

DBOPC (Regular Meeting)
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DETROIT BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING
THURSDAY, November 2, 2017 at 3:00 PM
DETROIT PUBLIC SAFETY HEADQUARTERS
1301 THIRD AVENUE
DETROIT, MICHIGAN 48226

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COMMISSIONERS:

- RICHARD SHELBY, Commissioner (Dist. 1)
- REGINALD CRAWFORD, Commissioner (Dist. 3)
- WILLIE BELL, Commissioner (Dist. 4)
- LISA CARTER, Chairperson (Dist. 6)
- DERRICK SANDERS, Commissioner

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REPRESENTING THE CHIEF OF POLICE'S OFFICE:

DEPUTY CHIEF TODD BETTISON

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1 Detroit, Michigan

2 November 2, 2017

3 About 3:00 p.m.

4

5 CHAIRPERSON CARTER: Good afternoon.

6 Welcome to the weekly board of police commissioners

7 meeting my name Lisa Carter, chair of the commission.

8 At this time I'm going to ask that the commissioners --

9 I'm going to ask Commissioner Bell do invocation,

10 please.

11 COMMISSIONER BELL: Let us pray.

12 (Invocation given.)

13 CHAIRPERSON CARTER: Thank you, Commissioner

14 Bell. At this time I'm going to ask that the

15 commissioners introduce themselves beginning to my far

16 left. Commissioner Shelby.

17 COMMISSIONER SHELBY: Richard Shelby,

18 commissioner District 1.

19 COMMISSIONER CRAWFORD: Reginald Crawford,

20 Commissioner, District 3.

21 COMMISSIONER BELL: Willie Bell, District 4.

22 COMMISSIONER SANDERS: Derrick Sanders, at

23 large.

24 CHAIRPERSON CARTER: Thank you,

25 Commissioners.

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1 MR. HICKS: Madam Chair, you do not have a
2 quorum.

3 CHAIRPERSON CARTER: Thank you. Are there
4 any elected officials or representatives of elected
5 officials in the audience? If so, please stand and
6 given your name for the record. At this time Mr. Hicks
7 would you please introduce the staff.

8 MR. HICKS: Thank you, Madam Chair.
9 Immediately to my right of course is Mr. Brown and if we
10 look in the first row here we have Mr. Wyrick is our
11 legal counsel. We have Mrs. Johnson in fiscal,
12 Mrs. Blossom who is media coordinator and outreach. We
13 have Mrs. White who is our policy, and then we're just
14 in a second going to go to Mr. Akbar who will introduce
15 not only himself but the other individuals in just one
16 quick second. I need to say a couple other quick
17 things; need to indicate that Mr. Quinn is taping the
18 meeting. Media services is providing the audio/visual
19 work and Caitlyn Mancini is the court reporter for the
20 day. Mr. Akbar.

21 MR. AKBAR: Good afternoon, board. I'm the
22 interim chief investigator Lawrence Akbar on behalf of
23 the office of the chief investigator. It's my pleasure
24 to introduce some of my talented staff. We'll first
25 start off with supervising investigator

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1 Ainsley Cromwell. Senior investigator Charlene Jones.
2 Senior investigator Adela Rivera. Investigator Roslyn
3 Banks. And investigator or Daniel Callaway. That's all
4 I have today.

5 CHAIRPERSON CARTER: Thank you, Mr. Akbar.
6 At this time commissioners excused for today are
7 commissioners Dewaelsche, Brooks, Vann, Mallett, and
8 Burton. With five commissioners excused for this
9 meeting we will not -- we do not have a quorum as
10 mentioned earlier unless one of the commissioners
11 arrives unexpectedly. Therefore, we will proceed with
12 reports and any items required to vote we would hold
13 over until the next meeting. Again, we're going to skip
14 the agenda approval and the minutes.

15 At this time if we don't have a
16 representative, so I guess the highest ranked person
17 will take a seat up here. Sir, good afternoon. Give
18 your name and your rank and introduce any DPD.

19 CAPTAIN CHAMBERS: Captain Michael Chambers
20 I'm with internal controls. We're going to have
21 Sergeant Snodgrass to my left, as well as let's see I
22 just got relieved here by Deputy Bettison.

23 COMMISSIONER BELL: We was going to promote
24 you.

25 CAPTAIN CHAMBERS: I appreciate it.

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1 DEPUTY CHIEF BETTISON: Through the chair,
2 good evening -- well good afternoon, Deputy Chief
3 Bettison for the chief representing Chief Craig.

4 CHAIRPERSON CARTER: We were just
5 introducing your staff that's here.

6 DEPUTY CHIEF BETTISON: Perfect.

7 CHAIRPERSON CARTER: Was that everybody?

8 COMMISSIONER BELL: Not quite. Why doesn't
9 everyone just stand up and introduce yourself.

10 CHAIRPERSON CARTER: Thank you.

11 LIEUTENANT SIMS: William Sims, lieutenant
12 civil rights.

13 SERGEANT SNODGRASS: Sergeant Dwight
14 Snodgrass, neighborhood police east.

15 MS. ENGLE: Dawn Engle, SVU.

16 SERGEANT HEWITT: Sergeant Joe Hewitt,
17 office of the chief.

18 LIEUTENANT RUSSELL: Lieutenant Michael
19 Russell, homicide.

20 CHAIRPERSON CARTER: Thank you.

21 Commissioners, I would like to indicate our continued
22 support as Commissioner Bell mentioned in his invocation
23 for our injured and fallen personnel. In our minutes
24 from last week we recorded several of these officers I
25 understand that the situation and severity of the

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1 injuries remain the same. Again, I ask for your support
2 for the individual personnel and their families please.

3 We have one presentation on the agenda
4 today, that's the monthly report from the human
5 resources department. At the end of the meeting we'll
6 have oral communications from the audience, so if you'd
7 like to address the board please sign a card so that we
8 can call you at the appropriate time and mister -- no,
9 who has the cards?

10 MR. BROWN: Me.

11 CHAIRPERSON CARTER: Oh Mr. Brown has the
12 cards. We received notification from the National
13 Association of Civilian Oversight of Law Enforcement,
14 NACOLE, that Detroit is one of three potential
15 conference sites for the 2019 national conference.
16 NACOLE will be discussing this matter in greater detail
17 at its next meeting. If we are successful in attracting
18 this conference we will have civilian oversight boards
19 and commissioners from across the country here in the
20 city of Detroit to discuss best practices and the work
21 of civilian oversight. I will keep the board and the
22 public updated as more information is available so
23 that's a huge win for us if selected.

24 Also I'd like to report out on a few
25 follow-up items from our last meeting. First, staff

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1 transmitted to corporation council Arlington to issue a
2 subpoena for the records related to the lawsuits
3 involving police personnel. We have given the law
4 department two weeks to comply with our request before
5 we demand the information via subpoena.

6 Next I signed a letter to the chief asking
7 him to evaluate the conduct of an officer in the 8th
8 precinct due to the quantity of civilian complaints
9 involving the officer. As you recall -- may recall we
10 discussed the matter in detail at our last meeting. For
11 the last follow-up I also signed a letter to the police
12 department's chief financial officer to provide us with
13 a budget schedule. As you know the board is required by
14 charter to review and approve the department's budget
15 before it's transmitted to the mayor. And finally we
16 have a few high profile incidents to -- reported in the
17 media and I would ask that Deputy Chief Bettison if you
18 have any information on that would you include that in
19 your report out?

20 DEPUTY CHIEF BETTISON: Yes, ma'am.

21 CHAIRPERSON CARTER: Thank you. At this
22 time I'm going to ask that Deputy Chief Bettison is
23 there a report that you want to given or anything -- oh
24 I'm sorry let's do -- yeah, going to do the resolution
25 for retired Detective Scott Shea.

