

3/1/2018

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DETROIT BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING
THURSDAY, MARCH 1, 2018 AT 3:00 PM
DETROIT PUBLIC SAFETY HEADQUARTERS
1301 THIRD AVENUE
DETROIT, MICHIGAN 48226

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COMMISSIONERS:

- EVA GARZA DEWAELSHE, Vice Chair, At-Large
- SHIRLEY A. BURCH, Commissioner (Dist. 3)
- WILLIE BELL, Commissioner (Dist. 4)
- WILLIE BURTON, Commissioner (Dist. 5)
- WILLIAM M. DAVIS, Commissioner (Dist. 7)
- DERRICK SANDERS, Commissioner At-Large
- Elizabeth Brooks, Commissioner At-Large

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REPRESENTING THE CHIEF OF POLICE'S OFFICE:

ASSISTANT CHIEF ARNOLD WILLIAMS

1 Detroit, Michigan

2 March 1, 2018

3 About 3:00 p.m.

4

5 VICE CHAIR DEWAELSCHE: Good afternoon
6 everyone and welcome to the police commission meeting of
7 March 1st. I'm commissioner Vice Chair Eva Garza
8 Dewaelsche, and I will be sitting in for our chair
9 Mrs. Carter who could not be here today. Commissioner
10 Darryl Brown has also asked to be excused, and on behalf
11 of the board I want to thank you for being here today.
12 For today's invocation we have Matthew Nickel, who's
13 pastor of Jefferson Avenue Presbyterian Church, and I
14 would like for him to come to the podium please, and
15 thank you so much.

16 PASTOR NICKEL: Thank you, Commissioner
17 Garza.

18 (Invocation given.)

19 VICE CHAIR DEWAELSCHE: Thank you Pastor,
20 very much. I'd like to ask the commissioners to please
21 introduce themselves, starting with my left,
22 Commissioner Burton.

23 COMMISSIONER BURTON: Commissioner Willie
24 Burton, District 5.

25 COMMISSIONER BELL: Willie Bell, District 4.

1 COMMISSIONER BROOKS: Commissioner Elizabeth
2 Brooks, At-Large.

3 COMMISSIONER BURCH: Shirley Burch, District
4 3.

5 COMMISSIONER SANDERS: Derrick Sanders,
6 At-Large.

7 COMMISSIONER DAVIS: William Davis, District
8 7.

9 VICE CHAIR DEWAELSCHE: Thank you,
10 Commissioners. You had in your packet or in today's
11 packet the agenda for March 1st. Is there a motion to
12 approve?

13 COMMISSIONER SANDERS: So moved.

14 COMMISSIONER BELL: Support.

15 VICE CHAIR DEWAELSCHE: It's been moved and
16 seconded. All those in favor indicate by saying aye.

17 ALL: Aye.

18 VICE CHAIR DEWAELSCHE: Opposed? Thank you.
19 And also in your packet are the February 22nd minutes.
20 Is there a motion to approve?

21 COMMISSIONER SANDERS: So moved.

22 COMMISSIONER BELL: Second.

23 VICE CHAIR DEWAELSCHE: It's been moved and
24 seconded. All those in favor indicate by saying aye.

25 ALL: Aye.

1 VICE CHAIR DEWAELSCHE: Thank you so much.
2 We'll have introduction of the board of police
3 commissioner staff, please.

4 MR. HICKS: Thank you, Madam Chair. You do
5 have a quorum and I would want to add for the record
6 that commissioner Conrad Mallett also has requested an
7 excuse for the day. To my immediate right is of course
8 Mr. Robert Brown. Go to the first row, Mrs. Johnson is
9 fiscal department, legal. Mrs. Blossom who's media
10 outreach, and I'm going to come back to Mr. Akbar. All
11 the way on the other end is Bridget Lamar is the acting
12 personnel director, and I do want to indicate that
13 Sergeant Quinn is taping the activity for the day and
14 media services is providing the audio visual support for
15 the day. And Caitlyn Mancini is the court reporter for
16 today.

17 VICE CHAIR DEWAELSCHE: Thank you very much.

18 MR. HICKS: I am sorry, Mr. Akbar. I said I
19 was coming back and did not.

20 MR. AKBAR: It's fine. Good afternoon. I'm
21 interim chief investigator Lawrence Akbar from the
22 office of chief investigator and it's my honor to
23 introduce our staff, hard working staff. I'll start out
24 first with senior investigator Delvida Moses.
25 Investigator Samuel Quick. Investigator Jessica Hunter.

