

**CITY OF ALBANY
COMMUNITY POLICE REVIEW BOARD
BYLAWS AND RULES COMMITTEE MEETING**

November 19, 2020 at 6:00 p.m.

MEETING MINUTES

I. Attendance

Board Members Present: Matt Ingram, Dr. Veneilya Harden, Ivy Morris

Also Present: Ava Ayers, CDR. Anthony Battuello, Robert Magee, D/Lt. Decker

II. Recommendations to Common Council

(M. Ingram)

- Reform to the structure of the Board. More discussion and public interest following George Floyd incident.
- A list of proposals was provided to Common Council in June or July and are currently being considered.
- In advance of meeting M. Ingram circulated documents to the committee with 19 proposals.
- Other proposals:
 - I. Feasible proposals
 1. New authority of Board to express judgment about appropriateness of disciplinary action prior to imposition of that discipline.
 2. New authority to inspect/audit police records related to alleged misconduct or formal complaints.
 3. Ensure Board is representative of community.
 4. Annual survey of police-community relations
 5. Implement different model for minor traffic infractions (i.e., reduce risks of implicit bias)
 6. Require an audit like the one performed this year, every 3-5 years
 - II. More difficult proposals
 1. New authority of Board to discipline officers.
 2. Fund proposed changes to Board through larger transformation of policing, which falls under rubric of “defunding” the police.
 3. Fund other city programs with these funds (e.g., youth programming, job creation, park improvement, neighborhood improvement)
 4. New authority of Board to make binding policies and procedures for Albany Police Department.

5. New authority for Board to monitor protests and APD calls for service.
6. Require Board participation in APD hiring and promotion procedures.
7. Remove police officers from schools
8. Pay settlements, awards, and other costs (including legal fees?) for police misconduct/brutality cases out of police budget and pension fund.
9. Repeal local laws that penalize “quality of life” issues.
10. Study, develop and implement co-responder model across relevant areas (e.g, mental health, homelessness, poverty, and other social issues).
11. Limit authority of police to conduct field interviews.
12. Revisit prior study to reduce size of APD.
13. Expand routine audit dash cam footage and body cams.

Discussion:

Harden has a question about Proposal #1 – Would that mean that the Board provides a recommendation to the Chief and/or Common Council based upon findings of a complaint investigation? M. Ingram – The shape it takes could vary and is open to different proposals. Provides:

- a. Expressing written judgment on behalf of Board to the mayor’s office or Common Council or,
- b. Written opinion from the Board to Cdr. Battuello.

Someone raised a question if there will be a criteria list provided in regards to disciplinary action? M. Ingram replies Board would have information about any disciplinary action being considered for any kind of misconduct and be offered the opportunity for Board to express opinion on appropriateness based on the nature of the misconduct. M. Ingram discusses possible scenarios and logistics for the proposed process. Discussion about Rochester proposal and issues with discipline in trial court. Matt DeLaus briefs group on Rochester issue. Informal discussion about wording and specific language in proposals.

M. Ingram recommends that proposal #1 move to the second category of proposals and include it with the broader discussion about discipline. I. Morris seconds. M. Ingram notes that the goal for tonight’s meeting is to put more proposals on the table to Common Council and not to discuss the logistics of one proposal.

M. Ingram makes a motion in support of feasible proposal #1. V. Harden seconds.

V. Harden notes that she is still wrapping her head around feasible proposal #5. All members are in support of feasible proposal #6 within 5 years.

III. Meeting Adjournment

(M. Ingram & V. Harden)

The meeting was adjourned at 7:47PM.