



Lowell City Council

Public Safety SC Meeting Minutes

Michael Q. Geary
City Clerk

Date: September 11, 2018
Time: 5:30 PM
Location: City Council Chamber
375 Merrimack Street, 2nd Floor, Lowell, MA

PRESENT:

Present on Roll Call were Chairman Nuon, C. Leahy and C. Milinazzo. Also present were Supt. Richardson (LPD); C. Mercier; Chief Winward (LFD); Jeanine Durkin (Acting Supt. Schools); C. Conway; M. Samaras; C. Elliott; and C. Cirillo.

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:

Chairman Nuon called the meeting to order at 5:30PM in the Council Chamber noting

ORDER OF BUSINESS:

Supt. Richardson outlined crime statistics from prior year noting the overall decline with the exception of shoplifting. Supt. Richardson noted it has been more active during the summer noting majority of crime is either drug or gang related. Supt. Richardson noted that there will be increased patrols both on foot, bike and cruisers; in additions there will be patrols with plate reader capability and increased gang investigations. C. Milinazzo questioned staffing at the department. Supt. Richardson noted the City was split into two sectors and need continues to have officers in the neighborhoods and present at the neighborhood meetings; noted that there were fourteen recruits currently at the academy. C. Leahy questioned issue with sending prisoners to hospital while in custody. Supt. Richardson noted there is an issue however they are obligated to keep prisoners safe and healthy and that involves use of many resources in terms of manpower and transportation which could possibly be reduced with regional lock-ups. C. Nuon noted superintendent will stay committed to the neighborhoods and community policing. C. Mercier questioned polices in dealing with current drug epidemic and the use of the CO-OP Program. Supt. Richardson noted the need for increased resources and it is not an area that increased arrest will resolve. Chief Winward commented on grant opportunities for regional transportation. C. Nuon commented on Back Central neighborhood increase in crime. Supt. Richardson outlined the use of plate readers by the City to curb crime as well as the use of bike patrols. C. Nuon noted upcoming meet and greet with the new superintendent.



Chief Winward commented on disaster plans both man-made and natural and that these plans were being more fully developed per State guidelines. The goal of the plan is to minimize property damage and person injury; restore functions and facilities; provide mutual aid; and communication with the public. C. Milinazzo commented on upcoming subcommittee in the neighborhoods to address safety concerns. C. Milinazzo noted need to have equipment that can protect new construction in the City. Chief Winward noted the age of the fleet and the need to update with the use of grants and added funding from the City. C. Nuon questioned use of management plans. Chief Winward noted time frame to develop plans and to publish same and further noted means of communicating to the public. Ann Marie Page (City Wide Council) addressed the body noting safety in the neighborhoods.

C. Nuon began discussion regarding canvassing/soliciting in the City. Supt. Richardson noted issues have arisen regarding the people's use of the permits and the use of aggressive salesmanship. C. Cirillo questioned if permits have pictures. Clerk Michael Geary outlined procedure in accordance with the ordinance.

Motion to accept the report as a report of progress by C. Milinazzo, seconded by C. Leahy. Adopted per Roll Call vote, 3 yeas. So voted.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion to adjourn by C. Milinazzo, seconded by C. Leahy. So Voted.

Meeting adjourned at 6:29 PM

Michael Geary, City Clerk