasked to take input from citizens on policing as it was conducted by the City of Topeka.

The Committee listened to input from citizens who had expressed concerns about some areas of policy, enforcement, and training by the Topeka Police Department. Also to be considered were past incidents between Topeka Police Officers and persons of color. A list of demands and recommendations were received by the governing body by different sources.

Every aspect of policy, recruitment, training, discipline, and performance was reviewed. This review was straight forward in presentation with every intent to reveal possible areas for improvement while recognizing that positive changes have already been made.

Beyond the work of this Committee, Governor Kelly formed a larger group to review many aspects of the judicial system and law enforcement practices across the state with Executive Order 20-48 in June of 2020 which established the Commission on Racial Equity and Justice. The governor's committee put forth recommendations that were reviewed and considered by the Police and Community Relations Committee.

Committee Chair Sylvia Ortiz conducted public meetings monthly for over two years. Chair Ortiz was clear that every topic that had been brought to our attention would be covered in our meetings. Under her leadership, the Committee was resolved to avoid rushing ahead or missing any topic that had been brought to the attention of the Committee. The focus of the Committee's efforts was to meaningfully engage and inform the public.

It was important to the Committee to identify and resolve misinformation which undermines meaningful public participation and input.

b. Recommendations

1. Topeka Police Department School Resource Officers

School Resource Officers (SROs) play a significant role in building positive relationships with youth, schools, and parents. Selection of SROs must be based on an officer's suitability for daily interaction in a

school setting. SROs are not enforcers of school disciplinary actions. SROs are mentors and should continue to serve in this capacity. Specific training for this assignment must be ongoing and include the officer's role as communicator to youth. Recognizing that our youth are constantly evolving, training should also be evolving to best positively impact our youth. Training should incorporate the work of the National Association of School Resource Officers Association. Training should also be updated to reflect the current needs of students.

2. No Knock Warrants

No knock warrants have not been used for years by the Topeka Police Department. This is reflective of internal department policy and not of city code. Calls for an ordinance to prevent the practice were based on the idea that a future police chief could reinstate the practice. The Topeka Police Department's current practice of not using no knock warrants was codified in city code in July of 2020. See TMC 2.35.180.

3. Use of Force

Current Topeka Policy 4.2.1- 4.2.13 addresses issues of concern regarding definition of force, type of force, de-escalation, reasonable use and duty to intervene. This body of policy was revised on 06-18-2020. With consideration for the topics addressed, it is recommended that this policy be reviewed with civilian input on an ongoing basis. This is an area of extreme concern to the public. Understanding how the department trains on decision making when use of force is necessary, and the safeguards in place to protect both the public and the officers, is critical to the mission of the police department in building trust with the community. Training must include critical thinking for officers in de-escalation.

As a component of Use of Force, it is recommended that continued training and certification of Crisis Intervention Teams with the use of mental health co-responders should be increased.

4. Content of Officer Training

Recruit training is the first opportunity to address issues of racial equity and justice. A curriculum that includes the history of policing in the United States and the impact it has had on people of color is essential. Training on Fair and Impartial Policing and Bias-Based Policing must be given as it relates to every aspect of police interaction with the public. Currently, the Topeka Police Department includes these topics in the academy. These topics need to be revisited during annual training as well.

Certain topics should be emphasized throughout training. These include, but are not limited to, de-escalation, multicultural understanding, speaking up if a fellow officer requires redirection, updates or clarifications regarding performance reviews, and an overarching goal that everyone comes home at the end of the interaction.

If not in place now, the Topeka Police Department, in conjunction with the City as a whole, should work to develop a specific course of training for supervisors. This could apply to the very first level of supervisory duties. This should continue with the supervisors to develop their skills and for review of responsibilities to reinforce department policy and practice.

5. Civilian Input in Training

We recommend adding civilian participation into the process of developing the department training agenda both for the recruits and annual training for officers. Civilian participation would complement the

efforts of the department. Looking at training topics planned through the eyes of non-law enforcement participants would help in validating the curriculum. Why is something being taught, how it is being presented, and what are the outcomes expected are questions which may have very different answers from civilians than from the police only training staff. The intent here is that the department through civic engagement and surveys will include training that is relevant to our community. While understanding that some topics are mandated by the Kansas Law Enforcement Training Center, there is still an opportunity for the Topeka Police Department to customize elective hours of training. Groups that could be used for this include the Police Chief's Alliance Advisory Group, the Civil Service Commission, or teaching staff from the Criminal Justice Program at Washburn University. The civilians would not unilaterally set the training agenda but would work to complement the existing agenda.

