

## **POLICE COMMUNITY RELATIONS & REVIEW COMMISSION COMMUNITY MEETING**

### **ITEM 1.**

#### **Call to order.**

The Oxford Police Community Relations & Review Commission meeting of August 17, 2017 was called to order at 7:01 p.m. by Pat Meade. Members present were: Deirdre DeLong, Aimin Wang, Amber Franklin, Shana Rosenberg, Jonathon Joseph, and Jacqueline Rioja Velarde.

Alan Kyger, Acting City Manager; John Jones, Police Chief; and Amy Gabbard, Office Manager, were in attendance for the City.

### **ITEM 2.**

#### **Approval of Agenda.**

Amber Franklin moved to approve the agenda; Jacqueline Rioja Velarde seconded. The motion passed 7-0-0.

### **ITEM 3.**

#### **Approval of Minutes of the April 27, 2017 Meeting.**

Shana Rosenberg moved to approve the minutes; Deirdre DeLong seconded. The motion passed 7-0-0.

### **ITEM 4.**

#### **Discussion.**

##### **A. APPROVAL OF ANNUAL REPORT TO CITY COUNCIL**

Amber Franklin moved to approve the commission's annual report to city council; Jacqueline Rioja Velarde seconded. The motion passed 7-0-0.

##### **B. OXFORD TOWNSHIP POLICE CHIEF MICHAEL GOINS**

Pat Meade introduced Chief Michael Goins and told Chief Goins that the members of the commission were looking for information on how Oxford Township Police Department (OTPD) interacts with OPD, what kind of agreement they have with OPD, and how did they initiate things within the city. Chief Michael Goins gave a brief background on himself and provided the demographics of the OTPD. He stated he works hand in hand with both Chief Jones and Chief

McCandless. He said Oxford Township is unique in that it borders Indiana. He reported that when an OTPD constable stops a vehicle within the city limits, the violation usually has occurred in the township, but by the time the constable gets turned around and catches up to the violator, the violator usually has traveled into the city.

He informed everyone that OTPD constables have worn body cameras since 2014 and it has worked well for them. Pat Meade asked about the retention schedule of body camera video, to which Chief Goins said that OTPD retains captured video footage associated with an ongoing case indefinitely. They also keep footage associated with a sex crime indefinitely. All other routine footage is purged at the end of the year. He said that the prosecutor determines what or what not to release. According to Chief Goins, OTPD has had one request for body camera footage and the prosecutor approved its release.

Pat Meade wanted to know if the city was going to purchase body cameras, to which Chief Jones said they will be purchased by the end of the year. Pat Meade asked if there were contract issues that will need to be addressed, to which Chief Jones said if there were, it would be addressed by labor management. Chief Goins said that although his constables are not unionized, they haven't had any issues. Chief Jones said that since we haven't purchased them yet, we haven't had issues.

Linda Kimball, an audience member, wanted to know if OTPD collected data on Use of Force, to which Chief Goins said his constables are required to fill out a form to explain what happened whenever there is a use of force. The Chief and Sergeant then review the form. Ms. Kimball also wanted to know if they collect stop data, to which he said they do, as their reports are submitted through the Ohio Attorney General's Office. Chief Goins reported that thefts and burglaries are their biggest crimes. He said his officers issue e-citations, which are electronic traffic citations that are sent to the state, and the citations can't be issued unless all of the information is filled out.

Jacqueline Rioja Velarde wanted to know if they have had any unusual incidents in the county, to which Chief Goins said they've been lucky so far and haven't had any unusual incidents. They worry about it but he is confident that if something should happen, all three departments would work together.

Chief Goins explained that his officers are Constables. He said they have countywide jurisdiction and are bonded by an insurance policy that covers them. He reported that even though they are allowed to go anywhere in the county, unless they are needed, they stay in the township.

Shana Rosenberg asked how often they interact with students and what for. Chief Goins said that most of their interaction with college students is through traffic violations. On a side note, he reported that Oxford Township had one of the highest fatality rates in the state for a township in recent years.

