



**PUBLIC SAFETY AND COMMUNITY RELATIONS BOARD - REGULAR SESSION
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 2023, 3:30 PM**

The Public Safety and Community Relations Board convened in regular session at 3:30 PM, November 2, 2023. called the meeting to order.

MINUTES

Roll Call

Attendee Name	Title	Status
Amira Harris-Bommarito	Youth Member	Absent
Ashley Farmer	Board Chair	Present
Jeffery Woodard	Board Member	Present
Arthur Taylor	Board Member	Present
Surena Fish	Board Member	Present
William Bennett	Board Member	Absent
Rachel McFarland	Board Member	Present

Public Comment

Individuals wishing to provide emailed public comment must email comments to publiccomment@cityblm.org at least 15 minutes before the start of the meeting. Individuals wishing to speak in-person may register at cityblm.org/register at least 5 minutes before the start of the meeting.

Consent Agenda

Items listed on the Consent Agenda are approved with one motion; Items pulled from the Consent Agenda for discussion are listed and voted on separately.

Item 4.A. Consideration and Action to Approve the Minutes of the September 7, 2023, Regular Public Safety and Community Relations Board Meeting.

**Board Member Fish made a motion, seconded by Board Member Taylor, to approve the item as presented. Board Chair Woodard called roll-
AYES: Farmer; Bennett; Fish; Woodard; McFarland; Taylor. Motion passed.**

Regular Agenda

The following item was presented:

Item 5.A. Presentation and Discussion by the Bloomington Police Department (BPD) on the taser use report.

There were five taser incidents involving four displays and one taser deployment activity. There were 15 incidents in October where use of force was needed. These included some kind of soft empty hand technique, OC employment, tape down, tackle, and show of force.

The following item was presented:

Item 5.B. Presentation and Discussion by the Bloomington Police Department (BPD) on an update of complaints received.

Calls for service decreased by 730 from last October. Commissioner Woodard asked about additional police downtown around the 5:00 or 6:00 PM timeframe. Police Chief Jamal Simington will make the shift officer aware. Commissioner Fish mentioned Market Street being shutdown and contingency plans for parking. Jamal Simington mentioned plans coming from Public Works department in the future. Commissioner Taylor mentioned complaints being significantly down for the past two years and asked the Chief why are we getting fewer complaints. Chief attributes a lot of the decrease to training in de-escalation. Secondly, he mentioned the community engagement processes in the police force. He believes there is value in creating these relationships with the community. Commissioner Woodard mentioned what percentage of the 13% complaints were from poor service. Police Chief mentioned getting a report and providing that answer later.

The following item was presented:

Item 5.C. Presentation on personnel training and continued education by the Bloomington Police Department (BPD).

Police Chief Jamal Simington is present at the meeting to provide a report. One lieutenant that is currently in the Northwestern Public Safety staffing command school. He is halfway finished. Chief mentioned we are starting to get staff in management training and looking at additional advanced leadership programs. The police departments also has new hires in the academy and will finish up in December. There are 6 currently in the academy field training program. They will graduate in two weeks and go to another field training program. There is an additional officer that hurt her shoulder during training but will be back. Interviews were conducted and 8 were chosen. These candidates are going through the background process. The department has a staff of 125. Chief believes they will be at about 128 by the end of the year.

The following item was presented:

Item 5.D. Presentation and Discussion by the Bloomington Police Department (BPD) on general department updates.

The department has recovered 2 missing persons and 8 recovered stolen vehicles. They worked with the Wisconsin Police Department and FBI to recover 8 stolen pickup trucks valued at \$600,000. Organized crime would go out and steal trucks. They would re-plate the vehicles and then resell for cash. Police department has started the ban for agencies not to be able to get immigrant information. This follows the law signed by JB Pritzger. Hit and run accidents have happened recently but ALPR is unable to investigate. The Police Chief changed the policy

to allow the use of ALPR to solve hit and run cases. Looking to expand ALPR on the east side of town. They will be placed on the website for full transparency. The police department applied for the Kwame Raoul retail theft grant and was awarded \$65,000 dollars. This will go towards upgrading the police cameras and surveillance on retail crimes. The Text to Tip anonymous program has been a success. The department launched a survey

tool for citizens that call into the department for help. They started on October 1st. The first month has demonstrated that 79% of those that they provided services for were satisfied. 3% have reported very negative. 10% negative. 11% neutral. Gun Buy Back program netted 221 guns. 70 handguns, 4 ghost guns, 66 rifles, 56 shotguns, and 25 assault weapons. The chief mentioned it being a success.

New Business

None.

Adjournment

Consideration and action on future meeting dates, times, and locations, topics., as requested by the Administration Department. Next meeting (Quarter Meeting) will be held at City of Refuge Church on December 7, 2023 at 5:00 pm.

Board Member Taylor made a motion, seconded by Board Member Fish, to adjourn the meeting. **Board Chair Woodard called roll- AYES:** Farmer; Fish; Woodard; McFarland; Taylor. **Motion passed.**

The Meeting Adjourned at 5:05 pm

CITY OF BLOOMINGTON



Michael Hurt, Staff Liaison