Civilian participation could be useful in monitoring the progress of a recruit as they move forward into the academy, field training program and final recommendation to certify the recruit as an officer of the department. This would allow for citizen participation for review of the recruits seeking permanent certification as an officer. It could be an output measure for the Civil Service Commission. How many did they certify and how many completed the 18-month probationary period before certification. This is very different from how the Civil Service Commission functions now.

6. Civilian Oversight

Topeka has a framework in place in the form of the current Civil Service Commission that can be expanded / updated to provide additional civilian oversight and allow for citizen input. The Civil Service Commission established under TMC 2.120.030 is made up of Topeka citizens. The city code regarding the Civil Service Commission should be updated to allow the group adequate access to information regarding policing practices, internal police reports as needed, to review reports of the Internal Police Auditor (or similar type position if expanded by the City), and hear citizen concerns that have not been resolved through other methods. We believe that small updates to the Civil Service Commission will allow the Commission to better service as a bridge between the public and the Topeka Police Department to help build trust and increase education in our community.

The Civil Service Commission members are appointed by the Mayor with consent of the Governing Body. The Mayor should strive to appoint individuals who represent the breadth of Topeka. Selection to serve should emphasize geographic diversity in council district residence, advocates for historically marginalized and disadvantaged communities, advocates for policing, and advocates for youth. With some code changes, we feel the Civil Service Commission is the appropriate group to provide additional civilian input to the police department and governing body as appropriate without additional layers of government through the creation of new citizen advisory committees.

Periodic Crime Summits may reinforce these efforts. These opportunities for deeper public input may be citywide or focus on a particular sector of the city. They may focus on certain demographics, experiences with policing, or issues as is deemed necessary.

7. Employment Decisions

The City of Topeka should contribute to the overall quality of hiring choices for officers in Kansas. Topeka can support these efforts in part by continuing to comply with state law and alerting the Kansas

Commission on Peace Officers' Standards and Training if an officer has been terminated or resigned while under investigation.

The City should continue affirmative and creative efforts for recruiting and advancement of underrepresented demographics in the police department with a goal that the department fully reflects the diversity in the community. The City should work to identify partners that can support efforts to recruit officers.

8. Topeka Police Department Personnel Review Form

The Topeka Police Department personnel review forms should be updated to include a new objective that the individual demonstrates understanding and appropriate application of Duty to Intervene policy and that the individual demonstrates comfort and ability to meet all other standards with persons of all races, religions, ethnicities, gender identification, ages, and abilities.

c. Conclusion

The Police and Community Relations Committee has provided an opportunity for the Governing Body, the community, the Topeka Police Department, and others to contribute to the broad discussion on policing. The Committee supported the opportunity to highlight community recommendations and a deep dive into understanding the policies, laws, and functions of the Topeka Police Department. The Community was pleased to see that in many instances, the Topeka Police Department is already implementing policy and procedures at a higher level than what was expected or required.

As unpredictable as police work can be, it is even more imperative that a police agency be proactive in implementing safeguards to ensure the fair and equal respect of the citizens they serve as their primary responsibility. The Committee's focus was on Topeka while being aware of what was going on at the national level and adapting if necessary. The work of the Police and Community Relations Committee was to focus on just that. We would like to thank everyone who presented, emailed, or voiced their concerns to the Committee. Your patience and participation is greatly appreciated. We would also like to thank City staff.

COMMITTEE: Special Committee: Police & Community
COMMITTEE MEMBERS: Sylvia E. Ortiz (Chair), Karen Hiller and Michael Padilla

On August 25, 2020, a Special Meeting of the Governing Body was held to hear from members of the community about matters regarding the Topeka Police Department. At the September 1, 2020 Governing Body Meeting, Mayor Michelle De La Isla requested Deputy Mayor Tony Emerson create a special committee of the City Council members to continue the conversations of topics brought to the Governing Body about area of policing. The goal will be to present concerns from community members, as well as to allow for educating the community about the various aspects of the Topeka Police Department, in order to become more aware of what Topeka currently has and where more change is needed.

