

POLICE COMMUNITY RELATIONS & REVIEW COMMISSION
April 12, 2016

ITEM 1.

Call to order.

The Oxford Police Community Relations & Review Commission meeting was called to order at 6:05 p.m. by Chair, Pat Meade. Members present were: Deirdre DeLong, Amber Franklin, and Shana Rosenberg. Jacqueline Rioja Velarde and Aimin Wong arrived at 6:07 p.m. Jonathon Joseph was absent.

Doug Elliott, City Manager, John Jones, Police Chief, Jon Varley, Patrol Sergeant, Josh Jenkins, Patrol Sergeant, John Buchholz, Assistant to the Chief, Business and Outreach and Mary Ann Eaton, Clerk of Council were in attendance for the City.

Caitlyn Rettenmaier and Caitlyn Findley were in attendance for Women Helping Women. Bob Ratterman was in attendance for the Journal News.

ITEM 2.

Approval of Agenda

Ms. Rosenberg moved to approve the agenda and move item V.C. (Training) to the first item under V. (Discussion). Ms. Franklin seconded. The motion passed 4-0-0.

Mr. Meade asked everyone to introduce themselves after which he congratulated Chief Jones on his recent promotion to the position of Police Chief.

ITEM 3.

Approval of Minutes of the February 18, 2016 Meeting.

Ms. Rioja Velarde moved to approve the minutes. Ms. Rosenberg seconded. The motion passed 6-0-0.

ITEM 4.

Public Comments.

Ms. Rettenmaier advised Women Helping Women was an advocacy organization which works with survivors of domestic violence, stalking and sexual assault. Ms. Rettenmaier noted in Butler County if someone is in a hospital and reports a sexual assault her agency would respond 365 days a year 24 hours a day.

Ms. Rettenmaier advised Women Helping Women served as an advocate for the survivor through the evidence collecting exam, and they could accompany the survivor to Police interviews and to the court proceedings. Ms. Rettenmaier noted the organization also had support groups after the fact. Ms. Rettenmaier advised she attended a Community Relations Commission meeting last week and they asked for her opinion as to what Women Helping Women needed. Ms. Rettenmaier noted the organization needed trauma informed police officers and an alliance with police officers as well as assistance with transportation needs for survivors in outlying areas of Butler County to attend support group meetings in Oxford.

ITEM 5.

Discussion

A. Training protocol for Oxford Police Officers.

Chief Jones provided a very thorough PowerPoint presentation with regard to the training Oxford Police Officers received under the provisions of Section 109 of the Ohio Revised Code as developed by the Ohio Peace Officer Training Commission (OPOTC). Chief Jones noted the Ohio Peace Officer Training was 17-20 weeks long and provided the foundation for new police officers. Chief Jones discussed the various sections of the curriculum and answered questions from the commission. Chief Jones and Sergeants Varley and Jenkins discussed Oxford's Field Training Program which consisted of 14 weeks of training for a new officer with an Oxford Field Training Officer. Chief Jones discussed Continuing Professional Training (CPT) noting the OPOTC mandated each year that appointed peace officers complete a certain number of hours of CPT. Chief Jones advised certain topics were also mandated which in the past included domestic violence, human trafficking and victim's rights. Chief Jones discussed 2016 CPT requirements, policing in the 21st century and on line OPOTA courses. Chief Jones advised for the last three years the Oxford Police Division conducted Summer In-Service Training noting every officer attended the training 10 hours each day for 4 days. Chief Jones noted the classes varied but included firearms requalification, firearms tactical training, driving techniques, CPR re-certification, legal updates, and simulation force on force scenarios and shoot/don't shoot real life situation training. Chief Jones discussed outside training courses officers could take to receive specialized certifications, roll call trainings at OPD, and diversity training OPD officers had attended. Chief Jones advised Police Sergeants attended the Southern Police Institute which was a 12 week in-residence program designed to develop informed, effective ethically and technically competent law enforcement managers who are capable of assuming positions of leadership in their respective agencies. Chief Jones noted former Chief Schwein and former Chief Holzworth attended the FBI National Academy in Quantico, Virginia for the professional development course for law enforcement leaders. Chief Jones and Mr. Elliott answered various questions from the commission.

B. Complaints.

Mr. Elliott provided the commission with a handout regarding a complaint which dealt with a former Animal Control Officer.

Mr. Elliott noted there was a lot of material to read over and suggested the commission review it and discuss it at the next meeting. Mr. Elliott advised the complaint was received before Chief Jones was appointed Chief and the complainant felt his case was not investigated properly.

Mr. Meade encouraged commission members to review the complaint prior to the next meeting.

C. Members experiences at the Police Academy.

Ms. Rosenberg noted the Police Academy had been a highlight for her each week and it had been very informative. Ms. Rosenberg advised she had an idea of what policing was like in this community and the problems the officers faced in a college town. Ms. Rosenberg noted she was impressed with how transparent the department was and it was good to know they were out there and were for the community. Ms. Rosenberg advised she felt the department wanted to police well and encourage compliance.

Ms. Rioja Velarde noted she had the same feelings and she felt the police staff was passionate and committed. Ms. Rioja Velarde advised John Buchholz did a great job of coordinating the program.

Mr. Elliott thanked Mr. Buchholz for his efforts. Mr. Elliott also thanked the commission members who participated in the Police Academy.

D. Other items of interest.

Mr. Meade noted his hope Ms. Rettenmaier would contact Chief Jones and Ms. Rettenmaier advised a meeting was already scheduled.

Mr. Meade thanked Chief Jones for the email regarding commission members sitting in on interviews with police department candidates. Mr. Meade noted it showed his willingness to let the commission learn more about the department.

E. Future Meeting Dates.

Mr. Meade noted his hope the commission could meet again in May and in August.

The next meeting of the Police Community Relations & Review Commission will take place Thursday, May 5, 2016 at 6:00 p.m. at the Oxford Fire Station. The focus of the meeting will be to review data collected by the Police Division and determine which data to provide the commission.

ITEM 6.

ADJOURN

Ms. Franklin moved to adjourn at 7:38 p.m. Ms. Rioja Velarde seconded. The motion passed 6-0-0.