

10/3/2013

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CITY OF DETROIT
BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING

PAGES 1 - 12

Taken at 1301 Third Avenue
Detroit, Michigan,
Thursday, October 3, 2013,
Commencing at 3:13 p.m.

1 APPEARANCES:
2 MS. JESSICA TAYLOR, CHAIRPERSON
3 MR. GEORGE ANTHONY, EXECUTIVE SECRETARY
4 MR. CHARLES WILSON, COMMANDER
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CHAIRPERSON TAYLOR: Good afternoon and welcome to the Board of Police Commissioners meeting. I'm Commission Jessica Taylor. Commissioner White and Warfield will not be here today so we're going to move right through the agenda. I'd also like to introduce from the Chief's office Commander Charles Wilson.

COMMANDER WILSON: Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON TAYLOR: George, can you introduce our staff, please.

SECRETARY ANTHONY: Thank you. For the record, George Anthony, secretary to the board. We have present our office manager, Mr. Robert Brown, seated at the table to my right. Sergeant Alan Quinn who's recording our proceedings, and Ms. Trisha Houpt from Hanson Court Reporting Service. That completes the introduction, ma'am.

CHAIRPERSON TAYLOR: Oh, and before I forget, I would like to acknowledge that Commander Charles Wilson just made commander. He got a promotion.

COMMANDER WILSON: Yes, I appreciate that, ma'am. Thank you so much.

CHAIRPERSON TAYLOR: All right. Now, we go to -- do you have a report from the chief's office?

COMMANDER WILSON: Yes, madam president.

1 I'll keep it very brief. Two things, though, that I
2 want to highlight. One, Chief Craig has always been
3 transparent with our crime statistics. And one of
4 things I want to highlight for our community is that
5 we're still trending down on our homicides and
6 non-fatal shootings year to date. Currently we're down
7 40 homicides for about a 14 percent reduction and
8 currently down 18 fatal shootings for a 2 percent
9 reduction. So we continue to try to alleviate that
10 crime problem within the community through our CompStat
11 program. We're keeping our officers accountable and
12 making sure we're doing everything we can to drive down
13 crime.

14 And lastly, the chief will be hosting his
15 first call to action in the community. It's going to
16 be held this Saturday from 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m.
17 at try Triumph Church located at 2760 East Grand
18 Boulevard. We ask that everyone come out and meet with
19 the chief. And we can talk about how we can make our
20 city safer through CB patrols, neighborhood watches,
21 and things like that. So again, that's going to be
22 this Saturday.

23 SECRETARY ANTHONY: Can you repeat the
24 address.

25 COMMANDER WILSON: Yes. Triumph Church, 2760

1 East Grand Boulevard. I have fliers at the table if
2 any of the citizens want to get more information. That
3 will complete my report.

4 CHAIRPERSON TAYLOR: Okay. Thank you. We
5 can move to announcements. Our next meeting will be in
6 the Northeastern District next Thursday, October 10th,
7 Second Ebenezer Church. And that's at 14601 Dequindre.
8 Again, Ebenezer Church, 14601 Dequindre.

9 I'll now ask for oral communications from the
10 audience. Are there any communications?

11 MS. SMITH: Good afternoon. Bernice Smith,
12 political activist. I'll be very brief.
13 Congratulations to you, my dear.

14 COMMANDER WILSON: Thank you. I appreciate
15 it.

16 MS. SMITH: I know your daddy is really proud
17 of you.

18 COMMANDER WILSON: Yes, ma'am.

19 MS. SMITH: To the board, because I'm
20 supposed to say to the board when I want to address
21 something, there was no notice of hijacking. In other
22 words, a report on the hijacking.

23 COMMANDER WILSON: You mean carjacking?

24 CHAIRPERSON TAYLOR: Oh, carjackings. What
25 did I say, hijacking? Carjacking.

1 COMMANDER WILSON: I apologize. I don't have
2 those numbers with me, Ms. Bernice, but we'll get those
3 out for the next meeting.

4 MS. SMITH: I was a little disappointed when
5 I heard the news the night before last in regards to
6 the incident. But I understand. I'm not going to
7 bring to bear too bad in regards to the police. But I
8 do believe that the next time they make a raid, that
9 they make sure that they're not near a school. And I'm
10 under the assumption that the raids are normally at
11 night or early in the morning and not during -- well,
12 actually, they never had it done before by a school.
13 But I just thought per chance that next time we'll be
14 more careful and not have the raids near a school in
15 the area and, therefore, we won't have to worry about
16 any children being frightened because of the gun. I
17 know you're doing your job. I don't have any problem
18 with that. But let's be -- in regards to not having it
19 near a school next time we do a raid.

20 COMMANDER WILSON: If I may, through the
21 chair, we have a policy to address all of our raids.
22 We have a pre-raid protocol where we look at factors,
23 just what you're talking about. I have a six-year-old
24 daughter so I understand the concern in the community
25 when they talk about outside of schools. But moving

1 forward that won't be an issue. There are things that
2 we can do to mitigate that to make sure that we look at
3 time of day, make sure that the kids aren't anywhere
4 near the proximity of the raid. They did do
5 appropriate notifications to the school. But there are
6 definitely some things that we could do better, and
7 Chief Craig reiterated that to us the day of the event.
8 So we won't have anymore problems like that moving
9 forward.

