

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

Thursday, **August 22 @ 4:00**
David Gebhard Public Meeting Room
630 Garden St.

REGULAR MEETING

1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL:

Present: Commissioners: Christensen, Lennon, Santos-Torres and Torell

Staff Present: Police Chief Cam Sanchez, Fire Chief Pat McElroy, City Attorney John Doimas, Police Officer J.C. Hunter, Police Technician Holly Perea and Acting Secretary Carol Lupo

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

MOTION: Santos-Torres to approve minutes of **July 25, 2013**. Torell seconded.

VOTE: Unanimous voice vote.

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

None

5. OLD BUSINESS:

None.

6. NEW BUSINESS:

Torell invited Councilmembers to suggest any topics they wish the commission to consider. Christensen suggested that they pass this along to Councilmember White.

7. REVIEW FINAL DRAFT OF THE REVISE TOW RULES & REGULATIONS

Christensen invited public comments from the audience.

Efrain Lopez, Santa Barbara Towing – Inquired about the timeframe for the new rules to take affect?

Next step will be to put the item on the City Council agenda for final approval. The rules would be effective upon Council's approval.

Joel Butera, Smitty's Towing – Stated that the Municipal Code says 30 days after approval the rules go into effect. Christensen agreed.

Chuck Love, Love's Towing – Inquired whether operators needed to qualify and re-apply each year. Christensen stated it is not the intention to have operators re-apply. If you are currently on the list they will carry over, unless a company no longer qualifies per the requirements. There would be no annual requalification process. Officer Hunter clarified that there would be no re-application, but on page 8, section 9, there is a requirement for an annual vehicle inspection that the CHP conducts.

Jeff Holzer, Bob Holzer Towing – When would you accept applications to be on the rotation list? He also stated he had a concern about the language stating there is a minimum of 5 tow companies (page 10). Torell suggested the 'minimum' language is removed. Christensen agreed to amend during the motion.

Holzer wanted to clarify that background checks investigation for each staff member, and whether a DUI or wet wreckless for a non-driver employee would disqualify them. Christensen stated background checks are for vehicle drivers only. Page 8. #11 does specify drivers only.

Hunter – It is the intention to have the annual inspection done by end of each year so issues can be brought up at January commission meeting. After implementation of the rules, he will begin making appointment to conduct inspections.

Aaron Boucher, 805 Roadside – When should he agendize a change in towing and storage rates? Christensen stated it would need to be for future agenda and to coordinate with staff. Comments stated there is already a stipulation that tow fees will be reviewed at the January meeting.

Greg Voight, Smitty's Towing – Commented that the tow operators consensus was that the regulations would state there would be a maximum of 5 operations, and wasn't sure how the wording changed and written with the addition of a minimum of 5 operators.

MOTION: Torell to approve the revised Tow Rotation List Rules and Regulations, with the change to remove the "minimum" language from paragraph 16, page 10. Torres-Santos seconded.

VOTE: Unanimous voice vote. Motion passed.

Torell commended Officer Hunter for his professionalism and assistance during this revision process. Christensen concurred.

8. CHAIR / VICE CHAIR YEARLY ELECTION

MOTION: Torell to nominate Jennifer Christensen as Fire and Police Commission Chair. Santos-Torres seconded.

VOTE: Unanimous voice vote. Motion passed.

Jennifer Christensen nominated Torell, but Torres-Santos has served longer.

MOTION: Torell to nominate Diego Torres-Santo as Fire and Police Commission Vice-Chair. Christensen seconded.

VOTE: Unanimous voice vote. Motion passed.

9. FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT

From Fire Chief Pat McElroy:

- P3 Quarterly Response Time Analysis. Recent database glitches skewed the data way out of range, and it is still 20-30 seconds over standard, which may be indicating there are still some data errors that need to be fixed.
- Year to date ~6400 calls for service.
- Alarm types been fairly inactive month with no significant incidents in town.
- Analytics reports: Calls by Stations – Stations 1, and 5 were busiest, followed closely by Stations 2 and 4. Calls by hour – After midnight is highest call volume, which reflects Fiesta activity.
- Sending Fire, Police and Information Systems staff to FireHouse Software Seminar in Phoenix next month to learn the analytics program better.

Torell inquired whether the analytics program will be used in decision making for the department. McElroy responded that they are still learning the program, but by next year, hope to use it for policy or staffing decisions.

- New Type III wildland engine is in place and assigned to Station 7. The existing Type III engine was moved to Station 4.
- The department has requested they be considered for a State OES wildland engine which would be part of a strike team responding to incidents state-wide. The engine is paid for by State OES. A press release will be coming out soon announcing a demonstration of the new engine the first week of Sept.
- A new Type I engine will be arriving in October. The purchasing process will begin soon for an additional Type I engine for 2014.
- Mutual Aid responses – There is an engine assigned to the Sequoia National Forest which will be there 3-4 more days. 9 additional employees are out of town at overhead (administrative) assignments, some are on Incident Management Teams.
- An RFP is in the process to conduct a study of the Airport Fire and Rescue program.

10. POLICE CHIEF'S REPORT

From Police Chief Sanchez:

- Compstat numbers are down: Priority 1 calls average for June 5.80 min.; July 5.40 min. Priority 2 calls average for June 14.50 min.; July 13.00. Anticipates August numbers will be higher due to Fiesta. Over 75% of Fiesta arrests and citations were for people outside SB County.
- A homicide and 2 attempted homicide cases have been solved. All of them gang related. Three arrests have been made, and more are pending.
- In the next 2 weeks there will be a press conference regarding the gang injunction.

Torell stated it could be beneficial to have the commission weigh in on the gang injunction. Chief Sanchez stated it wasn't necessary; that they are just waiting on a decision from the judge possibly in October. 30 adults originally in the injunction, now only 12 left due to arrests made.

- The 5 cadets in the academy are doing well and will graduate in 10 weeks.

11. ADJORN: 4:45 PM