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1 COMMISSIONER CRAWFORD: This is a resolution
2 honoring retired Detective Scott Shea. Whereas Scott M.
3 Shea was appointed to Detroit Police Department on May
4 6, 1996. Upon graduating from the Detroit Metropolitan
5 Police Academy Officer Shea began his career at the 10th
6 precinct and whereas Detective Shea has tirelessly
7 served the Detroit Police Department, citizens of the
8 city of Detroit, surrounding communities for 21 years.
9 His professionalism, commitment to public service
10 integrity and dedication has been a credit to Detroit
11 Police Department. He is highly respected by his peers
12 and consummate professional. Now therefore be it
13 resolved that Detroit police commissioners speaking on
14 behalf of Detroit Police Department and citizens of the
15 city of Detroit recognize the dedicated commitment to
16 public service -- to public safety by Detective Scott
17 Shea. His exemplary service to law enforcement has been
18 an invaluable asset to the department and merit our
19 highest regard. Congratulations.

20 COMMISSIONER BELL: Outstanding.

21 CHAIRPERSON CARTER: Thank you, Commissioner
22 Crawford. At this time Commissioner Bell would you read
23 the retirement -- resolution for retired investigator
24 Charles Weaver, please.

25 COMMISSIONER BELL: Yes, ma'am. It is my

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1 honor and privilege to a resolution honoring retiring
2 investigator Charles H. Weaver and Officer Weaver --
3 let's try this again -- Investigator Weaver was
4 appointed to the Detroit Police Department on July the
5 21st, 1986 upon graduating from the academy. Began his
6 career at the 12th precinct and whereas thereafter he
7 served the 12th precinct and the office of the chief
8 investigator that we all know Weaver, Officer Weaver, is
9 a outstanding person who served this board in so many
10 capacity in terms of his years of service and then he
11 moved on and his law enforcement career continue and his
12 last assignment was with the homicide division so he
13 went to a higher order of service and I want to say now
14 therefore be it resolved -- well I'm going to back up a
15 little bit.

16 Investigator Weaver spent 31 years with
17 Detroit Police Department. I want to just highlight
18 that. Now therefore be it resolved that the board of
19 police commissioners speaking for the citizens of
20 Detroit and Detroit Police Department recognize and
21 honor the lifetime commitment to public safety by
22 Investigator Charles Weaver. Your exemplary service to
23 law enforcement was an invaluable asset to the
24 department and merit our highest regard. And I wish him
25 the best, God speed, God blessing in his second life

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1 after DPD and mostly the opportunity to interact with
2 him in this building serving homicide, so he's a
3 outstanding individual and I just once again wish him
4 the best.

5 CHAIRPERSON CARTER: Thank you, Commissioner
6 Bell. At this time I'm going to ask the Deputy Chief
7 Bettison you have the floor, sir?

8 DEPUTY CHIEF BETTISON: Thank you. For the
9 the record Deputy Chief Bettison representing Chief
10 Craig. The chief would be here but he will be
11 delivering a press conference at 4 p.m. today with one
12 of the high profile cases involving the fatal shooting
13 of James Haulier (sic) who was a 69-year-old male is
14 probably -- you've probably seen the reports in the
15 news. The incident happened yesterday which would have
16 been Wednesday, November the 1st at 16830 Schaefer
17 highway at O'Reilly Auto Parts store. We're currently
18 looking for two suspects, female suspects. Pardon me
19 for this. Currently looking for two female suspects.
20 The suspects were last seen in a burgundy Chevy
21 Suburban. They fled south on Schaefer. It was
22 discovered that the victim was shot during this robbery
23 attempt, so we're definitely asking for the public's
24 help and asking for everybody to tune in at 4 p.m. if
25 possible for the audience on the news station to watch

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1 the chief's press conference. And you'll be able to see
2 it online as well.

3 The video was grainy I can say that too much
4 but you should be able to identify them based off, you
5 know, if you know a person sometimes just by the gait of
6 their walk or other mannerisms. If you think it may be
7 them, please just let our homicide know or either
8 1-800-speakup through crime stoppers.

9 Also in regard to our crime which I can
10 report out that in the area of homicide we're trending
11 down still year-to-date we're at 233 homicides that's
12 down 9 percent compared to the same period of time last
13 year. Sexual assaults down 7 percent. Robbery which is
14 a crime of course strikes fear in folks and more random
15 than other crimes down 14 percent, carjackings down 13
16 percent. Aggravated assault down 5 percent. Nonfatal
17 shootings we're down 11 percent and overall violent
18 crime in the city of Detroit is down 7 percent.

19 As far as update on our injured officers I
20 think that you sent out a prayer, Commissioner, that
21 I'll give you an update real quick. Officer Waters
22 Johnson is in rehab still. He suffered a gun shot
23 wound. Also Officer Gregory Bentley is in physical
24 therapy was a victim of a gun shot wound. Officer
25 Anthony Brown which was hit by a vehicle in the

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1 performance of duty is recuperating at home. Officer
2 Benjamin Akison is recuperating at home from a gun shot
3 wound. Also Matthew Winquist is recuperating at home
4 from a gun shot wound. And officer James Kisselburg is
5 recuperating at home, suffered from a gun shot wound.
6 We're continuing to -- we're still hiring. I know
7 Director Oxendine I would not venture into her
8 territory. She's able to speak on that but just for the
9 public and always thanking Commissioner Betty Brooks out
10 there who's with us recruiting continue to ask the
11 audience to, you know, encourage your loved ones to be
12 Detroit police officers. We have to keep the diversity;
13 that's something that we always focus on and keeping our
14 numbers up.

15 And then as far as events that will be
16 occurring or coming up. This Sunday, November the 5th
17 we're going to have our 2017 Veteran's Day parade and
18 it's a marathon associated with it. I shouldn't say
19 marathon but a four star mile race. The parade and race
20 both will begin at 12 p.m. and conclude by 3 p.m. in
21 Hart Plaza. We expect over 5,000 people for that so
22 definitely come out and celebrate our veteran officers
23 and with that Chairman Carter that concludes my report.

24 CHAIRPERSON CARTER: Thank you, Deputy Chief
25 Bettison any questions for the deputy chief,

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1 commissioners?

2 COMMISSIONER BELL: Yes, ma'am. Could you
3 report out on Angel Night and outcome?

4 DEPUTY CHIEF BETTISON: Absolutely. Oh my
5 God just the overall Angel's Night activities we had no
6 more fires. I don't have the exact numbers as far as
7 fires but what I can say is we did not have a spike; we
8 had no more fires than a normal night in the city of
9 Detroit, and we scaled back this year. The board
10 recalls Commissioner Vann asking a couple weeks ago when
11 are we going to start to scale back and I said that that
12 transformation had already began. We cut back as far as
13 the curfew. We moved it, bumped it up to 7 p.m. and on
14 actual Halloween day we did not have a restricted curfew
15 for the youth. We didn't see an uptick. Matter of fact
16 on Halloween we thought we were successful last year but
17 this year all of our precinct we gave out over 1,000
18 pounds of candy. We had the sponsors really step up.
19 No command officers had to go in their pocket this year
20 to purchase candy. Last year some command officers,
21 captains and commanders actually spent 4 or 500 dollars
22 because we ran out of candy for the children and we were
23 running back and forth to Rite Aid but this year
24 sponsors stepped up. We didn't have to do that. It was
25 Costco's, GM Cares, and we had enough candy for all the

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1 precincts. At Halloween activity I went by most of the
2 precincts and what I saw was a lot of smiling kids with
3 costumes on. Everybody having a good time. I saw
4 mothers, fathers with their children, nieces, aunts
5 everybody just all smiles, beautiful costumes and it was
6 just a wonderful thing.