1 Investigator Algen Murphy. Investigator Hiller.

2 INVESTIGATOR HILLER: Hajnal Hiller.

3 MR. AKBAR: Thanks. Investigator LaShanda
4 Neely. Investigator Daniel Callaway. Investigator
5 Carol Nichols. Investigator Coleman. And that's all of
6 our staff here today.

7 VICE CHAIR DEWAELSCHE: Thank you very much.
8 We have representing Chief Craig Assistant Chief
9 Williams. Would you like to introduce your staff?

10 ASSISTANT CHIEF WILLIAMS: Yes, I will. And
11 it seems like I'll be able to do this myself so just
12 stand when I say your name. Acting director Bridget
13 Lamar. Second deputy chief Grant Ha. Sergeant Gerald
14 Hewitt. Lieutenant Jevon Johnson. Sergeant William
15 Jackson. Sergeant John Watkins. Of course we have two
16 of our chaplains. I don't know your names but I want to
17 say thank you for being here as well. And we just have
18 Captain Joseph Tucker he just walked in from our SVU.

19 VICE CHAIR DEWAELSCHE: Thank you, Chief.
20 Could we ask our chaplains to stand up and introduce
21 themselves, please.

22 MS. SIMPSON: Yolanda Simpson. The other
23 chaplain had to step out, Charles Clark.

24 VICE CHAIR DEWAELSCHE: Thank you. Do we
25 have any elected officials joining us today or

1 representatives? Any elected officials? Thank you. As
2 we start every meeting on behalf of the board I want to
3 express our concern and support for fallen and injured
4 officers. The department as we all are still rocked by
5 the deaths and injuries of the department over the last
6 few weeks. I would ask the chief during his remarks to
7 provide us with any additional information related to
8 injured and fallen officers. The mayor -- and so I will
9 give my report. The mayor delivered his annual budget
10 message and the city council has begun its traditional
11 budget hearing. The city council hearings are designed
12 to hear directly from the city departments and agencies
13 to best align our resources to provide the most
14 effective services.

15 The BOPC participated in its budget hearing
16 Monday, February 26th. Attending the hearing was --
17 were Commissioners Bell, Sanders, and myself. We
18 responded to several questions from the council. It was
19 clear that the council is very interested in the work of
20 the board. Several of the council members have provided
21 us with written questions and our staff is in the
22 process of preparing responses to their questions. A
23 day after the February 14th mass killings out of Florida
24 high school this board acted and approve a resolution
25 calling for the end of retail sales of military like

1 weapons. Dicks Sporting Goods did not get our
2 resolution but they sure got the message. This top
3 retailer ended all sales of assault style rifles and
4 high capacity magazines. These are the weapons and
5 ammunition holders that make it possible to murder
6 dozens of people in just a couple of minutes. Like at
7 the Parkland High School, the Sutherland Springs Texas
8 Church, the Las Vegas concert, Newton and Connecticut
9 elementary school and the movie theater in Colorado.
10 Walmart, the nation's largest seller of guns also was
11 listening and took action. It was a smaller step but
12 Walmart did join Dicks Sporting Goods in a new policy
13 that prohibits selling guns to anyone under 21 years
14 old. Please keep in mind that Dicks and Walmart are
15 still offering a vast array of guns and they likely will
16 continue to have very brisk sales.

17 However, these actions by leading corporate
18 America gun retailers are very important steps to have a
19 rational conversation about the practical constitutional
20 ways that can help end mass shootings and killings.
21 There are many such steps that can help ensure a safer
22 and more civilized quality of life for all Americans,
23 and especially our children. Today we have scheduled a
24 presentation from disciplinary administration, but we'll
25 have it another time to allow for a fuller presentation.

1 Our concern as an oversight body is to understand the
2 nature of contact between the public and police. We
3 know that the overwhelming majority of our police
4 exercise the trust that we invest in them as police
5 officers. We also know that in a small number of cases
6 it is necessary to review the conduct of our police and
7 impose disciplinary measures to correct negative contact
8 with people. Within the department there are several
9 agencies and commands that investigate police behavior.
10 The BOPC investigates noncriminal citizen complaints.
11 Other sections of the department investigate criminal
12 behavior, use of force, and other serious activity. But
13 it is our understanding that the place within the
14 department where all of these investigations are
15 channelled is into disciplinary administration.

