

**Draft Minutes Detroit Board of Police Commissioners**

**Date of Meeting: August 2, 2018 – 3:00 PM**

Location: Detroit Public Safety Headquarters Building, 1301 Third Street, Detroit, MI 48226

**Chairman Willie Bell called the BOPC meeting to order at 3:00 PM (July 26, 2018)**

Detroit Police Commission Membership / Attendance	Attend	Not-Attend
Willie E. Bell, Chairperson	Yes	
Darryl D. Brown, Vice Chairperson	Yes	
Lisa Carter	Yes	
Elizabeth Brooks	Yes	
Eva Garza Dewaelsche	Yes	
Shirley A. Burch	Yes	
Willie E. Burton (3:06 PM)	Yes	
William M. Davis	Yes	
Conrad Mallett, Jr.	Excused	
Jim Holley	Yes	
Vacant	N/A	
Quorum (Yes)	9	

**The Board acting in accordance with its rules approved the Agenda for August 2, 2018.**

**The Board acting in accordance with its rules approved the following Board Minutes: Thursday, July 26, 2018**

**BOPC Chair Willie Bell** said, Welcome, Good Afternoon. I am Police Commissioner Willie Bell, I represent District #4. I serve as Chair of the Board and will be conducting our meeting today. On behalf of the Board, for those in attendance, thank you for joining us. For people viewing this meeting on your government cable channel, thank you for viewing our meeting.

Last week I asked for a moment of silence for Police Officer James Hearn and his family. This week, I wanted to report out on the funeral arrangements for Officer Hearn. Police Officer Hearn's family and the Department have scheduled a 2-day viewing period. The first day, is today at 4:00 PM to 8:00 PM, at the Clara Funeral Home, located at 5801 E. 7 Mile Road (Detroit). The second opportunity to support the family is Friday, August 3, 2018 at 10:00 AM to 8:00 PM at Second Ebenezer Church, located at 14601 Dequindre. The funeral services are also scheduled to take place at Second Ebenezer Saturday, August 4, 2018. Family Hour will start at 9:30 AM and the Funeral at 11:00 AM. I ask the Board, the Department and the community to show their support for this officer and his family.

I also want to report that DC Todd Bettison's father-in-law, Edward Pride passed away and I hope that we will include The Pride family in our prayers. For details on this I would refer you to DC Bettison's office.

**Introduction of Commissioners:** Bell asked each Commissioner to introduce themselves for the record.

**Chairman Bell** invited the Detroit Police Chaplain Corp, Chaplain Cory Chavis to provide the invocation. Bell also asked for introductions of Elected Officials, VIPs, civic leaders or their representatives as well as BOPC staff and DPD staff,

**BOPC Chairman Report:** **Chair Willie Bell** said, On behalf of the Board, I want to express our concern and support for fallen and injured officers. Our concerns for officer safety and citizen protection is continuous. Our Board receives a weekly report from the Department listing injured officers. I would ask the Chief during his remarks to provide us with any additional information related to injured and fallen officers.

The Board of Police Commissioners meets every week except for the Thanksgiving and Christmas Holiday periods. We meet at Police Headquarters in regular session, 3 weeks in the month on Thursdays at 3:00 PM. We also meet in the community every 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of the month at 6:30 PM.

Later on today's agenda we have a resolution in honor of the work and life of Police James Hearn. We will take this resolution up immediately following the Chair's report.

The Board of Police Commissioners exists to provide civilian oversight for the work of the Detroit Police Department. As a Board, we receive and investigate non-criminal citizens' complaints, monitor the operations of the Department and work with the Mayor and the Chief of Police to make or modify police policy. Our objective is the same as the city of Detroit, to provide for the best use of your tax dollars to improve on the quality of life within our city. As a Board, we bring a unique perspective to policing, the eye and the viewpoint of civilians. The principle of civilian oversight is as old and as important as all of the founding principles in our democracy. Separation of powers between and within government allows for accountability, transparency, rights to appeal and citizen control. These principles are important nationally as well as locally.