7 And I will tell you that each precinct had
8 to have over 5, 600 kids. Some precincts had over 1,000
9 kids that trick or treated and what was unique is that
10 when we traveled up and down the streets we really
11 didn't see kids trick or treating at houses. They all
12 came to the fire stations the Detroit police stations
13 and the recreation centers, so looking at that the data
14 and just looking at just this overall good feeling I
15 know Bishop Vann said, Commissioner Vann said when are
16 we going to end; when are we going to call it quits.
17 Well, you know, when he asked that I was afraid to let
18 go and, you know, we've been thinking about it; it's a
19 question we all ask but on Monday I got the notification
20 like gave the Bishop a call, had him come down there's
21 going to be a press conference so on November the 1st
22 here in this room at 9 a.m. the mayor, the chief of
23 police, some city council folks, the community, radio
24 patrols, Detroit 300, Bishop Vann was able to report out
25 to the media that Angel's Night is over. We will not

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1 ramp up like that but what we will do is we will have,
2 and don't quote me on the name because this is not the
3 official name, we'll have community input, but we're
4 going to have a 3 day celebration where we celebrate
5 Halloween and the goal is Halloween in the D but to have
6 a Halloween for our folks in our city like no other. To
7 top everything else.

8 So what that looks like we got a whole year
9 to get it together, but it's going to be the community
10 coming together to make sure that our young folks in the
11 city have the best Halloween in the country, so that's
12 what the goal is. We have some media folks say, hey,
13 are you taking your eye off the ball? Remember 1993
14 when we said hey it's over and then we had in uptick in
15 fires; we're not taking our eye off the ball. Of course
16 we will have our regular patrols out, we'll have our
17 radio patrol folks out still patrolling Detroit 300 but
18 when you give kids something to do positive they say the
19 idle mind is a devil's work shop so we're going to make
20 sure we wrap our arms around it and give them something
21 to do positive so that they don't have to get into
22 mischief. Thank you.

23 CHAIRPERSON CARTER: Thank you, Deputy
24 Chief. Commissioner Crawford.

25 COMMISSIONER CRAWFORD: Yes, ma'am, through

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1 the Chair. Deputy Chief Bettison first and foremost I
2 want to offer my condolences from this board to the
3 family of the elder that was killed in that incident
4 yesterday at O'Reilly on Schaefer Street. Such a
5 heinous crime.

6 DEPUTY CHIEF BETTISON: Yes.

7 COMMISSIONER CRAWFORD: I have the upmost
8 confidence in the Detroit Police Department that, you
9 know, an apprehension of arrest will be made soon. It's
10 just I mean it's truly tragic.

11 DEPUTY CHIEF BETTISON: Yes, it is.

12 COMMISSIONER CRAWFORD: You know,
13 circumstance and how that occurred. Also too speaking
14 of other high profile incidents in the media and this
15 was in the media and I know that chief investigator's
16 office for the board of police commissioners are
17 investigating this so I'm not going to elaborate on it
18 too much but I can since it's in the media and in the
19 public domain I can make comments on what I read and
20 heard 'cause everybody has obviously phone calls about
21 this. Texts messages. Social media post about that
22 incident involving five black men who were contractors
23 working on the house on the west side I believe it was
24 Ohio Street and as reported in the media and thank God a
25 body there is body camera footage of this that these

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1 officers that responded did what was proper, they
2 investigated these individuals 'cause I believe there
3 was police run of something so they do that, you know,
4 home invasion or house being stripped something of that
5 nature.

6 But the gentleman going to report produced
7 the appropriate paperwork that they were there to
8 renovate that dwelling. Also too all five were
9 investigated in terms of identification. They had no
10 warrants, and then they were told to run. And you know,
11 as an elder in this community 40 years as a police
12 officer and as a black man in particular I was very
13 angered and hurt by that. It took me back to the '60s
14 I'm sure Commissioner Bell it took him back to
15 Mississippi, the days of Mississippi. We just had a
16 conversation something of this nature last week at the
17 table and even the owner of that company who these five
18 individuals were working for his expression, and he's a
19 white male, he says well, you know, it's just simply
20 racial profiling. I mean, this man makes a statement in
21 the media and I concurred with it, and I didn't even
22 need his statement to confirm this. He said if that
23 crew, my crew were five white males, this wouldn't have
24 happened.

25 You know, then we got those who want to come

1 back this issue well, Detroit is a predominantly black
2 city, you can't have racial profiling in a predominantly
3 black police department. And I said this several times
4 not even at this table but throughout life, yes, there
5 is such thing as racial profiling, black folks can
6 racial profile black folks and they do it because of the
7 system. The systemic racism and conditioning on the
8 psychology the conditioning and those who are
9 psychologically damaged by enslavement of Africans in
10 this country suffer from the same mindset as others who
11 want to go out and commit these kind of -- or engage in
12 this type of behavior. And then last week I mean
13 against, you know, those of color so it doesn't matter.
14 You know, there was one color in particular that was in
15 common out there they were all blue.

16 So it's psychological and I know that. And
17 it's unfortunately that some folks are walking around
18 psychologically damaged like that but it should have
19 been somebody in that group of six officers that said
20 we're not going to -- and I expounded on this last week
21 when we were on the street and Shelby was too we didn't
22 tolerate that. Your complaints to this department back
23 in the day would have been about us 'cause I had people
24 go to supervisors on me, things I told them I wasn't
25 going to tolerate in my presence. Sometimes when I made

1 police runs they drove off 'cause they knew what was
2 coming but the issue and the discussion last week was
3 about the body cams changing the behavior. You know,
4 the body cam changing the behavior, no, the body cams to
5 me is about the exposure of the behavior. We want to
6 change the behavior we deal with it -- with them in
7 terms of accountability. That will change the behavior
8 I guarantee it. If we handle it appropriately and
9 things are handed down and we hold those individuals
10 accountable not only for this incident but all incidents
11 not only in Detroit Police Department but across America
12 that changes behavior.

13 So it's important, yeah, the body cams are
14 good for that exposure. 'Cause there's this little
15 debate back and forth well how long is it going to --
16 well we don't see a change in the behavior. I mean, I
17 call it professional stupidity you're on a hot mic
18 anyway, I mean, you're hot and you still act like that.
19 So I just want you to know I'm very angered by it. And
20 there are a number of of black men in this city I know
21 that are angered by it.

22 DEPUTY CHIEF BETTISON: Through the chair.

23 CHAIRPERSON CARTER: Deputy chief.

24 DEPUTY CHIEF BETTISON: It was definitely in
25 violation of our policy, and I'm angered by it also.

1 Definitely when you violate our policy like that. But
2 what I will say for the community and for the board is a
3 reminder that it was Detroit police officers that went
4 to the chief to say we want body cameras; we want those
5 body cameras to insure that the truth is exposed and we
6 made the investment so that our body cameras would be
7 the best in the nation because they sync up with the car
8 because you have the in-car dash now you have the body
9 cameras and ours will sync up so that unlike most
10 departments you will get a more totality of what
11 actually occurred and with that Commissioner Crawford, I
12 agree. The exposure piece is key. It was caught like
13 it was meant to be caught and from there the
14 investigation is occurring and that the chief does hold
15 members of the department accountable for violation of
16 policy and this leadership team that you have we will
17 hold folks accountable and that's what we do. And
18 that's about all I can say about that but that 98, 99
19 percent of our officers are doing it the right way and
20 that those that choose to do it improperly that they
21 will be held accountable.

