

**CITY OF SANTA BARBARA
FIRE & POLICE COMMISSION MINUTES**

Thursday **June 28, 2012 @ 4:00**
Santa Barbara Fire Department
Emergency Operations Center
121 W. Carrillo Street

REGULAR MEETING

1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL:

Present: Commissioners: Lennon, Christensen, Rodriguez, and Torell.

Staff Present: Police Chief Cam Sanchez, Police Technician Holly Perea, Fire Chief Andrew DiMizio, and Acting Secretary Carol Lupo

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

MOTION: Rodriguez to approve minutes of **May 24, 2012**. Christensen seconded.

VOTE: Unanimous voice vote: Motion passed.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT:

Any member of the public may address the Fire & Police Commission for up to one minute on any subject within the jurisdiction of the Commission that is not scheduled for a public hearing before the Commission. The total time for this item is 10 minutes. If you wish to address the Commission under this item, please complete and deliver to the Commission Secretary before the meeting is convened, a "Request to Speak" form, including a description of the subject you wish to address.

None

4. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

Torell stated they have been working with a group of the tow operators and have developed a draft of suggested changes to the tow policy. He would like to email a copy of the draft changes to Holly Perea or Barbara Sansone so they can send it to members on the tow list. An open discussion of the changes could take place in July, and a vote to accept the changes would occur in August. Policy changes would have a January 1, 2013 effective date.

5. OLD BUSINESS:

Lennon stated that Security Company uniforms being out of compliance was to be discussed. Perea to follow up with Captain Whitham.

Torell inquired whether the uniforms need to look like police uniforms or look different. Rodriguez gave a historical reason that security uniforms need to look different than Police uniforms. Lennon specifically mentioned that the uniform worn by the security guard for Bank of America at State and Canon Perdido is out of compliance. Perea stated that she had spoken to the woman in charge directly, and discover the guards were sub contracted. The company stated they would change their uniforms and Captain Whitham was notified.

Christensen wanted a follow up on the discussions the Police Department was to have with the downtown entertainment district neighbors. Chief Sanchez stated the nightlife

enforcement officers and watch commanders met with them, and will report back on this the next meeting.

6. NEW BUSINESS:

None.

7. Dance Permit for El Paseo Restaurant – 10 El Paseo

Present: Paul Jakubowski

MOTION: Rodriguez to approve Police Department's recommendation to approve dance permit for El Paseo restaurant. Christensen seconded.

VOTE: Unanimous voice vote: Motion passed

8. Appeal of Denial of Taxi Permit for Gustavo Perez Valdes

Present: Gustavo Perez Valdez

Mr. Valdez spoke to the circumstances when he submitted his application. He was trying to submit it before an additional \$100 in fees was incurred, and the police Department counter was closing in a few minutes. He forgot to put down his arrest.

Torell stated that the commission does not have any choice in the decision. He asked why the applicants are asked to provide the information, when someone may forget. He asked why the arrest history isn't simply researched by staff and added to the application. Perea stated there is no time to do that with the number of applications they receive. Also it specifically states in the municipal code that the applicant must provide the information.

Torell asked if someone forgot something, if there is an opportunity to add that to the application. Perea stated there is opportunity for them to submit additional information, and this scenario has occurred in the past.

MOTION: Rodriguez to approve Police Department's recommendation to deny the application for Taxi Driver Permit. Lennon seconded.

VOTE: Unanimous voice vote: Motion passed

9. Election of new Chair (and subcommittees appointed)

Torell recommended that Christensen be appointed Chair. Christensen agreed, and stated a traditional rotation is that the Vice Chair becomes Chair.

MOTION: Torell to nominate Christensen as Commission Chair. Rodriguez seconded.

VOTE: Unanimous voice vote: Motion passed.

MOTION: Christensen to nominate Rodriguez as Commission Vice-Chair. Torell seconded.

VOTE: Unanimous voice vote: Motion passed.

Rodriguez requested to stay on the Police Department sub-committee.

MOTION: Christensen to nominate Rodriguez and Torres Santos to the Police Department sub-committee. Torell seconded.

VOTE: Unanimous voice vote: Motion passed

The remaining members, Lennon and Torell will be on the Fire Department sub-committee. Torell questioned his responsibilities as a member of a sub-committee. Rodriguez stated he thought there were guidelines that Barbara Sansone or the Clerk's Office may have for reference.

10. FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT

From Fire Chief DiMizio:

- Provided a handout of incident call statistics. Average response time was 2:46 minutes and there were 669 calls for service.
- Significant fire occurred on June 12 at 1716 Las Canoas. Well involved garage fire with extension to main house. Property loss estimated at \$227,000.
- Wildland season has started. We have sent 2 employees to Colorado to assist with the fires there; a few employees were sent to Los Padres Forest fire in Gorman (most have returned); and 2 employees are assisting at Los Padres dispatch. The Santa Maria tanker base is up and running and personnel have been provided there as well.
- Chief was currently receiving information by phone regarding a few spot fires along the freeway northbound between Turnpike and Fairview.
- Anticipating retirements of 2 Fire Captains; one for medical and one for personal reasons. There are 2 Captains on the list ready to promote. Currently down 2 Engineer positions, and by October there should be a new batch of qualified Engineers to promote. Anticipating another recruit academy this winter of about 6 people, and this would be an open (versus a lateral) recruitment.
- Just received a new administrative tool called FireHouse Analytics which will be used to analyze response time information.

On a personal note, Chief commended Smitty's Towing for their response and handling on a family members accident.

11. POLICE CHIEF'S REPORT

From Police Chief Cam Sanchez:

- Recruiting: Over 3,000 applied, 400-500 were tested, 100 were interviewed, and 16 background checks were completed. Planning to send 8-10 to academy in October. Anticipating 3 retirements by December, and two long term injuries that may not return to work. Plan to over-hire in anticipation of these vacancies.
- Compstat: In May violent crime was down but property crime was up. In June property crime will be down due to recent arrests of burglary suspects. Gang crime down 11%

from last year. Response time priority 1 calls was 6 minutes in April, and 5.50 minutes in May. Priority 2 calls averaged 15 minutes in April, and 14.8 minutes in May. Response times going down may be reflective of a work schedule change from 3-12's to 4-10's. Priority 3 calls averaged 34.6 minutes in April and 30.5 minutes in May. Total calls were 3200 for April and 3300 for May, which is consistent with the historical yearly average of 3000 calls per month. Year to date there have been 15,651 calls for service.

- Cold case solved recently. A 27 year old murder on Milpas St. Suspect fled to Mexico and was found there by local authorities with the department's assistance. There is a lengthy process to try to extradite to U.S., so case was decided in Mexico. Suspect was convicted of murder and sentenced to 4 years in prison. Decision is under appeal to receive more time. There are currently 14 additional murder cold cases, still under investigation.
- Announced that BJ's towing is no longer in business. 805 Towing will now be put on the list since they were an alternate.

Greg Voight from Smitty's towing was attending the meeting and commented about 805 misleading information on their application. He was directed to contact Holly Perea with his concerns.

Christensen commented that there seems to be an increased patrol presence, specifically in the upper State/San Roque area. Chief stated that it could be due to the new 4-10 schedule.

Christensen also commented on the rise in violent crimes. Chief said they are watching the reallocation to allow early prison release. Most of these individuals seem to be committing additional crimes after release. Chief and County Sheriff are planning a press conference a year from the start of the reallocation to show the number and the recidivism rate, and how the cities and counties are being tasked with the outcome.

10. ADJORN: 5:04 PM