16 Disciplinary administration tracks each
17 offense, records the disciplinary action taken by the
18 chief, and in our opinion is the best place for us to
19 obtain information on the behavior of our police in a
20 comprehensive, coordinated, organized fashion. To do an
21 effective job in examining the contact between citizens
22 and police, we need to understand the impact that our
23 police are having on our citizens. To get the best and
24 most recent information, disciplinary administration has
25 asked for a 30 day postponement of their report so that

1 they can respond to specific concerns from the board.
2 With that note we will grant the request and reschedule
3 the presentation from disciplinary administration;
4 therefore, we will not have a presentation on today's
5 agenda.

6 Additionally, under new business we will
7 take up a resolution to support school safety without
8 arming teaches.

9 COMMISSIONER BROOKS: Amen.

10 VICE CHAIR DEWAELSCHÉ: Two drafts of the
11 resolution were distributed in advance and a copy of the
12 most recent version is in your package, board members,
13 for your review. When we get to new business I will ask
14 Mrs. Teresa blossom of our staff to read it into the
15 record. And toward the end we will have oral
16 communications from the audience, so if you would like
17 to speak to the board, please print your name on a
18 speaker's card, and the cards are located at the back
19 table and you can obtain one by seeing Mr. Robert Brown
20 but we do need your cards before the beginning of public
21 comment. And so now we have a resolution that I have
22 asked Commissioner Bell to read, if he would please do
23 so.

24 COMMISSIONER BELL: Yes, Madam Chair.

25 Resolution is for Wayne County Burt Leland. Burt Leland

1 was born and raised in Detroit Michigan. He married
2 Rosanne, his wife of 45 years and two sons Zachary and
3 Detroit City Council member Gabe Leland, as we all know;
4 whereas he attended Detroit Public Schools and graduated
5 from Mumford, he's a proud Mumford High School grad.
6 Earned a business degree at Wayne State University and
7 master degree in social work at the University of
8 Michigan. Where as Senator Leland was first elected as
9 a State Representative and State Senator, and finally as
10 a Wayne County Commissioner with a career span of 37
11 years. He focused on the community and developed a
12 clean-up program that battled the blight threatening the
13 neighborhoods in his district. He provided support to
14 food banks, community gardens, neighborhood
15 associations, and the Detroit police precincts. And
16 where as he believed that higher education was necessary
17 and created the burton Leland scholarship fund, and
18 whereas one of Senator Leland's major achievements in
19 Lansing was the lemon law in the 1980s. A consumer
20 advocacy law that gave automobile buyers a brand new
21 replacement vehicle, if a defect was found that could
22 not be fixed.

23 Now therefore be it resolved that Detroit
24 Board of Police Commissioners speaking for the citizens
25 of the city of Detroit and the Detroit Police

1 Department, acknowledge the leadership, dedication, and
2 exemplary service of Senator Burton Leland. His
3 devotion and standard of commitment to the city of
4 Detroit and its citizens merit our highest regards. His
5 last office held was Wayne County commissioner but he
6 was a long term senator and state rep extinguished
7 career, and his son picked up the mantel as we know Gabe
8 Leland from city council, so a blessing on the family
9 and our prayers for the family as we go forward, because
10 he provided that type of leadership. As I stated he was
11 a Mumford grad; he was a proud Mumford grad, and quite a
12 few of his classmates always citing him as being one of
13 the person who was outstanding from Mumford High School
14 in the city of Detroit. Thank you, Madam Chair. I
15 introduce the resolution to support the board.

16 VICE CHAIR DEWAELSCHE: Is there support --

17 COMMISSIONER DAVIS: Support.

18 VICE CHAIR DEWAELSCHE: Thank you. It's
19 been moved and seconded. All those indicate by saying
20 aye.

21 ALL: Aye.

22 VICE CHAIR DEWAELSCHE: Opposed? Thank you
23 so much and thank you, Commissioner Bell. And at this
24 time we'll ask the Chief to give his report.

25 ASSISTANT CHIEF WILLIAMS: Thank you, Ma'am.

1 Through the chair, I'll start with an update for our
2 injured officers. We have Officer Waldis Johnson. He's
3 still in long-term care and rehabilitation. Officer
4 Anthony Brown recuperating at home. Officer James
5 Kissleburg recuperating at home. Officer Robert Kovak
6 also recuperating at home. Officer Justin Marroquin
7 recuperating at home. Officer Eric Smith recuperating
8 at home. Officer Jovarka Tyus recuperating at home, and
9 Officer Matthew Windquist is also recuperating at home.