Today, we have one presentation to the Board. The presentation is on the Detroit Police Reserves. Section 7-818 of the Detroit City Charter indicates that the Chief of Police may appoint persons to serve as Police Reserves and set qualifications for entry into the reserves. The Police Reserves when called to duty shall possess such powers as designated by the chief, including the powers of peace officers. Training standards shall be set by the chief. Unless there exists an officially declared emergency, duty shall be voluntary. The use of reserves shall be in accordance with rules and regulations approved by the Board and the Mayor. My hope is that the presentation provides information on the organization, training and potential deployment of reserve officers so that the public can understand the difference between regular police officers and reserve police officers. I am sure that this report will show the high dedication, professionalism and voluntary spirit of normal citizens who are called to local duty. I understand that Captain Conway Petty, Reserve Chief Linda Gruss and Reserves Assistant Chief Steven Lewis will be making the presentation.

Under the Chief's Report, in addition to the crime statistics, I would request an update on a troubling video that was broadcast on the local news. The video involves a person who is described as mentally impaired and several Detroit Police Officers. Also I would appreciate any information on the two journalists reportedly whom vehicle was attacked on the northwest side of Detroit. Finally, the newspapers reported on a \$20 million dollar Opioid drug bust and the arrest of five suspects. If the Department was involved in the project and if more details can be shared with the public, I would ask the Chief to include some information on this in his report.

Toward the end of the meeting we will have oral communications. Please make sure you print your name on a speaker's card. Cards are located in the back on the table or can be obtained by seeing Mr. Robert Brown, and he needs your card before the beginning of public comments.

**Resolutions: Commissioner Elizabeth Brooks** read into the record a resolution to honor the life and service of **Detroit POLICE OFFICER JAMES HEARN (Posthumously)**.

#### **RESOLUTION HONORING POLICE OFFICER JAMES HEARN (Posthumously)**

**WHEREAS** Mr. James Hearn was born on May 12, 1991 in Detroit, Michigan. He graduated from Martin Luther King High School in Detroit, 2009 and received a certificate from Crockett Vocational Center. James and Ashley Dalton (his fiancé), together they produced Anayah their beautiful daughter and Collin their beautiful son. In 2014 he decided to follow in his father footsteps and joined the Detroit Police Department; and

**WHEREAS** James Hearn was appointed to the Detroit Police Department on February 24, 2014. Upon graduating from the Metropolitan Police Academy, Officer Hearn began his career at Downtown Services, and later was assigned to the 12<sup>th</sup> Precinct, and reassigned to Downtown Services. On Thursday, July 26, 2018, Police Officer James Hearn, badge 3589 passed away; and

**WHEREAS** During his law enforcement career, Officer Hearn was the deserving recipient of a Life Saving Citation and Medal, DPD Medal and Citation for Valor, a Memorial Medal of Honor and several letters of commendation from his superiors; and

**WHEREAS** Officer Hearn passionately served the Detroit Police Department, and the citizens of Detroit. His professionalism, commitment to public service, integrity, and dedication were a credit to the Detroit Police Department.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** The Detroit Board of Police Commissioners, speaking for the citizens of Detroit and the Detroit Police Department, award this resolution posthumously in recognition of Police Officer James Hearn for his dedicated and diligent public service. His professionalism, integrity, and standard of commitment to the city of Detroit and its citizens merit our highest regards.

We salute you Officer James Hearn for a job well done.

**Commissioner Elizabeth Brooks** moved the adoption of the resolution to honor the life and service of **Detroit Police Officer James Hearn**.

