



## **Citizen Review Board Meeting Minutes September 17, 2024**

### **1) Call to Order**

The meeting was Called to Order by Acting Chairperson Lee Nathans.

### **2) Roll Call of Members**

Members present: Lee Nathans, Lisa Kelley, Glenn Soden

Others present: Mayor Ben Kessler, Chief Gary Lewis, Elizabeth Ellman

### **3) Approval of Minutes**

Mr. Soden suggested including the year of the proposed next meeting into the meeting minutes.

**Motion to approve minutes as amended from the July 11, 2023 meeting; Lisa Kelley in favor; Glenn Soden recused.**

### **4) Old Business**

There was no old business.

### **5) New Business**

#### **a) Chief Gary Lewis Presentation**

Chief Lewis presented a complaint responded to by the Police Department which did not result in the need for a Board review. He used this as an example of the type of thorough response from the Department.

Additionally, Chief Lewis gave an overview of the 2023 Police Annual Report and answered board member's questions about the state of policing in Bexley including data, transparency, and policies.

Mayor Kessler highlighted data regarding racial demographics.

Chief Lewis shared that information for the Project Taillight program is being given to about 10 motorists daily, although few are taking advantage of the program's resources.

Chief Lewis explained the proactivity of addressing the safety needs of the Jewish community.

Board members shared their perspectives and Chief Lewis answered questions and gave additional information about newly hired officers and diversity within the

department.

Complaints were discussed, including informal complaints and formal complaints filed with, but not against, the Police Department.

Chief Lewis discussed engagement, outreach, and meeting people where they are, as well as initiatives related to animals.

There was conversation about officer training conversations and career growth, resident education, and more.

b) Formal Complaints Received

Mayor Kessler detailed two residential complaints, one regarding a loud truck and another about fixtures adhered to city infrastructure. Neither of these warranted appeals.

Mayor Kessler discussed City Code and mentioned a Chairperson should be selected annually, as well as an annual presentation to Council. It was determined that Mayor Kessler will reach out to Ms. Hunt regarding Chairmanship with the intent to elect a chair at the next meeting.

There was a request to consider rescheduling meetings to another day of the week; staff will send a Doodle Poll to Board members regarding a proposed changed meeting cadence and for a year-end meeting.

Mayor Kessler mentioned the appeal process.

Appointment renewal was discussed; Mr. Nathans, Ms. Kelly, and Mr. Soden had been reappointed.

Proactivity was discussed and causative elements for complaints.

Five officers are living in Bexley based on a housing stipend.

**6) Public Comments**

There were no Public Comments.

**7) Adjourn**

**Motion to adjourn the meeting by Mr. Soden, second by Ms. Kelly; all in favor.**