10 And then going into I believe everyone on
11 the board is familiar with the graduation taking place
12 at Second Ebenezer next Friday at 10:30 a.m. for our
13 graduating class from our academy.

14 And going into our crime summary. For our
15 violent crime overall we're down 8 percent from violent
16 offenses. We're up 9 percent in sexual assault and we
17 are up 2 percent in carjacking at this time. For our
18 property offenses we have -- we're overall we're down 20
19 percent in all our property related offenses. That
20 includes burglary, larcenies, and also stolen vehicles.
21 And for all part one crimes we're down 17 percent. And
22 one thing I would like to say as well we've seen a rise
23 in the number of threat calls that we've received as a
24 department both to schools and to houses of worship, so
25 the one thing I want to say is that we are investigating

1 those thoroughly. We have made numerous arrests in
2 association with those, and like all other law
3 enforcement at this time we're trying to push the
4 message that it is not okay to say what you want about
5 committing acts of violence on a mass level or at a
6 smaller level. At any level. Thank you, Madam Chair.

7 VICE CHAIR DEWAELSCHE: Thank you, Chief --
8 Assistant Chief. And there's no presentation to the
9 board, so at this time I'll ask if there are any
10 standing or ad hoc committee reports.

11 COMMISSIONER SANDERS: No.

12 VICE CHAIR DEWAELSCHE: I do have one. Do
13 you want to read it?

14 COMMISSIONER BELL: Yes. On behalf of the
15 personnel subcommittee and the vice chair Eva Dewaelsche
16 as the chair, and I also served on -- sorry. The
17 personnel committee has reviewed this qualification for
18 Nathaniel Sandwich and recommend the full board to grant
19 the appeal. We have reviewed it and our recommendation
20 to the full board is to grant appeal at this particular
21 time that he can go forth and go through the process.

22 MR. HICKS: Madam Chair, if I will, the
23 thrust of the report is to grant a hearing for him to
24 come in front of your body, and at that time he would
25 make an appeal to the full body. Typically, you've

1 handled that in closed session, so we would reach out to
2 Mr. Sandwich and schedule a closed session with him that
3 is convenient for both him and the board. So I would
4 anticipate that that would come up in the next couple of
5 weeks, the actual appeal hearing, which the full board
6 would entertain.

7 VICE CHAIR DEWAELSCHE: Okay, thank you, and
8 so Commissioner Bell, you're making the motion?

9 COMMISSIONER BELL: Yes, ma'am. I
10 entertain -- make a motion to that effect to allow the
11 appeal to go before the entire board at this particular
12 time.

13 VICE CHAIR DEWAELSCHE: Is there a second?

14 COMMISSIONER SANDERS: I'll second the
15 motion.

16 VICE CHAIR DEWAELSCHE: Thank you. It's
17 been moved and seconded. All those in favor indicate by
18 saying aye.

19 ALL: Aye.

20 VICE CHAIR DEWAELSCHE: Opposed? Thank you.
21 Motion carries. And now we'll have a report from the
22 board secretary.

23 MR. HICKS: Yes, Madam Chair, I simply want
24 to indicate that over the last couple of days the packet
25 that we utilized in connection with the hearing in front

1 of the Detroit city council, the budget hearing, that is
2 distributed to all of the commissioners. You should
3 have received that by e-mail. There's also information
4 that you have listed in your packet relative to the
5 police recruitment class 2018-B, and the graduation
6 attached to it.

7 And the last thing that I simply want to
8 draw to your attention, we have had several other budget
9 questions proposed to us or provided to us by other
10 commissioners -- I'm sorry council members and we're in
11 the process of completing those and we would send those
12 out as soon as we've completed those, and we typically
13 share the information prior to sending it out with the
14 chair, so that the body is -- knows of the type of
15 responses that we're providing for the budget questions.
16 And with that, that concludes my report.

17 VICE CHAIR DEWAELSCHE: Thank you. Is there
18 any old business to come before the board? Any new
19 business? We have -- we've already taken care of the
20 personnel subcommittee applicant appeal. So now we have
21 the draft resolution supporting safer schools without
22 arming teachers and Mrs. Blossom come up.

