

**City of Warson Woods Ad Hoc Committee – Glendale Public Safety
Agreement Review**

Minutes from the Committee Meeting Held June 2, 2021, at 7:00 p.m. at Warson Woods City Hall (and via Zoom Webinar which was recorded).

Ad Hoc Committee members in attendance: Mike Basler, Jim Lewis, Tim Quinn, Brian Middendorf, Sean Fitzgerald, and Mandy Kamykowski.

1. Minutes from the May 26, 2021, meeting were reviewed and unanimously approved.
2. Members reported on additional conversations with citizens and city officials since our last meeting:
 - a. Mr. Lewis reported on follow up communications with Glendale Police Chief Beaton following the May 26th meeting. In discussing the statistics relating to patrol hours in Glendale, Chief Beaton reported prior information given to the Committee inaccurately indicated sergeants on duty in Glendale did not patrol streets.

Using payroll records to identify total hours logged by WWPD full-time and part-time patrolmen, in comparison with the estimated patrol hours provided by Glendale Chief Beaton, Mr. Lewis calculated the proposed patrol coverage under the PSA would result in a decrease in patrol hours in Warson Woods. The Committee reiterated this decrease in patrol hours would necessarily result in decrease visibility/police presence in Warson Woods, which is contrary to prior reports by representatives of both Cities. The Committee agreed to continue investigating the baseline patrol coverage for Warson Woods.

Chief Beaton also advised Mr. Lewis that if all 5 Warson Woods police officers were to obtain employment with GPD under the PSA, none would lose seniority. He explained that none of the current WWPD officers had more service years than the least senior officer on the GPD. Officer Titus took issue with that representation and the Committee agreed to follow up on this issue.

- b. Mr. Basler spoke with WW Mayor Howe and Mr. Fitzgerald spoke with Glendale Mayor Wilcox. Both independently advised that comments provided to the Committee indicating Glendale would not negotiate additional terms within the PSA are inaccurate. According to both mayors, as well as Chief Beaton, Glendale remains open to negotiating the PSA with WW. The Committee further discussed it's concerns with various sections, clauses and terms in the final draft PSA and maintained its unanimous recommendation that the Board does not enter the current version of the PSA.

- c. Mr. Basler reported on further information he obtained from sources in the Attorney General's office in Jefferson City as well as from Pat Kelly at The Municipal League regarding the ongoing legislative action pertaining to municipal policing. No new information was obtained since our May 26 meeting:
 - i. The constitutionality of SB5 remains an issue pending before the Missouri Supreme Court and will not likely be decided before August 28, 2021. However, it is unlikely if SB5 is deemed constitutional that the Attorney General would seek recourse against any municipal police department who has begun the mandated accreditation processes outlined in the bill – including both WW and Glendale;
 - ii. SB26 is on Governor Parson's desk for signature. Mr. Kelly advised it is possible the Governor would not sign the bill. Veto override votes available were unknown. Per Mr. Kelly, if SB26 is passed into law effective August 28, 2021, a question remains whether it would/could be enforced in a situation where a municipality wishes to "consolidate" or "merge" its police department with another local department. The Committee concluded that before August 28, 2021, neither of these bills would mandate or prohibit a PSA with Glendale (or any other municipality). That may not be the case if SB26 is signed and effective August 28, 2021.
3. Mr. Lewis and Mr. Fitzgerald gave updates on Glendale documents related to patrol hours and crime statistics. Mr. Lewis's report summary is outlined in the first paragraph of Section 2(a) above.
 - a. Mr. Fitzgerald reported that overall Glendale has similar types of crime as is seen in Warson Woods. Additionally, when scaled to the size of Glendale, the crime rates between the two cities are fairly equal. He highlighted the disposition rate of almost 100% by Warson Woods and a similar, but slightly lower rate in Glendale. Overall, both cities do a good job of closing active cases promptly.
4. Mr. Quinn raised a question about the applicability of the federal American Rescue Plan to WW. Mr. Basler advised that the Municipal League reported WW could receive anywhere from approximately \$350,000 - \$400,000 from this program. However, unlike the CARES Act funding, this money has more restrictions tied to its use. Further investigation by the City Finance Committee is recommended to evaluate whether and how WW could use any funds awarded under this Plan.
5. Resident Andrew Scott and Sgt. Gene Titus were present in person at the meeting. Mr. Scott asked follow-up questions regarding the 36% decrease in patrol hours under the current PSA draft. Officer Titus remarked on potential concerns relating to background checks and the probationary period for WW officers under the current PSA draft.

6. The Committee discussed the plan for a final presentation to the Board of Aldermen at the next meeting on June 15, 2021, concluding the following topics should be addressed:
 - a. Concerns regarding the current draft PSA;
 - b. WW police officer survey results and other personnel issues such as compensation, benefits, and seniority;
 - c. Anticipated decreased patrolling/service level in WW;
 - d. Prop P and other City Finance items including possible items to increase revenue while also evaluating expense cutting;
 - e. Pending/anticipated legislative and private group challenges to police funding; and
 - f. Addressing “rumors” WW residents may have regarding the proposed PSA.
7. The above topics were assigned to Committee Members for reduction to PowerPoint slides for the June 15th BOA meeting. The Committee will review and revise each member’s presentation proposal slides at the next meeting.
8. The Committee scheduled its next meeting for **Monday, June 7, 2021, at 7:00 p.m. at Warson Woods City Hall.**
9. The meeting adjourned at approximately 9:30 p.m.