

CITY OF SANTA BARBARA  
FIRE & POLICE COMMISSION MINUTES

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Thursday, **January 26, 2017** @ 4:00  
Police Department  
Murphy Room

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**REGULAR MEETING**

**1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL:**

Present: Commissioners: Christensen, Daniel, Laponis, Torell, and Zeitsoff

Staff Present: Police Captain Todd Stoney, Fire Prevention Division Chief Joe Poire,  
Councilmember Gregg Hart, Police Technician Liz Scott and Secretary Rosie  
Calvillo

**2. AGENDA CHANGE:**

**LAPONIS MOTIONED TO MOVE ITEM #9 TO FINAL DISCUSSION, UNANIMOUS VOICE  
VOTE**

**3. Approval of Minutes of October 27, 2016**

**MOTION:** Laponis to approve minutes of October 27, 2016, Daniel seconded.

**VOTE:** Unanimous voice vote.

**4. Public Comment (Total Time 10 minutes)**

None.

**5. Subcommittee Reports**

Daniel met with Chris Braden, Fire Services Specialist, she distributed a wildland fire suppression letter that is sent out from the Fire Department with a message from the Chief. She would like to ask him to possibly make a presentation at one of the following Commission meetings to talk about the evaluation of defensible space, private residences and other activities that are offered free to the public. The magazine gets sent out by mail and made available at talks that are given. The newsletter gets sent out to everyone in the assessment district. The title of the program used to be Inspection and it has been changed to Evaluation of Defensible Space.

Zeitsoff attended the presentation of Officer Involved Documentary regarding deadly force and the impacts on the Police Officers, she and her son learned a lot. She also attended the regional and policy meetings on Central Coast Collaborative on homelessness. The Mayor and a Councilmember are on the policy group. Zeitsoff also went to the Santa Barbara County Task Force on Human Trafficking thru the District Attorney's Office.

Torell is a volunteer at the Visiting Nurse and Hospice Care, they had a meeting that gathered all the agencies in the community that care for the homeless, the purpose of the meeting was to let each other know that they exist.

**6. Old Business: Commissioners may ask questions for clarification, refer to staff for factual information or make brief reports or announcements.**

Daniel had an attempted break-in during the holidays and she was in her home, the Police department's response time was stellar. They also informed her about a website called spot crime that notifies you about crime in your neighborhood.

**7. New Business:**

Discuss Issues for Commission to focus on in 2017, Item #9 will be discussed last.

**8. Bianca Lamia Embley, "The Spiritual Owl" – Fortuneteller Permit Application Hearing.**

Liz Scott, Police Technician conducted the background investigation on the application and she meets all the requirements.

Torell said there is no reason to deny the license.

Zeitsoff is concerned if the City assumes any liability when she goes into someone's home and something should happen to her?

Laponis stated we are covered through the City's liability insurance and the City Attorney's office as it pertains to any liability that may become of it. There is no personal liability.

Torell stated that there is no rational reason to deny the permit.

Laponis moved to approve the permit as recommended by the Police Department.

**MOTION:** Daniel to approve the permit, Zeitsoff, seconded.

**VOTE:** Unanimous voice vote.

Laponis suggested that Item #9 be discussed prior to adjourning.

**9. APPOINT FIRE AND POLICE COMMISSION SUB-COMMITTEES:**

Laponis stated that this occurs in January, no one has approached him to make any changes to the liaisons. Christensen and Daniel will be the liaisons for the Fire Department.

**MOTION:** Torell moved to approve, Zeitsoff, seconded.

**VOTE:** Unanimous voice vote.

Torell and Zeitsoff will be the liaisons for the Police Department.

**MOTION:** Torell moved to approve, Daniel, seconded.

**VOTE:** Unanimous voice vote.

Daniel would like to have a process so that both sub-committees liaisons contact one another so that they are aware of certain activities that are happening in the community, such as quarterly meetings. She suggested to receive the information by text or email a week before the meetings.

Laponis suggested to use caution and discuss items that are only informational.

**10. Fire Chief's Report:**

Joe Poire, Fire Prevention Division Chief was present to represent the Fire Department in the absence of the Fire Chief. He distributed the Fire Department's Incident Comparison Report from December 27, 2016 thru January 26, 2017, Wildland Fire Suppression Annual Newsletter and the Ready, Set, Go Action Plan booklet.

