

POLICE COMMUNITY ADVISORY BOARD

September 17, 2024

POLICE COMMUNITY ADVISORY BOARD REGULAR MEETING MINUTES OF MEETING September 17, 2024

POLICE COMMUNITY ADVISORY BOARD: Christina Hagestad, Gwendolyn Evans, Dan Maguire (remote). Absent: Vince Cuciti (excused)

Absent: Jody Kamon (Advisor/remote)

STAFF: Michelle Hodgson, Administrative Assistant, Essex Police Department

ADMINISTRATION: Ron Hoague (EPD Chief)

OTHERS PRESENT: None

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Christina Hagestad called the meeting to order at 6:10pm.

2. AGENDA ADDITIONS/CHANGES

No additions or changes.

3. AGENDA APPROVAL

Agenda was approved.

4. PUBLIC TO BE HEARD

Advisor Jody Kamon advised the board that she had been referred to and had spoken directly with a member of our community who was an immigrant. The concern related to a traffic stop and prolonged detention that purportedly took place in June 2024. The person felt disrespected as a result of his interaction with EPD. This person was hesitant to speak publicly. The Chief promised to investigate the situation and report back to the board at the next meeting.

5. CONSENT ITEMS

a. The Board approved the Minutes for the August meeting.

6. BUSINESS ITEMS

a. The Chief had advised Anthony Jackson-Miller has left his position as Community Affairs Liaison with EPD. There are 16 applicants. Board member Gwendolyn Evans volunteered to participate in the hiring process for his replacement. The top 5 applicants would be interviewed to start. In addition to this open position, the Chief said there were 5 other vacancies in EPD. Specifically, EPD is authorized for 31 positions; currently 25 of which are filled. Patrol positions are priority.

The Chief reported that the annual Champlain Valley Fair was a relative success from a public safety standpoint. There were decreased incidences involving law enforcement. For the first time in 3 years no law enforcement personnel were injured. Also, for the first time in 20 years EPD had a recruitment table at the Fair.

The board learned the Explore Essex would take place 9/21/24. This event is billed as “Town of Essex Community Day”. Also, EPD hosted an Open House on 9/28/24. PCAB was invited and encouraged to have a presence at these events.

NOTE: Chair Christina Hagestad suggested, and with the kind assistance of Advisor Jody Kamon, a Flyer from PCAB was developed to share at these types of public events.

b. Quarter 1 Board schedule.

The board will continue its work plan into the next Quarter

c. Two City positions on the board remain open. Chair Hagestad advised that she will speak with the City Council and report back to the board.

d. The board determined that it would take up the Public Safety Task list at the next meeting.

e. Community Engagement discussion – see above generally. Specifically, the board will revisit this discussion at the next meeting

7. ADJOURN

A motion to adjourn was made by Gwendolyn. The motion was seconded and approved by the Board. The meeting adjourned at 7:20pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Dan Maguire
CAB Secretary