23 MRS. BLOSSOM: Good afternoon, my name is
24 Teresa Blossom. I'm on the staff for Board of Police
25 Commissioners. As requested by the vice chair, I am

1 going to read the draft resolution supporting safer
2 schools without arming teachers. Whereas the Detroit
3 Board of Police Commissioners seeks to ensure policies
4 and practices that make for effective law enforcement,
5 community policing, and public safety -- oh wait a
6 second I'm sorry. I have to start again. That was the
7 first draft. Excuse me.

8 Whereas the Detroit Board of Police
9 Commissioners has a special role in ensuring public
10 safety and advocating for effective policies and
11 practices that help keep people and communities safe.
12 Thus, the board wants to express its opposition to
13 arming school teaches amid renewed calls for arming
14 teachers in the aftermath of February 14th, 2018
15 massacre at a Parkland Florida High School; and whereas
16 the Board of Police Commissioners believes that everyone
17 concerned needs to engage in a full discussion and
18 examination of all possible remedies to stop such
19 violence against our vulnerable youth and the incredible
20 short time it now takes to create such lasting mayhem.

21 However, we do not see arming educators as
22 the solution, just as it is not a solution to arm
23 pastors in response to the fatal shootings at churches;
24 and whereas our opposition is reenforced by the
25 investigation now underway in Parkland, Florida and to

1 the actions or inactions of trained and experienced
2 members of law enforcement. Unlike teachers, these law
3 enforcement members were solely first responders
4 accustomed to the chaos and pressures of active violence
5 and crime. Yet, as one professional law enforcement
6 member's resignation indicates, even experience, skill
7 and training may not suffice in confronting such
8 situations as active shooters.

9 So, therefore be it resolved that the
10 Detroit Board of Police Commissioners looks forward to a
11 robust discussion and concrete plan for public policy
12 and government action to address violence, crime, and
13 the social ills that often lead to them. We seek to
14 have schools remain gun free safe zones as important
15 measure of quality of life in all communities and
16 believe that there are additional steps from additional
17 on-site security officers, to real time or other
18 proactive video surveillance to better education
19 generally to school campus structural design that can
20 further provide a safe environment on school campuses
21 without diverting teachers from their primary and
22 important role of educators. That completes the reading
23 of the draft.

24 VICE CHAIR DEWAELSCHE: Is there a motion to
25 approve?

1 COMMISSIONER DAVIS: Motion.

2 COMMISSIONER SANDERS: So moved. Seconded.

3 VICE CHAIR DEWAELSCHE: It's been moved and
4 seconded. Is there any discussion?

5 COMMISSIONER DAVIS: No.

6 COMMISSIONER BROOKS: I don't have a
7 discussion. I like this. Because our schools have
8 securities you can't go in them. It's like the airport
9 so there's security in our schools, and I don't think
10 any educators should be armed. Because it's just takes
11 away from the children learning. I just read today in
12 the paper about a teacher, don't remember the city or
13 state, who had a gun, armed himself, and barricaded
14 himself in a classroom. So, no, we do not need to let
15 teachers have guns. They're there to teach. Thank you.

16 COMMISSIONER BELL: Madam, I also want to
17 discuss.

18 VICE CHAIR DEWAELSCHE: Yes, please.

19 COMMISSIONER BELL: I think it's -- we need
20 to look at gun violence in America, and to take action
21 on gun violence. It's about keeping America safe and I
22 like to cite that with need more background check; there
23 should be a universe across the board across the state.
24 We should be banning assault weapons. We need to ban
25 the bump of stocks that turn these weapons to automatic

1 weapons. We need to raise the minimum age to purchase
2 rifles or any weapons of that nature to 21. And we need
3 to look at community engagement across the board,
4 especially impacting Detroit. The violence that we have
5 with the fatal shooting, the nonfatal shooting, so I'm
6 hoping that we have community engagement. I'm using
7 that word now; I've been advised to use that community
8 engagement. So we need community engagement. There are
9 two bills pending in Lansing in reference to allowing
10 weapons in the school by teachers and other school
11 officials. So we need to be community engagement but
12 our elected officials at the state level or any level,
13 the national level whatsoever to make people aware. So
14 I'm glad this board is taking this action today. It's
15 necessary but we need more and more community engagement
16 to address these issues, 'cause we know the outcome. We
17 know the outcome of high powered weapon. Some of us are
18 military veterans and we know what these weapons are
19 used for. Not for hunting, not for sports; they are
20 used in a daily fashion. AKA's the most deadly weapon
21 you can buy in the country for last 50 years or so.
22 Just want to speak to that. Thank you, Madam Chair.