- Calls for service from 12/2016 thru 01/2017 were for medical emergencies.
- This is usually the busy time of the year for fires but this year has been slow haven't had many fires, couple of arson fires.
- Engine 2 (Quarantina) is the busiest engine in the City followed by Engine 1, most of the calls are from the downtown area.
- The California Fire Code was adopted January 1, 2016, it is done every 3 years and the Fire Department is allowed under the fire code to make amendments if needed. Council has approved all changes and amendments.
- Fire has been working on GEO maps the City's and County's GIS system.
- City Fire still has an Arson Task Force, they meet at the DA's office and do training exercises.
- Fire is part of the City's drought task force because water supply and lower water pressures affect the ability to fight a fire.

#### 11. **Police Chief's Report:**

Captain Stoney was present to represent the Police Department in the absence of the Police Chief. Captain Stoney explained that the Chief was at a Budget Steering Committee meeting for our 2 year budget.

Laponis would like to review the budget prior to it going to Council.

- 2 Holiday parades 1 on State St. and 1 on Milpas St. both went well without incident.
- New Year's went well, it was quiet.
- 2 Protest marches around the inauguration, the women's march.
- We had 1 Sergeant and 8 Officers on duty in anticipation of rain prediction.
- 8 Officer's that graduated from the academy will be on their own March 2017.
- 10 Cadets are in the Police Academy and they are all doing well, graduating in April 2017
- New Academy will start in April 2017 12 are in backgrounds, with the anticipation of sending 5 to 7, we will then be at max staffing.
- 2 Laterals graduated and 1 from previous academy.
- Detective position was added and we added a position to SET program.
- Current Staffing 142 authorized Officers position, we are at 140.
- Hired a Communications Manager with lots of experience from San Bernardino County.
- 3 Dispatchers are in backgrounds, 300 people tested.
- Calls for service in terms of response times are priority 1 and 2 calls are right on average, monthly average calls are 3002 per month. There was an increase on call volume for October, 4200, November, 3008 and December, 3009.

Daniel commented on the Police commercial on burglary and thought that was a good idea to educate the public. Daniel wanted to know when the Academy graduation is, it will be April 6, 2017.

Christensen would like to get the Compstat reports and the summary sheet. Captain Stoney reported that we do not do Compstat but we do pull statistics.

Captain Stoney will give a copy of that report to Commissioners. The new system is compatible with our Dispatch system.

Christensen inquired about the progress of the implementation of the Noise Ordinance.

Captain Stoney reported that we received \$100,000.00 from SBCC in September to hire people. There are 5 in backgrounds and gave 1 conditional job offer. Once we get 3 we will start putting them out on the street enforcing.

Christensen was told by the Chief that the citation books needed to be updated to enforce the Noise Ordinance and that has been done. Christensen asked if there was a resolution about the vehicle break-ins.

Captain Stoney doesn't not know if there were any arrests but will look into it. Christensen inquired about the annual Fire and Police Departments Budget representation. Captain Stoney will let the Chief know to present it at the February meeting.

## **12. Discuss issues for Commission to focus on in 2017:**

Laponis informed the Commission that they needed to establish priorities to discuss at the meetings. Christensen inquired about the annual Tow Operators Compliance Review that should have been in January. The annual Tow Operators Review has been postponed to February, because there is a new Officer in the position.

Christensen put together an annual Fire and Police Commission calendar that she will email to everyone.

Christensen brought up homelessness and how we can help the department with the problem. Daniel would like to collect information and vote what items they will add to the monthly agenda.

Laponis would like to have informational meetings on the City not being a sanctuary City the pros and cons to the public.

Captain Stoney informed the Commission that nothing has changed, when it comes to immigration.

### **AMENDMENT:**

Zeitsoff's three priorities for 2017:

- Two stations, Police and Fire, funding and advocacy
- Homeless impacts human and economic, on the Police and Fire Depts. (Torell will assist)
- SB City Council's efforts to curb alcohol "off sale" outlets, in collaboration with the PD Chief and Dept. of Alcohol Beverage Control, and possible expansion of the "off sales" new ordinance.

## **13. Adjourn 5:55 PM**