10 MS. SMITH: And your chief was on the air, on
11 our radio program this morning. And there were some of
12 the Detroiters that made mention of that, too. So I
13 thought I would bring it before the board, also,
14 knowing that I know it was something that was not
15 planned directly, you know.

16 COMMANDER WILSON: Yes, ma'am.

17 MS. SMITH: So I feel that it was an error on
18 your part as far as that particular time and the area
19 that they were in.

20 COMMANDER WILSON: Definitely could have been
21 better judgement.

22 MS. SMITH: Also, the chief got good grades
23 with the audience on the radio this morning. I don't
24 believe I heard anyone that was negative about him,
25 only myself because I couldn't get on. I waited over

1 35 minutes, and I got mad. I hung up. But -- and
2 that's something very unusual. I think Angelo didn't
3 want me to talk maybe thinking I was going to say
4 something and embarrass him. But I was going to tell
5 him that he was doing a good job and that he is making
6 my words come true by earning his salary that I
7 discussed with him about and that he might be working
8 on a bonus. But I didn't get to say that. So when I
9 tell him or see him -- maybe Saturday I'll get to see
10 him if I don't have a funeral. But I think he is doing
11 a good job, and he is very determined to straighten out
12 the streets and to make sure that the criminals know
13 that the police is in charge and not them, like they've
14 been thinking all along, and doing all this shooting
15 going on. So I think he is doing a wonderful job, and
16 the people are very appreciative. We had several
17 police call in, also. One wanted to know about how he
18 can workup from the ranks because he's been in the
19 area, you know, patrolling for so long and he want to
20 know would the chief help him or make a suggestion in
21 how the police can move up in the ranks.

22 CHAIRPERSON TAYLOR: Do you want to say
23 something?

24 COMMANDER WILSON: Yes, myself and Chairperson
25 Taylor just met with the chief on some human resources

1 type issues. And one of the things we talked about was
2 promotions, coming up with a different process that
3 maybe can be more fair and equitable to all of the
4 officers. So he's looking at that. And then we also
5 talked about monitoring programs, ways we can look at
6 bringing up some of our younger officers who aspire to
7 a command position. So that's definitely going to be
8 in the future.

9 MS. SMITH: And the last, the morale. I
10 think it has really increased now more than ever in
11 this short time because of the fact that not only the
12 citizens realize that he is doing a good job and he's
13 trying to do a good job, but he's making sure that the
14 police men are doing their job. And I think he's doing
15 wonderful in that respect. And I'm glad that the
16 police are thinking a little bit better of their jobs
17 now.

18 And then one thing that I did mention, about
19 their hours. I'm so glad that he is going to reduce
20 the hours because that's what I was concerned about
21 this past winter.

22 So next I'm going to pray on your medical
23 insurance. And hopefully that will be the next thing
24 that you'll be able to get taken care of, and you'll be
25 able to have it again. I thank you for your time.

1 CHAIRPERSON TAYLOR: Thank you, Ms. B.

2 MS. PANNELL: Good afternoon. Sharon
3 Pannell.

4 CHAIRPERSON TAYLOR: Good afternoon.

5 MS. PANNELL: I was wondering if the police
6 are going to have some signs for the empty houses for
7 Angels Night.

8 COMMANDER WILSON: Yes, ma'am. We actually
9 did our kickoff press conference today at the Lafayette
10 Fire Station. They're starting to get those signs now.
11 So we should be having those out. Probably this
12 weekend actually start doing that. We're already doing
13 our abandoned vehicle blitz. So we'll be doing that
14 this weekend.

15 MS. PANNELL: At the precincts?

16 COMMANDER WILSON: Yes, some at the precincts
17 and then some at the neighborhood centers. So you
18 should be able to pick those up.

19 MS. PANNELL: We don't have a neighborhood
20 center.

21 COMMANDER WILSON: You guys don't have a --
22 the rec center I should say. The mini stations inside
23 of the rec center.

24 MS. PANNELL: We don't have a rec center at
25 Butzel.

1 COMMANDER WILSON: Well, we'll make sure,
2 Ms. Pannell, we get you some if I have to hand deliver
3 them to you.

4 MS. PANNELL: See about your mini station
5 over there at Butzel. The doors are broken. They got
6 a lot of robberies over there in the evening.

7 COMMANDER WILSON: Supposed to be a mini
8 station over there.

9 MS. PANNELL: It hasn't started.

10 COMMANDER WILSON: Well, we definitely will
11 look into that.

12 MS. PANNELL: They're going in. The air
13 conditioner is not working. The doors are broke.
14 Butzel is hit.

15 COMMANDER WILSON: Thank you.

16 CHAIRPERSON TAYLOR: Thank you, Ms. Pannell.
17 Anymore communications? Anymore communications?
18 Anymore communication?

19 George, you need to acknowledge him.

20 SECRETARY ANTHONY: We have Lieutenant Tim
21 Leach, who just came into the meeting, a member of
22 the staff, OCI.

23 CHAIRPERSON TAYLOR: Okay. Well, if there's
24 no more communication, thank you, and we'll see you
25 next week.

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(Meeting concluded at 3:22 p.m.)

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