23 VICE CHAIR DEWAELSCHÉ: Thank you,
24 Commissioner. Any other comments or questions?

25 COMMISSIONER BURCH: Yes.

1 COMMISSIONER BURCH: Madam Chair.

2 VICE CHAIR DEWAELSCHE: Commissioner Burton,
3 go ahead -- or you first.

4 COMMISSIONER BURCH: Thank you. I just
5 wanted to address the board and to the audience that I
6 had the opportunity to attend a church seminar on safety
7 that was within the 11th precinct, the third district,
8 under Commander Leach. I want the officer here that's
9 representing Chief Craig to know the excellent job the
10 NPOs and Commander Leach put on this seminar where one
11 movie theater was packed out with provisioners, pastors,
12 security teams. What they taught us in that seminar
13 that you must be prepared not thinking because you're in
14 a place of worship that violence won't happen. So we
15 already know that. But to use a gun you must be
16 trained. The provisioners have to be trained under the
17 leadership of their individual pastors.

18 So I'm very proud of Commander Leach of
19 putting this together with the NPOs that we know now an
20 active shooter that comes in our church we know how to
21 address it. You're there to worship but you also must
22 be alert where you are, because society has changed.
23 You don't just go to church and sit what you think the
24 normal reason for. You must be prepared, so I wanted to
25 commend, make it a record that the 11th precinct came

1 forward and had a seminar on church security. Thank
2 you.

3 VICE CHAIR DEWAELSCHE: Thank you,
4 Commissioner. Commissioner Burton.

5 COMMISSIONER BURTON: You know, having
6 teachers armed with guns is begging for an unwanted
7 tragedy. We must stop this Donald Trump madness.

8 VICE CHAIR DEWAELSCHE: Any other comments
9 or questions from the commissioners? Hearing none, then
10 announcement our next meeting --

11 MR. HICKS: Madam Chair, you have a motion.

12 VICE CHAIR DEWAELSCHE: Yes, that's right.
13 The motion has been moved and seconded. All those in
14 favor indicate by saying aye.

15 ALL: Aye.

16 VICE CHAIR DEWAELSCHE: Opposed? Thank you.
17 Thank you so much. Our next meeting is Thursday, March
18 8th at 6:30 p.m. It will be at the downtown services at
19 Wayne County Community college district, 801 West Fort
20 Street, and due to the construction at the main Fort
21 Street parking lot, please use lot 4 and 5 at the rear
22 campus entrances. And then after that the next
23 community meeting will be Thursday, April 12th at 6:30
24 and that will be in the 11th precinct 13450 Goddard
25 Avenue in Detroit.

1 COMMISSIONER BURCH: Excuse me, I'm sorry.
2 That date, repeat that date.

3 VICE CHAIR DEWAELSCHE: The April one?

4 COMMISSIONER BURCH: Yes.

5 VICE CHAIR DEWAELSCHE: Thursday, April 12th
6 at 6:30. That's our next evening meeting. Now we're
7 ready for oral communications from the audience. And
8 please give your name when you come up to the podium and
9 limit your question or comment to two minutes, please.

10 MR. BROWN: Madam Chair, I have two cards.
11 Your first speaker is Mrs. Fredia Butler and the last
12 speaker will be Mr. Tom Wilson.

13 MS. BUTLER: Good afternoon. Fredia Butler
14 and I'm the community advocate. Commissioners, Thursday
15 February 22nd, there was an issue of money being
16 allotted for towing, and at another meeting there was a
17 discussion about the amount of money being spent for a
18 building renovation. In my opinion, our state -- our
19 tax dollars are not being used wisely. Addressing
20 towing, why use or create a system that will encourage
21 corruption. The police are to solve crimes and enforce
22 the law. If citizens violate the law, they are ticketed
23 or arrested. And if ticketed, they go to court and pay
24 a fine. When there is a need for a tow truck, the same
25 methods should apply. The administrators, officers, and

1 tow operators should have nothing to do with collections
2 of money. This solution might not completely solve all
3 of the concerns regarding towing, but setting up a
4 system for the department to be responsible for
5 collecting money I believe encourages corruption in the
6 department and is very costly to the tax payers. Please
7 consider how our tax dollars are being spent. Thanks
8 for listening.

