



**Public Safety Community Advisory Committee**  
**Thursday, June 9, 2022, at 6:00 P.M.**  
Florida Citrus Building – Florida Room  
500 Third Street NW  
Winter Haven, FL 33881

**MINUTES**

1. **CALL TO ORDER** – Tom Freijo, Chair called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

2. **ROLL CALL** - Jamie Brown, Committee Clerk

**Present:** Tom Freijo, Chair; Abdul Al-khatib, Vice-Chair; Richard Treuman; Beth Luxford; Linda Wingate; Melody Johnson; Shandra Blocker

**NOTE:** Daniel Maxwell arrived at 6:47 p.m.

**Absent:** Morgan Wilson; Christina Fullerton (Alternate); Theophilus Anderson (Alternate)

**City Staff Present:** Charlie Bird, Public Safety Director; David Brannan, Police Chief and Committee Liaison; Fire Chief Sonny Emery; Christine Samuel, Diversity and Inclusivity Director; City Commissioner Tracy Mercer

3. **APPROVAL OF MARCH 10, 2022 MEETING MINUTES** – Tom Freijo, Chair

**Motion by Vice-Chair Abdul Al-Khatib to accept the March 10, 2022, meeting minutes.**

**Second by Shandra Blocker**

**Motion carried 7:0.**

4. **DISCUSSION OF DISCIPLINARY GENERAL ORDER** – David Brannan, Police Chief

Chief Brannan gave a brief overview of the General Order that was provided to each Committee member.

5. **FIRE DEPARTMENT OPERATIONS OVERVIEW** – Sonny Emery, Fire Chief

Chief Emery gave a presentation outlining the operations of the Fire Department.

6. **RECRUITMENT EFFORTS** – Tom Freijo, Chair

Chair Freijo opened the comments about encouraging outside organizations sponsoring candidates for the police academy. Following comments by Chief Brannan, Chief Emery, and Director Bird, it was determined that there was not a need for the committee to take any action regarding recruitment.

7. **LOCAL PROBLEM SOLVING FOR PUBLIC SAFETY PARTNERS** – Abdul Al-Khatib, Vice-Chair

Vice-Chair Al-khatib updated the committee on the progress of scheduling. Dates for the training are still to be determined and funding has been approved through the City.

8. **EMERGENCY MATTERS NOT ON THE AGENDA**

Chair Freijo requested Director of Public Safety Bird to speak on school shootings in light of the recent Texas school shooting and the training of Winter Haven Police members for these scenarios. Director Bird assured the committee that there was a high level of preparation in Polk County to address active shooter situations.

9. **SUGGESTED AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING**

After much discussion, it was agreed that the next committee meeting would be dedicated to discussing and clarifying the role of the committee.

10. **SELECTION OF NEXT MEETING DATE** – August 4, 2022, at 6 p.m. in the Florida Room at Nora Mayo Hall

**Motion by Shandra Blocker.**

**Second by Beth Luxford.**

**Motion carried 8:0.**

11. **PUBLIC SAFETY REPORT** - David Brannan, Chief of Police

**Recruiting Update:** Chief Brannan gave an update on the current Police Department recruiting efforts. Recruitment fair held on June 1 and sign-on bonus announced.

**Update on Officer Arrest:** Chief Brannan updated the Committee on the arrest and ultimate termination of a Winter Haven officer due to fraudulently receiving money through off-duty details that were either not completed or officer was a no-show, but logged the hours.

12. **COMMITTEE CLERK REPORT:** None

13. **COMMITTEE MEMBER REPORTS:** None

**14. ADJOURNMENT:**

**Motion by Richard Treuman to adjourn the meeting at 8:03 p.m.**

**Second by Abdul Al-Khatib.**

**Motion carried 8:0**

**ATTEST:**

**PUBLIC SAFETY COMMUNITY  
ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

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Jamie Brown  
Committee Clerk  
Public Safety Department

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Tom Freijo  
Committee Chair