The following meetings have been held to date:

October 5, 2020

*Organizational Meeting. Prioritize agenda items for future meetings.

October 26, 2020

- *Discussion: Use of Force
- *Overview and definition
- *Standard Interaction and Bias Profiling
- *Escalation/De-escalation
- *Duty to Intervene

November 9, 2020

- *Continued Discussion: Use of Force & De-escalation
- *Standard Interaction
- *Bias Profiling

November 30, 2020

- *Input from presenters of Cultural Awareness Training Program
- *Review & Discuss: Annual Use of Force Reports (2016-2019), Fleeing Vehicles & Fleeing Persons

December 17, 2020

- *Review & Discuss: Annual Use of Force Reports (2016-2019), Fleeing Vehicles & Fleeing Persons

January 26, 2021

- *Presentation: Civilian Boards & Programs, Community Partnership Programs and TPD Special Units

February 19, 2021

- *Meet Grace, TPD's Therapy Dog
- *Presentation: Strengthening Police and Community Partnerships Community Survey results
- *Discussion: Deployment of Officers for Special Needs Populations, Unsheltered, Intellectually or Developmental Disabled, Mental or Behavioral Crisis, Non-English Speaking, Deaf or Hard of Hearing, Victims of Human Trafficking and Victims of Domestic Abuse.

March 19, 2021

*Presentation: "Recommendation from Governor's Commission on Racial Equity & Justice" by Co-Chair Dr. Tiffany Anderson, Topeka Superintendent USD 501 and Commissioner John Nave, Topeka Executive Vice President, Kansas AFL-CIO

*Presentation: "Stay Calm" by Craig Johnson

*Discussion: Customer Service Protocols

April 30, 2021

*Continued Discussion: Outreach & Customer Service

*Presentation: Shawnee County Dispatch/Operations

*Presentation: Recruitment –Crime Reduction Strategy

*Active Bystandership for Law Enforcement (ABLE) Training

*Peer-Support Team & City's Employee Assistance Program (EAP)

May 28, 2021

*Continued Discussion: Recruitment

*Crime Reduction Strategy & Drug Takeback Program

*Active Bystandership for Law Enforcement (ABLE) Training

*Peer Support Team & City's Employee Assistance Program (EAP)

June 29, 2021

*Presentation: District Attorney's Cold Case Squad

*Continued Discussion: ABLE Training

*Peer – Support Team & City's Employee Assistance Program (EAP)

July 30, 2021

*Presentation: Crime Scene Investigations (CSI)

*Field Training Officer (FTO) Program, Required Mandates, Training and development of skills, Training Program agenda

*TPD Summer community Outreach program report

August 27, 2021

*Field Training Officer (FTO) Program – continued discussion

*Presentation: Qualified Immunity by Shelly Starr, City Attorney

*Progressive Correction Action – Police Discipline Process

September 2021- No Meeting

October 1, 2021 – Meeting Cancelled

November 12, 2021

*Presentation: KS CPOST – Training and Certification Process

*Progressive Correction Action – Police Discipline Process

December 17, 2021

*Presentation continuation: Progressive Correction Action Police Discipline Process

*Juveniles Procedures

*Chief Wheelers Advisory Board

January 28, 2022

*Presentation: Civil Service Board by D. Watson

*Presentation: Citizen Review Board by Dr. Glenda Overstreet-Vaughn & Danielle Twemlow

February 24, 2022

*Presentation: SAVE (Strategies Against Violence Everywhere) Program by the District Attorney

*Discussion Regarding Public Input Sessions

March 24, 2022

*Discussion: Mosaic Partnership and TPD

*Presentation: Defund the Police by Chief Wheelles

*Discussion Regarding Pubic Input on Recommendations

April 22, 2022

*No meeting – Recommendations DUE to the Chair

May 20, 2022

*Meeting Cancelled

June 3

*Presentation of Draft Recommendation document, and discussion

*Setting of Public Input meeting

June 10

*Review and discussion of Draft Recommendations

June 17

*Received Public Input

*Review of Draft Recommendations

June 29

*Approval of Recommendations; will be presented at July 5th Governing Body meeting