9 VICE CHAIR DEWAELSCHÉ: Thank you,
10 Mrs. Butler.

11 MR. BROWN: Madam Chair, your next speaker
12 would be Mr. Tom Wilson.

13 MR. WILSON: Good afternoon, Madam Chair,
14 honorable board members, Detroit's finest, fellow
15 citizens. My name is Thomas Wilson Junior. I'm an
16 executive board member and sergeant in arms of the 14th
17 congressional district in the Wayne County democratic
18 black caucus respectively. I'm the vice president of
19 the second precinct police community relations
20 organization, and I am a retired former educator of the
21 Detroit public schools. We do not need to have teachers
22 armed, period. Not some, not one, not any. It is a
23 recipe for disaster. And what I'm talking about is a
24 scenario. You know some of these students, some are
25 very crazy, some have little respect or no respect for

1 authority at all. They'll get in the teacher's face and
2 the next thing you know we're rolling and tumbling on
3 the floor. He got his buddies in there with him, they
4 take the gun, shots fired, seriously injured teacher or
5 dead. Depending upon how many shots are fired you got
6 30 some other kids in that classroom, all right, that
7 can could be collateral damage, as well as the teacher
8 that pulled the gun shoot and kill the student as well
9 as, you know, with the others students in the classroom
10 being collateral damage.

11 I have to respectfully disagree with Chief
12 Craig in terms of some teachers being armed. We don't
13 -- teachers did not go to school to be what Detroit's
14 finest do. And that's to carry a pistol and if they
15 have to pull it to use it. We went to school to teach.
16 And that's what we do. There's an excellent article in
17 the today's Detroit Free Press. If you get a chance,
18 read that. This guy's a hunter, he's a gun owner, and I
19 think he's a teacher as well, but he says guns, a
20 teacher with gun. No. We do not need to be -- because
21 it's a distraction. You know, kids are going to be
22 focused on the gun and not necessarily the lesson. Okay
23 my time 's up and thank you for letting me speak.

24 VICE CHAIR DEWAELSCHE: Thank you very much.
25 Any other speakers?

1 MR. BROWN: Madam Chair, that was your last
2 speaker.

3 VICE CHAIR DEWAELSCHE: Thank you.

4 COMMISSIONER BURTON: Madam Chair?

5 VICE CHAIR DEWAELSCHE: Commissioner.

6 COMMISSIONER BURTON: I just want to add
7 about the teachers being armed with guns. What happens
8 when a teacher is mentally ill, you know, shoot a
9 student instead of sending a student to the principal's
10 office. What happens when a student gets a hold of a
11 teacher gun and the police comes in who they going to
12 shoot, the teacher or the student. You know, it's a lot
13 of risk here when you have teachers being armed with
14 guns. We shouldn't even have this conversation with
15 this madness of Trump, this whole mentality. You know,
16 if anything we arm our teachers with supplies, resources
17 so they can continue to educate. Allow educators to
18 work with law enforcement, but do not need to put a gun
19 in a teacher's hand.

20 VICE CHAIR DEWAELSCHE: Thank you,
21 Commissioner.

22 COMMISSIONER BURTON: Sends the wrong
23 message.

24 VICE CHAIR DEWAELSCHE: Thank you,
25 Commissioner. Commissioner Bell.

1 COMMISSIONER BELL: I move for adjournment
2 as there's no other business before this body.

3 COMMISSIONER SANDERS: Second.

4 VICE CHAIR DEWAELESCHE: It's been moved and
5 seconded. We're adjourned. Thank you so much for being
6 here.

7 (Meeting concluded at 3:36 p.m.)

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1 STATE OF MICHIGAN)
2)
3 COUNTY OF WASHTENAW)

4
5 CERTIFICATE OF NOTARY PUBLIC AND COURT REPORTER

6 I, Caitlyn Mancini, do hereby certify that the
7 above-entitled meeting was duly recorded by me
8 stenographically and by me later reduced to typewritten
9 form by means of computer-aided transcription; and I
10 certify that this is a true and correct transcript of my
11 stenographic notes so taken.

12 I further certify that I am neither of counsel to
13 either party nor interested in the event of this cause.

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Caitlyn Mancini, RPR, CSR-8887

Notary Public,

Washtenaw County, Michigan

My Commission expires: August 15, 2021

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