22 CHAIRPERSON CARTER: Thank you, sir. Any
23 other questions comments, commissioners?

24 COMMISSIONER BELL: Madam Chair, I just want
25 to piggy on Deputy Chief Bettison about Angel Night that

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1 I had an opportunity to interact with the 5th precinct
2 and this is their third year of having a float and the
3 theme was Purple Rain, Prince, and I'm not a Purple
4 Rain -- I'm a mow town type of guy but those NPOs as
5 always went the extra mile and Deputy Chief Barren was
6 there he came out and chief Craig came out and Chief
7 Craig tried to play the guitar and he didn't know it was
8 not real but we got to have a little laughter here, and
9 I just want to say that the trunk or treat and the float
10 they before sharing at the shopping mall, and I
11 witnessed that my grandkids seen the front end of it.

12 Then I went over to the 9th precinct they
13 must have had, you know, just overflow with young people
14 interacting with the police and I had the opportunity
15 visit the bomb squad they was there. It was just
16 tremendous outing on Halloween for police and community
17 and I just want to commend these officers I mentioned
18 last night at the police community that's all they went
19 beyond the call of duty. And like you say the command
20 officers spending money and the costumes and all that we
21 don't pay for any of that. And I'm glad that the
22 sponsors came through on one of the samaritans, the
23 reserves and so I'm glad that we going to channel that
24 in three days to have Halloween like we used to have
25 Halloween I want to say in the '70s and the '60s and the

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1 '50s. Not in Mississippi. We didn't have Halloween out
2 there. I think if we run around with the mask we -- it
3 was a different ball game. But I'm just hoping that we
4 can lift up Detroit on a positive note all has come
5 together not standing these incidents are minor. We
6 going to address the issue and we going to move on
7 because we don't want to take away from the good work of
8 DPD and the community and all involved parties and
9 Commissioner Crawford's correct we address those issue,
10 we are disturbed by them but we also have to embrace the
11 good and that outweigh the negative, small but it's
12 major because it happened but we going to address that
13 and I'm glad OCI and all that.

14 I just wanted to make sure that we in that
15 positive theme after these three nights of activities
16 and I just want to make one little minor note Madam
17 Chair that I would hope that you keep in your prayers a
18 good friend of mine for many, many years Henry Ford band
19 director and so many different area he finish up his
20 Cass Tech band director music, being his friends, being
21 a young man from Arkansas like so many of us came to
22 Detroit a member of church and White know what I'm
23 talking about. He gave so much to this community and
24 that impact so many young people in Detroit in terms of
25 the public school setting and he continue on with his

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1 music, and I just want to lift up Ben Pruitt this
2 afternoon. An educator top shelf in so many areas I
3 just wanted to share keep his family in mind. Thank you
4 Madam Chair.

5 CHAIRPERSON CARTER: Thank you. At this
6 time we'll have the presentation to the board from the
7 human resources department director Oxendine.

8 MS. OXENDINE: Good afternoon board. This
9 is the report for October 2017. Our current staffing
10 numbers we have 2,498 sworn positions filled, 585
11 civilians for a total of 3,083, and I've highlighted the
12 number 97. I can't remember when police only had 97
13 vacancies so we're just ecstatic about that and of those
14 vacancies 44 are civilians and 53 are sworn, but of that
15 of 53, 13 are police assistants so we're down to 40
16 positions with respect to our budgeted numbers that are
17 vacant for sworn staff and so team is -- thank you.

18 The team has done an amazing job. They've
19 just pushed and pushed and pushed and it's really a team
20 effort and so we just so appreciative of almost hitting
21 that goal, we're almost there so hang with us. Sworn
22 recruiting so far for fiscal year we have had a total of
23 1,670 applicants, we have 126 that are waiting MCOLES
24 testing, 47 in process, 291 have been disqualified for
25 lack of interest, 616 were temporarily were

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1 disqualified, 351 permanently disqualified, and we've
2 hired 128 during that four month period. The MCOLES
3 testing written and physical agility as you see the
4 numbers here our show up rate is decreasing and our pass
5 rate is decreasing also. We're not exactly sure what
6 that's attributed to but we're taking a look at that.

7 Also during the month of October we had 28
8 new grads from the academy and you see a breakdown here
9 of the sex and race. 14 white males, 6 black males, 2
10 Hispanic males, 1 Arab male, 2 white females, 2 black
11 females, and 1 Hispanic female so the diversity
12 continues to look pretty good. Moving over to page two.
13 Total new hires for the month of October a total of
14 5,139 sworn. We had a really big hire number; team
15 really worked hard to get that number up for this month
16 and 12 civilians for a total of 51. Detroit residency
17 information is shown below. We have 640 sworn Detroit
18 residents. 1,858 are nonresidents. U.S. civilian
19 Detroit residents are 355 and 230 are nonresidents. We
20 had 7 of the 39 that we hired in October are Detroit
21 residents. That's the sworn number and then of the 12
22 civilians we hired 5 of them are Detroit residents.

23 Students internship program continues and
24 will end sometime in December; we'll make sure you get
25 an invitation to the coffee and cake. We only have

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1 eight students but they're a very serious group. Four
2 of the eight have already applied to be Detroit police
3 officers and we might be able to get a few more of those
4 eight as well.

5 Attrition was really good this month. 15
6 sworn, 4 civilians, 1 police assistant for a total of
7 20. That's pretty low is considering and you're leave
8 of absence and FMLA numbers are shown in the chart
9 below. With respect to special projects our sick time
10 audit continues and we expect to conclude that audit by
11 the end of the calendar year. And at that time we'll
12 report our findings and recommendations to the chief of
13 police and make sure that you get a copy of that report.

14 And, lastly, there's been an effort to
15 implement a new payroll system, an HR system within the
16 city of Detroit, city wide, for some time now. The name
17 of the software product is called UltiPro and so looks
18 like we're getting closer to a go-live date and I think
19 we're expected to go live sometime early in 2018.
20 Currently, the project is in the testing phase of the
21 software, but just to keep you updated so that will
22 change how we do business here within the department
23 with respect to payroll and HR and time keeping. And
24 that concludes my report for the month of October and
25 I'll take your questions.

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1 CHAIRPERSON CARTER: Commissioners, any
2 question for Director Oxendine?

3 COMMISSIONER CRAWFORD: Yes, ma'am, through
4 the chair. Yes, ma'am, Madam Director sworn recruiting
5 numbers for July to October 128 hired, correct?

6 MS. OXENDINE: That is correct.

7 COMMISSIONER CRAWFORD: So add that number
8 with what we had previously this year we're nowhere near
9 800 hired?

10 MS. OXENDINE: Well no.

11 COMMISSIONER CRAWFORD: That number was
12 thrown out at the table last week that we hired 800
13 people, 800 police officers were hired this year in
14 Detroit Police Department.

15 MS. OXENDINE: No, 800 officers were not
16 hired this year.

17 COMMISSIONER CRAWFORD: Yes, ma'am.

18 MS. OXENDINE: Probably during the last four
19 years we've hired close to that number.

20 COMMISSIONER CRAWFORD: Yes, ma'am.

21 MS. OXENDINE: I know we've promoted more
22 than 800 people in the department during that four year
23 period.

24 COMMISSIONER CRAWFORD: Yes, ma'am.

25 MS. OXENDINE: But no 128 for the fiscal and

1 if you want to turn where it says staffing and
2 employment appointment tab in the back and go to the
3 second page we've hired 335 officers for this calendar
4 year.

