

POLICE COMMITTEE
SYNOPSIS OF MEETING MINUTES
10/21, 11/4, 11/19, 12/2, 12/16/ 12/30

This document shall serve as a synopsis of the so noted Police Committee Zoom Meetings held on October 21st and in November and December.

Mayor Lane, Committeewoman Rizzo, BA Vito Gadaleta, Chief James Hunt and Police Labor Counsel Eric Bernstein were all present for the October 21, 2020 meeting of the Police Committee. The Police Committee had an open discussion with Chief Hunt to discuss a number of items including how he and his command staff would interact with the Police Committee; promotions and the promotional policy; amendment of Rules and Regulations as a result of the adoption of the new Police Ordinance and to remove the current grooming policy. A number of items were addressed. After Chief Hunt left the meeting the Police Committee members and Mr. Bernstein discussed the need for promotions; Sergeants and Lieutenants, as well as the hiring of new officers to fill current vacant slots and slots to open as a result of retirements. It was determined to move forward under the present promotional policy to undertake a Lieutenant promotional process and to direct Human Resources to advertise for new patrol officers.

November 4: In attendance via Zoom were Vito Gadaleta, Mayor Lane, Committeewoman Rizzo, Nancey Jackson Johnson and Eric Bernstein. Pastor Nancey was welcomed to the Police Committee. Discussions were had on the topics of FOP and PBA negotiations, Kyheem Davis lawsuit, potential promotions, a new promotional policy, Pitman Schedule, notable occurrences and counseling. Further, Mayor Lane brought up the ongoing issue, township-wide, concerning streetlight outages and the impact on the community. Mr. Gadaleta advised that he has had discussion with the Chief and his staff. The Chief will have a township-wide study undertaken, after which the list of outages will be provided to JCP&L for action. Also, there was continuing discussion on the Mission of the Police Committee.

November 19: In attendance via Zoom were Vito Gadaleta, Mayor Lane, Committeewoman Rizzo, Pastor Nancey Jackson Johnson and Eric Bernstein. Discussions continued on the topics of Lieutenant and Sergeant promotions, streetlight outages town-wide, the Barry Colicelli lawsuit, amendments to the police department rules and regulations and finalizing the Mission Statement of

the Police Committee. Also had discussion on possible candidates for our second citizen member. The members received an update from Mr. Gadaleta on the November 17 Shots Fired incident. And with regard to this discussion, Committeewoman Rizzo asked if there might be grants available to provide to our residents to install cameras on their private homes. Mr. Gadaleta stated he was not aware of any such grants but would investigate and report back to the Committee. There was also brief discussion on recent action by the NJ Attorney General to release police officer discipline history under AG 2020-5 and AG 2020-6.

December 3: In attendance via Zoom were Vito Gadaleta, Mayor Lane, Committeewoman Rizzo, Nancey Jackson Johnson and Eric Bernstein. The following topics were discussed: Mr. Gadaleta provided an overview of the recent settlement negotiations with PO Kyheem Davis who was to be awarded a settlement of \$500,000 contingent on accepting a disability retirement; Mr. Gadaleta updated the members on the continuing investigation of a police officer involved accident in the rear of the municipal building and that discipline was still pending; open discussion was had on the Toys for Tots program to be administered by the PBA/FOP and to take place on Monday, December 21st; finally Mr. Bernstein advised that Mr. Donald Burke, Esq., had made a request to Municipal Clerk Richard Cuttrell, under the OPRA doctrine, for copies of records and documents that Chief Hunt had requested as part of his lawsuit; finally, there was discussion on an IA investigation of a police officer with further information forthcoming.

December 16: In attendance via Zoom were Vito Gadaleta, Mayor Lane, Committeewoman Rizzo, Nancey Jackson Johnson, Lisa Boyd and Eric Bernstein. The members welcomed our newest member, Lisa Boyd to the Committee. Mr. Gadaleta presented that the promotions of Sergeants and Lieutenants were approved by the Township Committee and will become effective January 1, 2021. Mr. Gadaleta advised further that four SLEO II officers were given offers of employment as full time police officers to become effective January 1 as well. There was discussion on the subject of the FOP grievance filed on behalf of Captain Gualario in connection with the promotion of Deputy Chief Fisher, the lawsuit filed by Chief Hunt, and the need for an updated promotional policy. Mr. Gadaleta also noted that the Township and FOP had completed contract negotiations and an MOA was agreed upon. Mr. Gadaleta further noted that the PBA contract negotiations are ongoing. Information was provided again regarding the PBA/FOP and Toys for Tots to be held on Monday, December 21.

December 30: This is our final meeting of 2020. In attendance at the meeting were Mayor Lane, Committeewoman Rizzo, Lisa Boyd, Nancey Jackson Johnson, Vito Gadaleta and Eric Bernstein. First item for discussion was information that Mr. Bernstein would likely not be reappointed as labor counsel by the incoming Township Committee. Mr. Bernstein thanked everyone for their service to the community as a member of the Police Committee. Mr. Bernstein gave an update on the Chief Hunt and Barry Colicelli lawsuits where he advised that he was no longer representing the Township through the JIF on the Chief Hunt matter, but currently was still the assigned legal counsel by the JIF on the Colicelli matter. Further discussions were had on the question of a new Police Promotional Policy. Mr. Gadaleta advised that he had been provided by comments from the FOP and PBA and added that further discussion with labor counsel and the membership would be necessary. Mr. Gadaleta advised that the State would be implementing a new requirement which would provide that all police officers wear Body Cameras. The State would purchase and deliver the Body Cameras but the Township would have costs associated with the new program. More information to follow. On the topic of contract negotiations, Mr. Gadaleta advised that the Township was awaiting FOP signature on the agreed upon CBA and that the PBA and Township had entered into an approved MOA to be considered by the Township Committee on January 1, 2021 at Reorganization Meeting. Finally, there was discussion on the need to provide for a questionnaire to be developed and provided to the police officers to obtain their input on health, safety and wellbeing of all officers. More to follow in the New Year. Well wishes for a Happy New Year were extended by all.

Respectfully submitted,

Vito D. Gadaleta
Business Administrator