Second, **Commissioner Davis**

**VOTE: Yes = 9 No = 0 Abst. = 0 MOTION APPROVED**

**COP Police Report: Chief of Police James E. Craig** reported that crime is continuing to trend downward. COP Craig reported on CompStat data for the reporting period ending July 29, 2018. COP Craig reported Homicides percentage change between 2016 and 2017, -10% decrease in Homicides, Sexual Assaults 48% increase, Robbery -13% decrease, Carjacking 4% increase, Aggravated Assaults -7% decrease, non-fatal shootings -20% decrease, Burglary -17% decrease, Larceny -0% decrease, Stolen Vehicle -23% decrease and Part 1 offenses -10% decrease. COP Craig provided the Board with an update on injured officers. **Chief Craig** reported on a beating incident broadcasted by Fox News showing a Detroit Police Officer beating a mentally impaired female in the treatment area at Detroit Receiving Hospital (DMC). Chief Craig indicated the officer was suspended and the incident is under investigation, a report to the Board will be forthcoming. **Commissioner William Davis** asked about the number of officers at the location and the duty of these officers have to intervene and stop officers from beating citizens. **Commissioner Willie Burton** asked if the Chief felt that a social workers should have been deployed. **Commissioner Brooks** asked about the protocols for mentally impaired people as it related to arrest and release. Commissioner Burch also asked if any special care was given to the condition of the person and if the officers made any attempt to cloth the female who was nude. **Commissioner Davis** also added inquiries to the Chief, if the officers had Tasers and if the citizen had any prior contact with police authorities. **Commissioner Brooks** also asked what the Board can do to encourage more mental health beds and other types of mental health facilities in Detroit. **Commissioner Jim Holley** raised the relationship of officers who do not live in the city and their understanding and sensitivity to mental impaired citizens. **Chief Craig** responded indicating that 75% of the force lives outside of the city and the Department and mayor were working on the issue of separations from the Department including the MOCOLES re-certification process license officers, repayment of training funds to the Department, better administration of notification cards within the Department and additional training for emergencies.

**Presentations to the Board: (A) Detroit Police Reserves, Captain Conway Petty, Reserve Chief Linda Gruss and Reserves Assistant Chief Steven Lewis.**

**(A) Detroit Police Reserves, Captain Conway Petty, Reserve Chief Linda Gruss and Reserves Assistant Chief Steven Lewis** provided information on the mission of the Police Reserve Force and discussed the organization of the reserves. Reserve Chief Gruss and Reserve AC Lewis discussed accomplishments and initiatives including recruitment and graduation objectives, overhaul of the DPR Academy Curriculum and updates to the Police Reserve Manual. **Commissioner Darryl Brown** asked about the procedure and qualifications to become a Detroit Police Reserve. **Commissioner Lisa Carter** asked about the 18 week academy training and curriculum. Carter added insofar as the Board has specific responsibilities to approve the rules and procedures of the Reserve, she asked when the Reserve planned to bring said rules and procedure to the Board for action. **Commissioner Brown** asked about the history of Reserves qualifying and joining the ranks of the DPD. **Commissioner Eva Dewaelsche** asked about attrition rates in the ranks of the Reserve force. **AC James White** indicated the Chief's office would provide a copy of the emergency mobilization plan and would address the Board's involvement within the plan.

**BOCP Standing Committee Reports:** None.

**Old Business:** Information was provided on National Night Out (August 7, 2018), Graduation Day on Friday at Greater Grace Church. Commissioner Bell also encourage a recruitment focus in the month of September. Commissioner Brooks indicated that such a focus was already underway and additional details will be shared with the Board at a later date.

**Report from the Board Secretary.** Hicks reported on two incoming/informational communications including City of Detroit Newsletter and a Detroit Lions - Public Safety Foundation ticket package offer.

**Old Business: None**

**Announcements:** The next community meeting of the BOPC is August 9, 2018 at 6:30 PM the Northeast Guidance Center - Wellness Academy, Building A located at 2900 Conner, Detroit, Mi 48215 in the 5<sup>th</sup> Police Precinct. The next regular meeting of the BOPC is on August 13, 2018 at 3:00 PM at the Public Safety Headquarters Building located at 1301 Third Street, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Detroit, MI. 48226.

**Oral Communications from the Audience / Public Comments:**

**Ms. Bernice Smith** acknowledged the National Association of Black Journalist Conference occurring in Detroit and invited the audience to attend some of the workshops associated with the conference.

**Commissioner William Davis** moved that the Board of Police Commissioners meeting be adjourned.

Second, **Commissioner Brooks**

**VOTE:            Yes = 9            No = 0            Abst. = 0            MOTION APPROVED**

**Adjournment 4:36 PM.**