5 COMMISSIONER CRAWFORD: Yes, ma'am. Well
6 thank you for that accurate information.

7 MS. OXENDINE: Yes, sir.

8 COMMISSIONER CRAWFORD: Again, I'm a little
9 bit older but I don't have a math phobia, I don't have a
10 fear of high numbers so I can --

11 MS. OXENDINE: 335.

12 COMMISSIONER CRAWFORD: I can process this,
13 but I didn't think it was 800 this year.

14 MS. OXENDINE: No, no that would be -- I
15 don't know --

16 CHAIRPERSON CARTER: Mr. Hicks, can you make
17 that the commissioner that needed that information gets
18 that information?

19 MR. HICKS: Yes, I will.

20 CHAIRPERSON CARTER: Thank you.

21 COMMISSIONER SANDERS: Through the chair.

22 CHAIRPERSON CARTER: Yes.

23 COMMISSIONER SANDERS: Ms. Oxendine, I'd
24 like to know can you possibly on this new payroll system
25 because that's very important to what we do here can you

1 kind of bridge it with our people Ms. Faye Johnson on
2 what's going on with it because we going to be a part of
3 it, so I know you said that it's like a new system going
4 online, right?

5 MS. OXENDINE: Yes.

6 COMMISSIONER SANDERS: And it's going to
7 take 2018, 2019?

8 MS. OXENDINE: My understanding is that the
9 go-live date is early 2018 and that's a city wide
10 implementation of a new timekeeping, HR, and payroll
11 system.

12 COMMISSIONER SANDERS: So would that be --
13 one of you guys will be inside of that system?

14 MS. OXENDINE: Yes.

15 COMMISSIONER SANDERS: So you guys being
16 inside the system will there be anybody else that have
17 those passwords to look at the system?

18 MS. OXENDINE: So currently we have a
19 payroll system and HR system currently, okay. And I
20 don't know who has access to the information for the
21 system now that might be on the board. I'm not familiar
22 with that. What I can tell you is that the payroll
23 information will be interfaced with the finance system,
24 the city's finance system for a variety of purposes so
25 there's -- there are several interfaces that are planned

1 as part of this implementation.

2 COMMISSIONER SANDERS: Okay, thank you.

3 CHAIRPERSON CARTER: So my question is
4 Ms. Oxendine will everything be direct deposit? Is that
5 where we're moving towards?

6 MS. OXENDINE: The focus is to move toward
7 direct deposit or either a pay card.

8 CHAIRPERSON CARTER: Okay. That will work.

9 MS. OXENDINE: That is the push. But it's
10 to the advantage of the city to do direct deposit for
11 everyone because it's less expensive so there have been
12 for several months now what they're calling direct
13 deposit fairs where they have been inviting in various
14 banking institutions and such to come in and do kind of
15 a easy sign up and talk about the benefits those
16 institutions have with respect to direct deposit. So
17 the number is growing of people signing up for direct
18 deposit and then those that do not have direct deposit
19 will be offered the option of a pay card.

20 COMMISSIONER SANDERS: Through the chair.
21 Can you possibly come back once this is online and give
22 us an update?

23 MS. OXENDINE: Sure.

24 COMMISSIONER SANDERS: Okay. I would
25 appreciate it.

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1 MS. OXENDINE: Sure.

2 COMMISSIONER SANDERS: Thank you.

3 COMMISSIONER SHELBY: Through the chair.

4 Good report as always director. Student intern program
5 does that count if students are full-time or can they be
6 part-time students?

7 MS. OXENDINE: It could be full-time or
8 part-time students and they are college students.

9 COMMISSIONER SHELBY: Thank you.

10 CHAIRPERSON CARTER: Okay. And just so that
11 I'm clear I would move towards the department -- I would
12 strongly suggest that the department move toward direct
13 deposit because after our every other Thursday we see at
14 least 50 officers waiting for checks to be distributed
15 that is absolutely -- that's an absolute waste of time
16 to me. In my opinion.

17 MS. OXENDINE: Yeah, I mean direct deposit
18 is absolutely -- it's less expensive in a variety of
19 ways, right? You don't have to print checks, you know,
20 you're saving in that cost. You're saving people
21 traveling to pick up checks. You're saving in terms of
22 the wire transfer is less expensive than loading to a
23 pay card, so there are a variety of financial reasons
24 that -- financial benefits I should say to the city for
25 that. But the state law will not require us to force

1 people to be direct deposit, so we have to offer some
2 kind of alternative method other than direct deposit.
3 That's why we're trying to, you know, push that and a
4 lot of financial institutions also waive fees, bank fees
5 if you have direct deposit as well. It's an advantage
6 for the employee too.

7 CHAIRPERSON CARTER: Right, okay. Any other
8 questions or?

9 COMMISSIONER BELL: Madam Chair, I'm glad
10 you brought that issue up because that is 1970 mentality
11 of picking up those checks waiting, waiting, and I don't
12 understand how is it that social security I guess it's
13 federal 'cause they don't do that type of payroll
14 anymore. Everybody got direct deposit so if we would
15 say okay I don't know the timeframe is that we won't be
16 delivering but not on Monday morning, whatever it is we
17 can change that whole scheme, and sort of push toward
18 payroll deposit 'cause I get a pension check and it's
19 the only way I can get is through deposit, and most of
20 us receive it that way, so like you say those 40
21 officers sitting around, you know, that's just like --
22 it's just it don't add up. I wish you could address
23 that in some manner now versus them coming. Maybe we
24 just need to have a delivery service versus that idle
25 time, two or three hours sitting there waiting every two

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1 weeks. It doesn't add up; it's a disservice to the
2 public in terms of man power so I just I'm glad you
3 brought that up Madam Chair.

4 CHAIRPERSON CARTER: Thank you, ma'am. I
5 think we're all set.

6 DEPUTY CHIEF BETTISON: Through the chair,
7 Deputy Chief Bettison I will also work with the director
8 to take a look at that to see what efficiencies that we
9 can create. Thank you.

10 CHAIRPERSON CARTER: Thank you, sir.

11 COMMISSIONER BELL: Madam Chair I just want
12 to also mention that we had promotion ceremony Friday
13 sergeant, lieutenant, deputy chief, and commander and
14 NPOs, and detectives, and investigator, Commissioner
15 Shelby we attended and I had the opportunity to speak;
16 they always enjoy my brief remarks, so it's always a
17 pleasure to interact and as the chief mentioned it's
18 upward mobility for those who want to be on that career
19 path so that's one of the highlights as we commissioner
20 and that director of personnel in terms of giving that
21 person opportunity to be promoted if they have that
22 desire, and I just appreciate that in terms of Ebenezer
23 Baptist Church -- not Baptist it's non-denomination now,
24 our favorite church. Thank you, Madam Chair.

25 CHAIRPERSON CARTER: Thank you for attending

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1 on behalf of the board. At this time commissioners is
2 there any standing committee with reports, ad hoc
3 committee reports? At this time we'll have the report
4 from the board secretary.

5 MR. HICKS: Thank you, Madam Chair. I
6 simply want to call the attention to the board there are
7 five items in which we have listed on the board agenda
8 as incoming items to the board, and we do note that item
9 number five which is a request from the chief for the
10 suspension without pay of a particular officer that that
11 item would be put over to the next meeting. It will not
12 take place at the committee -- I mean community meeting,
13 which is our next meeting by order of the chair. It
14 will go to the following meeting. Other than that the
15 information is in front of you.

16 COMMISSIONER CRAWFORD: Yes.

17 CHAIRPERSON CARTER: Thank you, Mr. Hicks
18 any old business commissioners? New business?
19 Announcements, our board of police meeting will be
20 Thursday, November 9th at 6:30 p.m. in the 6th precinct
21 at the Cody Academy of Public Leadership located at
22 18445 Cathedral Street east of Evergreen and north of
23 Joy. Our next community meeting will be Thursday,
24 December 14th at 6:30 p.m. in the 2nd precinct and the
25 location is forth coming. At this time we'll have oral

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1 communication please give your name and limit your
2 comments to two minutes pleased. Mr. Brown.

