

## POLICE CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

October 13, 2020

Meeting Minutes

Board Members Present: John Springett, Brian Williams, Olga Boucher, Richard Hewitt, Brent Hall

Others Present: Ron Lantz, Diantha McKeel, Bea LaPisto-Kirtley, Amanda Farley, Terry Walls, Abbey Stumpf

Meeting called to order at 9:01am

John Springett made a motion to approve the August 11, 2020, meeting minutes and Brent Hall 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. The August 11, 2020, meeting minutes have been approved.

### New Business:

Mr. Hewitt welcomed BOS Ms. Bea LaPisto, Rivanna District; Ms. Amanda Farley, County Attorney's Office and Captain Terry Walls Uniform Patrol Bureau to the meeting.

There were no inquiries or questions from the public at the August 2020 meeting.

Mr. Richard Hewitt and Ms. Amanda Farley updated the committee on the General Assembly's Active Legislation that pertains to the police department.

- HB 5051 Decertification of law-enforcement officers: directs DCJS to adopt standards of conduct and due process procedures for decertification based on serious misconduct in violation of those standards. DCJS is to report to the General Assembly in November 2021.
- HB 5013 Qualified Immunity Reform: Civil action for deprivation of rights; duties and liabilities of certain employers in employing or contracting for the services of law enforcement officers. This House Bill did not pass the Senate.
- SB 5032 Assault and battery; penalty: Eliminates the mandatory minimum term of confinement for a simple assault or assault and battery committed against law enforcement officer. The bill provides that any person charged with such offense where the degree of culpability is slight, a jury or the court may find the accused not guilty of such offense but guilty of a simple assault or assault and battery, punishable as a Class 1 misdemeanor. This Senate Bill did not pass the House.
- Budget Amendment "Defund Police 25%" has been removed.

### Chief's Updates:

- The Chief wanted the committee to know that last year, 2019, the police department received 122 accolades from the citizens of Albemarle County. Accolades come in many form, such as letters, emails, cards, and in-person.
- The Albemarle County Police Department received their re-accreditation which is done every four years. The Accreditation process consist of accreditors reviewing our policies and procedures, equipment and training. Chief Lantz is one of six Chief's in Virginia that serve on the Accreditation Panel. The department received a glowing report and Chief Lantz is proud of what we have accomplished.

Captain Terry Walls updated the committee on COVID-19 and how the police department is and has been responding.

- In March of 2020 and Incident Management Team was established. They were directed to make many decisions during the pandemic, such as whether or not the building will stay open, deciding what County services are essential and what personnel was essential, they had installed the monitoring kiosks and

developed the Covid Check-In app, and they met with the health department on a weekly basis. In August 2020 the Board of Supervisors developed a local county ordinance in reference to covid-19, the ambassador program was implemented and the mask give away days were started for the community.

- As far as the Police Department, it was educating the officers and changing the way they conducted business. Civilian employees began teleworking. In the 2<sup>nd</sup> Phase, April 2020, calls for service were handled by phone if at all possible, majority of the training had been suspended, in-service/required training was done online, all community engagement programs were suspended and the use of transport vans became the norm as it provided social distancing between the transport officer and the arrestee.
- All protocols are still in place even though the numbers seem to be coming down.

John Springett made a motion to end the meeting and Brian Williams 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. The meeting adjourned at 10:00am.