Shana Rosenberg wanted to know OTPD's stance on immigration. Chief Goins said they must have a reason to stop someone; they can't just stop someone to see if they are an illegal immigrant. With that said, if the detainee is wanted federally, he/she would be turned over to the federal government.

Chief Jones stated that while OPD has an MOU with MUPD, OPD's MOU with OTPD is part of the BC MOU. He said OPD has a great working relationship with OTPD.

#### C. CONCERNS OF THE COMMISSION AND COMMUNITY

Shana Rosenberg referred to the email she sent to the members of the commission regarding the concerns of a community member over suspicious activity she is witnessing around the area in which she lives [W. Vine St./Parkview Arms Apartments (PVA)]. In general, the complainant would like to see more of a police presence in the area and she would like to see more of a follow through from the officers. Chief Jones said that OPD was certainly aware of the crime and what is occurring in the area, but added that he appreciated hearing the concern, as it's good to know when someone is unsatisfied with our response to a call for service.

Chief Jones said that a lot of it is perception, as we spend an inordinate amount of time at PVA. Officers do undercover drug work at PVA or they do foot patrol in the early morning hours and therefore the officers may not be seen by the complainant. Furthermore, the complainant lives on Vine St. so she may not see what the officers are doing in PVA.

With that said, Chief Jones stated he understood the complainant's concerns and recognizes we could do more. He reminded everyone that we have to operate within the confines of the US Constitution and that there was a lot we could do crime control-wise if we threw away those liberties.

Evidence based policing shows that performing extra patrol in an area might make the residents feel better, but they hardly do anything to deter crime. It's been shown that officers need to be stationary in an area for 13-17 minutes in order for their presence to be a deterrent.

Shana Rosenberg wanted to know how hard it would be for an officer to spend 10 – 12 minutes on W. Vine St., to which Chief Jones replied it can be done, as we get extra patrol requests all the time. She wanted to know if anyone had approached us about starting a Neighborhood Watch in that area in order for the residents to take ownership of the problem. Chief Jones said he was not aware of any such request, but offered there are other ways residents can do their part. For example, an officer can do security surveys in the area and offer crime prevention suggestions.

Pat Meade recognized the good things that were happening in PVA, like the garden that was added and how residents request certain officers by name because they trust those officers.

Linda Kimball wanted to know if OPD officers carried Narcan, to which Chief Jones stated that Officer Hardin is the only OPD officer to carry Narcan, as it was donated to OPD for K9 Roscoe.

Linda Kimball had two questions about our Use of Force policy, which was distributed at the last commission meeting. She asked about the inventory of military style weapons, but then transitioned to wanting to know when an officer would use a shotgun. Chief told her that officers no longer carry shotguns in their patrol vehicles because of their limited range. He said officers carry patrol rifles in their vehicles because that is what most people are now armed with. Nowadays, weaponry is more advanced. He said that officers need the same weaponry as what they may face on the street. The SWAT team carries advanced weaponry, tactical equipment, and receives specialized training. OPD does not have tanks but does have a Bear cat.

Linda Kimball also referred to page 7 of the Use of Force policy and its reference to the protocol for use of electronic defense modules. She was especially interested in the standards for the utilization of the Taser. She wants a copy of the Taser policy P-2006-005, to which she was advised a copy will be provided to her.

Chief Jones reported that after the last meeting, OPD received a Use of Force Complaint. The investigation is complete and the complainant was determined to be unfounded. He gave each member a packet of the investigation to review.

#### D. FUTURE MEETINGS AND TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION

The next meeting is scheduled for 7 p.m. on Thursday, September 28, 2017 at the Oxford Courthouse. They will discuss the Use of Force complaint that was filed and investigated since the previous PCRRC meeting.

#### **ITEM 5.**

#### **Adjourn.**

Amber Franklin moved to adjourn at 7:57 p.m.; Shana Rosenberg seconded. The motion passed 7-0-0.