3 MR. BROWN: Madam Chair, I currently have
4 two cards. Your first speaker will be Mr. Eric Blount
5 followed by Mrs. Bernice Smith.

6 MR. BLOUNT: Good afternoon board. I want
7 to thank whoever was responsible for putting the annual
8 report back on the back table. I had a chance to look
9 at it and beyond the numbers what concerned me the most
10 is the political count and I say that because out of the
11 11 commissioners at least 4 of the commissioners are
12 appointed by a politician, the mayor of course, with the
13 ability to appoint even more if there is a vacancy so
14 the political makeup of the board has a 50/50 split if
15 not very close to it. So to increase the irrelevance
16 and the independence of this board I would request at
17 this time that all appointed board members resign
18 immediately and that no more commissioners are
19 appointed. It's an issue of independence and what it
20 looks like to the outside world or to the citizens of
21 this city. Thank you.

22 CHAIRPERSON CARTER: Thank you, Mr. Blount
23 and I hear your concerns but the charter mandates that 7
24 commissioners are elected and 4 are appointed, so we
25 would have to go through a charter -- a change in the

1 charter.

2 MR. BLOUNT: One board member has already
3 resigned, am I not correct? So the others could as
4 well. That's why I'm concerned.

5 COMMISSIONER CRAWFORD: Okay --

6 CHAIRPERSON CARTER: Do you mean -- okay we
7 won't go back and forth but I hear your concern.

8 COMMISSIONER CRAWFORD: Excuse me through
9 the chair, Mr. Blount I do understand but a little bring
10 a little historic perspective here, and we're fortunate
11 to have Mr. Hicks who's our board secretary 'cause he
12 was on that charter commission for the revision of the
13 city charter, and we as a result of the revision of the
14 city charter, which was voted on by the citizens of this
15 city, we have the type of board that we have today.

16 Now I was one of those 'cause I came before
17 this board numerous times in my 30 year employment with
18 Detroit Police Department as a police officer and, you
19 know, I didn't sit at the table I stood where you're
20 standing, sir. I only voiced about the community issues
21 but also too issues that were going on within the police
22 department and at that time it was a number of citizens
23 we lobbied, Kim Coleman too was on that commission. We
24 lobbied too and we always wanted a commission
25 predominantly elected by the citizens of this city and

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1 even if it wasn't that, it would be somewhat of a split
2 where it was going to be totally appointments, that the
3 city council would be able to appoint X number of
4 members and the mayor would be able to appoint X number
5 of members, but the system has changed now. I mean due
6 to the charter.

7 I think it's -- I mean citizens do, and I'm
8 elected from a district, District 3, have to have
9 representation from the district from the people that
10 was so important because historically the previous
11 boards that were appointed by the mayor I mean let's
12 just face it, you know, I think there was difference but
13 now we have this mix and it's really about elected,
14 appointed, selected whatever it's about one's integrity
15 and that's so important to me it's about one's integrity
16 when you -- like I tell people I took this seat four
17 years ago on this board I brought my integrity with me
18 and my integrity's going with me. You know, so I'm
19 not -- that's why I don't take any endorsements. You
20 know I don't take any money from anybody in terms of --
21 I mean if it's the people in my district or something
22 like that I'm not even seeking money for them and I
23 didn't when I ran for this seat, so I am truly you know
24 a free black man so to speak. Unbought and unbought,
25 you know.

1 The unions I didn't accept their endorsement
2 before I wouldn't do it now. I wouldn't accept any
3 moneys from them. I consider it inappropriate. I
4 consider it me personally unethical. Because of issues
5 that come before me vote my consciousness and also vote,
6 you know, with the spirit of the people, so I do hear
7 you and I understand but echoing what the chair said
8 that it's truly would have to be something that could be
9 revisited through a vote, you know, a change in the
10 charter coming from the people. Yes, sir. Power to the
11 people.

12 MR. HICKS: Madam Chair, if you want...

13 CHAIRPERSON CARTER: Commissioner Bell and
14 then...

15 COMMISSIONER BELL: Madam Chair, I just want
16 to -- I understand your concerns and but I think it's
17 sort of uncalled for to request our appointed commission
18 to resign. I've been highly impressed with the
19 appointees of the mayor in terms of interacting with
20 them on this board and we have one appointed
21 commissioner here 'cause I think he's been outstanding
22 and mentioning Commissioner Brooks and others but there
23 are some concerns of the city charter. I would hope
24 that this board move to advisory committee and perhaps
25 you could be part of that next year if I'm still serving

1 in that capacity. Regardless of whether I'm serving or
2 not but the point is that it concerns me that the
3 council are allowed to if a commissioner, I mean council
4 person resigned or retired, whatever it is, they elect
5 that person.

6 This is not the case, however, there's been
7 no replacement for Commissioner Moore. The mayor was
8 not rushed because there was a lot of people not willing
9 to come on board. It's a commitment beyond the scope of
10 what you see out there in terms of all the duties and
11 responsibility, so I appreciate the mayor did not play
12 politics with that seat; he could have but he did not.

13 And I just want to say as elected
14 commissioner the electoral process is difficult sometime
15 as you well know. For anyone elected some of us can be
16 unchallenged and others are, so I had to go through a
17 process of 213 in the same manner of a council person or
18 mayor or whatever to get to this seat so that comes with
19 certain criteria that you have to engage in and that's
20 part of electoral -- that's America. That's democracy
21 at work, so I just think that you have to take into
22 consideration there are some people who are well to do,
23 you know, how that go but it was concerned to me
24 initially, you know, about prominent people being
25 appointed to this board but that was not the case in '74

1 so as we moved towards that there are some charter
2 things that we need to do in 2018 because that's
3 election year; that would be an opportunity to do that,
4 so I would hope that you would part of advisory
5 committee and we could lobby to get that on the ballot
6 to make those change. I mentioned one or two but it
7 concerns me that you can also be appointed and then you
8 can, you know, run for elected. That's interesting
9 because you already have a five year seat. You know, as
10 well know what I speak of.

11 MR. BLOUNT: Yes.

12 COMMISSIONER BELL: That concerns me too
13 because that mean that person can appoint another
14 person. And, you know, you playing politics big time so
15 unfortunate politics is a way of life; you can't escape
16 it from the time you born and the time you leave.
17 Politics impact that in between the dash, so on that
18 note and Mr. Hicks went through serving that some things
19 if we recognize but we did not and we recognize it now
20 and perhaps even say we get a stipend, the stipend is so
21 low it don't even cover for you to bring -- I mean you
22 have to bring your own water 'cause we don't have that
23 type of bucket.

24 So you can see whereas the council people,
25 all the other elected officials have that. And as we

1 roll out in the community then people have certain
2 expectation of you being an elected commissioner; they
3 think they treat you in the same manner or the
4 politicians who might have that type of office
5 experience or staff and budget so it's a challenging
6 job.

7 If I had known, but I'm still here because
8 it's a labor of love and these other commissioners who
9 will be rotating off has given 1,001 in terms of their
10 time and effort in terms of this board since 2014 as you
11 well know we had to fight get our power back. It didn't
12 make sense because it's politics. It's politics, but we
13 can't escape that. Thank you, Madam Chair.

