



City of Richmond

Meeting Minutes

Public Safety Standing Committee

Tuesday, July 23, 2019

12:00 PM

Council Chamber, 2nd Floor – City Hall

Committee Members and Staff in Attendance

The Honorable Reva Trammell – Chair
The Honorable Kim Gray – Vice Chair
Richard Hill, Assistant City Attorney
Jamie Isley, Assistant City Clerk
Allison Miessler, Boards and Commissions Administrator
Candice Reid, City Clerk
Steven Taylor, Council Policy Analyst
RJ Warren, Deputy City Clerk

Absent

The Honorable Chris Hilbert – Committee Member

Call to Order

Chairwoman Reva Trammell called the meeting to order at 12:09 p.m., and presided.

Evacuation Announcement and Citizen Speaker Guidelines

Assistant City Clerk Jamie Isley provided information on the appropriate manner in which the Council Chamber is to be evacuated in the event of an emergency along with citizen speaker guidelines.

Public Comment Period

Nathan Land, Virginia Commonwealth University Amnesty International outreach coordinator, expressed support for the Richmond Transparency and Accountability Project (RTAP), and requested that RTAP be consulted during community outreach efforts prior to action on public safety measures.

Ashley Diaz Mejias, Richmond Community Bail Fund member and Lord Jesus Korean Presbyterian Church pastor, spoke in support of RTAP and its call for public input regarding the Richmond Police Department's (RPD) new records management system.

Chelsea Higgs Wise, Marijuana Justice Virginia founder and executive director, stated that there are racial disparities in marijuana enforcement within the city and Virginia.

Dick Edmunds requested that one lane of traffic remain open during bridge construction on Commerce Road to reduce inconveniences to residents and business owners.

Approval of Minutes

There were no amendments or corrections to the meeting minutes of Tuesday, June 25, 2019, and the Committee approved the minutes as presented.

Board Vacancies

Allison Miessler, boards and commissions administrator, reviewed board applications for consideration by the committee.

Vice Chair Kim Gray moved to forward the following appointments and reappointments to Council with the recommendation to approve, which was seconded and unanimously approved:

Board Name	Criteria for Appointment	Applicant Name
Advisory Board for the Assessment of Towing Fees and the Storage of Vehicles (7 members)	Police Department Representative (2 vacancies)	Lt. Harold Giles
Capital Area Alcohol Safety Action Program Policy Advisory Board (4 members)	Applicants must either work or reside in the city (2 vacancies)	Ashley Lockhart
Community Criminal Justice Board (15 members)	At-large Resident of the City (1 vacancy)	Carolyn Naoroz (reappointment)
	Public Defender (1 vacancy)	Tracy Paner (reappointment)
	Community Services Board Administrator (1 vacancy)	John Lindstrom (reappointment)
	Judge of the Circuit Court (1 vacancy)	W. Reilly Marchant (reappointment)
Richmond Ambulance Authority (11 members)	Applicants must either work or reside in the city (5 vacancies)	Richard Bennett (reappointment)
		Matt Conrad (reappointment)
		Michael Kelly (reappointment)
		Sheldon Barr

A copy of the material provided has been filed.

Presentation(s)

Richmond Transparency and Accountability Project (RTAP)

Assaddique Abdul-Rahman, New Virginia Majority community organizer and RTAP coalition member; Todd Adams, RTAP coalition member; and Dr. Liz Coston, RTAP coalition member and Virginia Commonwealth University assistant professor, presented an overview of the findings from RTAP's statistical analysis of Richmond Police Department (RPD) data and implications for the new records management system (RMS).

Vice Chair Kim Gray requested information regarding the new RMS system, efforts for public input, predictive policing and bias training for police officers. She requested improved categorization for bike, scooter and moped incidents within the new RMS. Vice Chair Gray requested monthly updates on the new RMS implementation process and inquired about the collection of data for all civilian interactions.

Police Chief William Smith advised that the new RMS allows the public to extract data at-will and that reported crimes are used to determine deployment strategies. He expressed reluctance to collect data on all civilian interactions regardless of outcome due to individual privacy concerns. He stated that a public

meeting for the external RMS will occur before the release of the system in 2020.

A copy of the presentation has been filed.

Paper(s) for Consideration

The following ordinance was considered:

ORD. 2019-194

To amend City Code § 12-122, concerning fee to support an electronic summons system, for the purpose of providing for an assessment of the fee in the Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court of the City of Richmond.

Patron: Mayor Stoney

Police Chief William Smith introduced ORD. 2019-194.

There were no comments or discussions and **Vice Chair Kim Gray moved to forward ORD. 2019-194 to the September 9, 2019, City Council meeting with recommendation to approve, which was seconded and unanimously approved.**

Discussion Item(s)

August Public Safety Standing Committee Meeting

The Committee cancelled the August 27, 2019, Public Safety Standing Committee Meeting.

Speed Enforcement

Vice Chair Kim Gray asked if Global Positioning Systems could be utilized for mounted and bicycle patrol units.

Police Chief William Smith advised that the Richmond Police Department (RPD) is working to develop a system for tracking mounted and bicycle units. He stated that RPD will improve city-wide traffic enforcement through improved communication between police precincts and the special operations division, and increased enforcement on overweight vehicles within city limits.

Vice Chair Gray requested additional information regarding the use of Bolt Mobility electronic scooters by juveniles.

Police Chief Smith stated that ideally, public education through Bolt Mobility will improve overall rider activities.

A copy of the material provided has been filed.

Staff Report

Steve Taylor, Council policy analyst, provided the Committee with the July staff report.

A copy of the report provided has been filed.

Adjournment

There being no further business before the Committee, the meeting adjourned at 1:36 p.m.