14 CHAIRPERSON CARTER: Mr. Hicks.

15 MR. HICKS: Yes, Madam Chair, thank you.
16 Let me correct the record on one item. First of all, I
17 was not a member of the commission. I was the executive
18 director for the commission so I sat in that position
19 the same way in which I sat in this one in order to
20 conduct the business of a multimember board. Second
21 narratively, if you go back to those days we essentially
22 had a problem in the city of Detroit and the
23 conventionalism is that a lot of the decision making was
24 fairly insular in Detroit, okay, that people relied upon
25 largely friends and family in order to do work in

1 connection with Detroit. The thrust of that charter
2 commission was to civilianize not only the Detroit
3 police board but all the boards in the commissions
4 across the city of Detroit. We were -- undertook a
5 decision to civilianize them, so you have the recreation
6 department, all of these places where people -- where
7 citizens are now given an opportunity to serve largely
8 as volunteers and to give direct input into the decision
9 making process, so that's number one.

10 Number two, the process of a vacancy being
11 filled if I recall the work of the charter commission
12 the vacancy filled in the city council is the same as
13 the vacancies that would be filled in this board here.
14 The difference in terms of where we are right now and
15 the council if they have a vacancy, that immediately
16 goes to the next election and they have an election,
17 okay. You all would be doing the same thing except that
18 the election, the timing between when Commissioner Moore
19 resigned and the next election is really within side of
20 several months but if you had a resignation for example
21 in the first year of a four-year term, you would have an
22 opportunity in the next election, and I think in this
23 case it's a state wide election in order to put a member
24 up, the community could put a member up for the the
25 board. So there's no difference in terms of that.

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1 When those process is -- when an election is
2 not available within that timely period of time then the
3 mayor has an option and the mayor has a right to appoint
4 a member with the concurrence of the Detroit city
5 council, and that if a 30 day period I believe it is
6 elapsed during that appointment period it automatically
7 becomes a confirmed.

8 I also want to just mention of course 'cause
9 there's a lot -- not a lot but there is some difference
10 between the Detroit city council and our body. The
11 council is the legislative branch of the city of
12 Detroit. We are a multimember body with the express
13 purpose of performing a function within the context of
14 the police department, and so we sit as volunteers, or
15 you sit as volunteers I actually get paid. You sit as
16 volunteers and there's a lot of discussion about the
17 stipend in which you receive and I think it's important
18 to point out to the general community and anyone who's
19 in the future interested in running for this office, a
20 stipend is not a paycheck for you all. A stipend is
21 meant to simply offset some of the expenses that you
22 incur as an individual during the performance of your
23 duty, and literally speaking you get nickles and dimes
24 in connection with that reimbursement.

25 And so the last point that I wanted to make

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1 of course is that even if under, I mean, we are
2 obligated to follow the charter. Even if every
3 appointed member today resigned from the board, given
4 where we are in the election cycle all of those seats
5 would be up for the mayor to recommend to the Detroit
6 city council for appointments, okay? And so the intent
7 of walking away from, if you will, the appointment
8 process by the mayor or the politicalization as is
9 talked about would actually operate in reverse in terms
10 of where we are at this time in our cycle.

11 CHAIRPERSON CARTER: Thank you, Mr. Hicks.

12 COMMISSIONER CRAWFORD: And thank you --
13 through the chair, thank you Mr. Hicks for setting the
14 record straight on that in terms of your position with
15 the charter commission. I know you were there though.
16 Also too in terms of appointees and I want to say this
17 about Commissioner Sanders, and even about the
18 appointees and stuff, this brother's a very colorful
19 individual including his suits that he wears to the
20 meetings but I respect all the commissioners. I like
21 what they bring to the table. Even though sometimes we
22 differ, you know, on things and issues and stuff like
23 that I still think that everybody all the commissioners
24 have brought something to this table and I respect their
25 experiences for various different walks in life, and as

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1 we talk about, you know, the commitment here I've sat
2 here four years now and I'm not running for reelection
3 but for four years I made virtually every meeting. Only
4 maybe twice once last week unfortunately a few minutes
5 but also too I haven't had a weekend off in four years.
6 Because I work another job; I work for the sheriff's
7 department, so every Friday, Saturday, and Sunday I've
8 had to work, so I mean for those that want to talk about
9 commitments and it's like 'cause those weren't my leave
10 days so if I took a Friday, Saturday, Sunday off that
11 was a vacation day or once in a while calling in sick or
12 something like that, so for four years, you know, for
13 those who think that this is just a job it is a
14 commitment. This is a commitment here.

15 And if you truly feel about it I mean feel
16 for people and this police department, you know, and you
17 want and really engage in this then it's dedication. I
18 mean, you know, I'm not running -- I mean, I would love
19 to run again, you know, but I have to kind of transition
20 my life into other things I'm a little bit older now,
21 four years now, you know, but of doing this but the
22 issue is, you know, four years with no weekends off with
23 no Friday, Saturday, Sunday and then going to work and
24 having to work 16 hours a day every Friday, Saturday,
25 and Sunday 'cause you volunteer you get to, you know,

1 working for Wayne County Sheriff's Department in the
2 jail so I just want everybody to know that that we sit
3 here being appointed or elected, you know, this is if
4 you're truly committed to this community and the
5 citizens and this police department, this is some work,
6 and I advise people don't -- and I know the difficulty
7 finding people I understand, you know, mayor appointing
8 some people 'cause some people would had it's only a one
9 day meeting, Thursday; it's more to it than that.

10 If you want to delve into it and do the kind
11 of research and reading and stuff like that and have
12 your votes on the community, what's going on in this
13 community and also what's going on nationally, you know,
14 so -- and I do by far in working with other police
15 departments and traveling the country like Commissioner
16 Bell and Shelby. You know, we know Detroit Police
17 Department's one of the best if not the greatest police
18 departments in America. And I'm not just saying that.
19 Yeah some officers unfortunately engage in some
20 inappropriate behavior but by far most, you know, I
21 consider are the best among the best. Thank you.

22 CHAIRPERSON CARTER: Thank you. Any other
23 comments Commissioners?

24 COMMISSIONER SANDERS: I don't have a
25 comment.

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1 CHAIRPERSON CARTER: All right. Mrs. Smith.

2 MRS. SMITH: Good afternoon. I'm Bernice
3 Smith. I had a heavy heart when I came to this meeting
4 today but you've enlightened me in a lot of things that
5 you've said today. To the commissioners, A.C., all this
6 week has been a hell week for the citizens of Detroit as
7 far as I'm concerned. You had so many shootings and
8 killings that I just couldn't say will we ever stop.
9 The six police that did their -- I won't go into it but
10 I was very upset about that because as a former rehab
11 roofer owner I do know they do have jobs to do as far as
12 and they don't carry any ID. I'm the only one that's
13 out there watching them but anyway and you can't stay
14 there all day, but I can understand but six police? I
15 think that was totally unnecessary. I think one squad
16 car could have come, because people are complaining it
17 was all on the radio about them coming there in that
18 group and they wanted to know why because of the fact
19 that so many people called the police and they, you
20 know, they don't show up on time so I had to defend them
21 at that particular meeting.

22 But what I want to say is we got to love
23 each other. This killing has to stop. I don't know
24 what's going on in the minds of the people here in the
25 city and also the police have to be more diligent in

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1 dealing with the public and think. You had an incident
2 at the gas station, which we all saw on TV, and the man
3 got shot but then he didn't die until he got a mile
4 away. Then one of all things that disappointed me was
5 when the woman beat up the man in the gas station and
6 then when the police came and then what did they do?
7 They did handcuff her but she was standing there by the
8 car while they were attending another person who had
9 fell out and what does she do? She walked away. Now I
10 think whenever you handcuff somebody, you put them in
11 the car; at least I thought that's what you do. But she
12 was standing out there. That's negligent as far as the
13 police is concerned, and I'm upset with them. You all
14 know I have to support the police to the end but when
15 they do wrong I have to come and say something about
16 them.

17 Now I just want something to be done about
18 the police department and maybe the chief could -- I
19 suggest like he do when my kids went to school go to the
20 precinct unannounced and check your precinct and see
21 what's going on in the precinct and talk to the men in
22 there. If they have problems, let them feel free to say
23 something to him about it. It's fine being on the TV
24 and be involved with your men and find out what they're
25 thinking and how you can help them in any way that they

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1 don't want to bring it out to their authorities. I feel
2 as though he should be closer to his men. He can get
3 out there and, you know, support them and everything on
4 TV but get on the inside and go to the precinct. That's
5 what I think. You got Barren here every time I look up
6 he's out on TV; he got his life out there, and it should
7 be. This man has a family I'm sure. But he is a
8 straight forward policeman. And I'm not saying the rest
9 of them are not, but I'm just saying he is a devoted man
10 and I love him dearly, but we all got to do something
11 and help each other and not be so careless with the
12 public, and the public got to take their own initiative
13 and respect the police department. I thank you so much.

14 CHAIRPERSON CARTER: Thank you, Mrs. Smith.

15 MR. BROWN: Madam last speaker --

16 COMMISSIONER BELL: Madam Chair, if you I
17 think that Chief Craig is hands on. He's out there he's
18 engaging the officers I witnessed that the last couple
19 days, and so many engagement; he just don't show up for
20 the mic. There's great deal of interaction with these
21 officers throughout the city of Detroit, and I must
22 commend as I stated the 5th precinct police community
23 that accessibility is more in this chief of police and
24 perhaps what I have witnessed in the past. So I don't
25 know how much more you can engage officers in terms of

1 the morale, the interaction, and that extend to all the
2 other on the top on down there's dialogue with the
3 officers.

4 I come out of a military background and, you
5 know, some instances in the back in the day there wasn't
6 a great deal of interaction with command officers. Only
7 on unique occasion or whatever it is and I'm not here to
8 defend the chief he can speak for himself but I just
9 wanted to attest in terms of what I have witnessed in
10 the four years I have served in this capacity, taking
11 time to interact with the fallen officers with the
12 injured officers, the social activities, and he's there.
13 I mean, we just have to say he's engaging, so I just
14 want to not leave that unchallenged in terms of making
15 that type of statement in reference to Chief Craig.

16 DEPUTY CHIEF BETTISON: Through the chair if
17 I could respond as well to Mother Bernice. The chief is
18 a person who does and he addresses the public because
19 when incidents happen he doesn't hide; he will come
20 right out and address it on TV, the media to reach the
21 masses to let them know what's going on with this
22 Detroit Police Department, whether it be good or bad.
23 And also he addresses the truth. He has meetings with
24 his troops. He established a police officers advisory
25 board where he brings in police officers from all the

1 precincts and he goes there as well. He just recently
2 established a supervisor advisory board as well.
3 There's no executive officers in these boards and he's
4 able to hear from the ranking file things that affect
5 them, and they let him know and he makes corrections and
6 at that point it's not a science project; he's called
7 the command officers on the carpet right there to the
8 office and get results so he's doing it all. It's not a
9 question of or, it's and.

10 And then for the investigations some of the
11 things that you may see on TV a point of clarification
12 with the investigation with the six officers that
13 happened on Ohio Street it was six officers there
14 present. It was a call that it was a burglary going on,
15 multiple persons there. Officers responded to what they
16 thought was a crime in progress because we have too many
17 burglaries in this city; they responded to be able to
18 catch the apprehenders. Something went wrong there; we
19 have the video. We're doing the investigation but I can
20 tell you that thus far the video revealed that one
21 officer made a bad decision from what we know at this
22 point.

23 Now the great thing about the Detroit Police
24 Department in the city of Detroit we have the office of
25 the chief investigator's office. We have civilian

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1 oversight, and they have the case also and they're doing
2 a thorough investigation and the chief will hold folks
3 accountable when they violate policy, so that's what
4 this community can rest assured of with our chief of
5 police and this command staff and he assures that from
6 the leadership position that he has his command officers
7 are marching in line in locked step to carry out his
8 mission, and leadership does count. Thank you all.

9 CHAIRPERSON CARTER: Thank you, Deputy Chief
10 Bettison.

11 MR. BOWMAN: Hello, this Saturday this past
12 Saturday at midnight --

13 CHAIRPERSON CARTER: Your name for the
14 record.

15 MR. BOWMAN: Scotty Bowman from the 4th
16 district. I witnessed at -- right outside I was
17 actually pulled up at a Greenlight location, Greenlight
18 partner at a gas station and I witnessed a beating
19 taking place, a man in the middle of the street being
20 brutally beaten. I called 9-1-1. I effectively gave a
21 play-by-play for about 40 to 45 minutes while this
22 altercation was going on, repositioning my car at
23 various times to maximize a good view while staying out
24 of the conflict and continuously waiting for either an
25 ambulance or police or both to show up. Eventually

1 officers did show up and that was the point at which I
2 discontinued the call. After it was pretty much over
3 and one of the people are walking away, the perpetrator
4 walking away, and then the victim managing to get up and
5 walk after previously being unable to get up. I don't
6 know how badly that person was injured but what I do
7 know is that that took all that time and that was the
8 response I observed after hearing all these stories
9 about quick response time.

10 I know the police can't cherry pick which
11 laws to enforce and which ones not to but they can set
12 priorities and what I saw was then two days later on the
13 news all this hype about oh my, they went into the
14 warehouse or, what was it, abandoned store or something
15 and found people growing plants, which I know are
16 illegal. Okay now the plants weren't attacking anybody;
17 there wasn't an imminent threat. Here we had a person
18 who could have been killed in this altercation and who
19 may have died due to a slow response and, you know, that
20 was not dealt with and it seems to me the priority needs
21 to be with the emergencies and when someone could
22 potentially be killed or at least seriously injured in a
23 conflict.

24 CHAIRPERSON CARTER: Mr. Bowman, have you
25 filed a complaint?

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1 MR. BOWMAN: I guess I'm verbally making one
2 right now.

3 CHAIRPERSON CARTER: Well, I'm going to ask
4 that someone please see Mr. Bowman so he can make a
5 complaint about the police response time. Thank you.

6 DEPUTY CHIEF BETTISON: Through the chair I
7 would also ask that Lieutenant Potts also talk with
8 Mr. Bowman so that we can dissect what happened with
9 that and I'll be able to give a report out to the board
10 and make sure that we can work on fixing some of the
11 defects. Thank you.

12 MR. BROWN: Madam Chair, that was your last
13 speaker.

14 CHAIRPERSON CARTER: Thank you. At this
15 time I'd like to thank everybody for coming out to the
16 meeting. Motion for adjournment?

17 COMMISSIONER BELL: So moved, adjournment.

18 CHAIRPERSON CARTER: Meeting is adjourned
19 thank you all. Have a good evening.

20 (Deposition concluded at 4:14 p.m.)

21
22
23
24
25

1 STATE OF MICHIGAN)
2)
3 COUNTY OF WASHTENAW)

4
5 CERTIFICATE OF NOTARY PUBLIC AND COURT REPORTER

6 I, Caitlyn Mancini, do hereby certify that the
7 above-entitled meeting was duly recorded by me
8 stenographically and by me later reduced to typewritten
9 form by means of computer-aided transcription; and I
10 certify that this is a true and correct transcript of my
11 stenographic notes so taken.

12 I further certify that I am neither of counsel to
13 either party nor interested in the event of this cause.

14
15
16 



17 Caitlyn Mancini, RPR, CSR-8887

18 Notary Public,

19 Washtenaw County, Michigan

20 My Commission expires: August 15, 2021

21
22
23
24
25

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