PUBLIC SAFETY ADVISORY COMMISSION ORDINANCE COMMITTEE

Meeting Minutes November 2, 2020

OPENING:

The regular meeting of the PUBLIC SAFETY ADVISORY COMMISSION ORDINANCE COMMITTEE was called to order at 2:11 P.M. on November 2, 2020 on the Arena Floor of the Columbus Civic Center, 400 4th Street, Columbus, Georgia by Mayor B. H. "Skip" Henderson, III.

PRESENT:

State Representative Carolyn Hugley, Councilor Jerry "Pops" Barnes, Councilor Judy Thomas, Shameika Averett, Tyson Begley, Major Freddie Blackmon and Reverend Adrian Chester. Recording Secretary Tameka Colbert was also present.

ABSENT:

Councilor Walker Garrett

INVOCATION:

Offered by Reverend Adrian Chester.

MINUTES:

Minutes of the October 20, 2020 Public Safety Advisory Commission Ordinance Committee Meeting were distributed to the Committee Members. There were no changes.

HYBRID ORDINANCE:

State Representative Carolyn Hugley said because we previously voted to remove the word "deadly" from Section 2 (d) of the ordinance, it would require that we remove the word "certain" from the title of Section 2.

PROPOSED PSAC ORDINANCE COMMITTEE TIMELINE:

Reverend Adrian Chester gave a brief outline of the proposed PSAC Ordinance Committee Review timeline, which was distributed to each Committee Member via Email. (A copy of the document has been filed in the Clerk of Council's Office.)

After reading through the timeline, Reverend Chester made a motion to accept the proposed timeline. Seconded by Councilor Barnes and carried unanimously by the seven members present, with Councilor Garrett being absent from the meeting.

State Representative Hugley asked who would be the point of contact if a group or organization wanted to host one of the listening sessions listed on the timeline. She also asked how many sessions could be expected.

Mayor Henderson said he would expect that the number of sessions would be limited by the timeline. He said there could possibly be one or two a week. He said if someone is interested in hosting a listening session, they could reach out to one of the Committee Members or the Mayor's Office. He said over the next week we will begin to identity documents that we would like to take to the public.

Committee Member Tyson Begley asked if the Committee would be presenting to the public the Hybrid Ordinance that was created by the City Attorney or the Hybrid Ordinance that was revised by the Committee.

Reverend Chester said his observation would be to present the ordinance that was revised by the Committee.

State Representative Hugley pointed out that there were four alternatives included in the packet that was submitted by the Assistant City Attorney during the last meeting. She said the Committee did not explore any of the alternatives. She said she would like to further discuss those alternatives and possibly present them to the public for discussion as well. She said she is particularly interested in item numbers three and four.

Mayor Henderson suggested the members of the Committee email the City Attorney if they have any questions regarding the alternatives.

State Representative Hugley said as we go out to the public for public discussion there needs to be a background piece that talks about what the Public Safety Advisory Commission is and how it came to be.

Mayor Henderson said the Committee should also explain to the public what subpoena power does.

Councilor Barnes requested a compilation of the cases that have been addressed by the Public Safety Advisory Council in order to present to the public.

Committee Member Begley said he has already created a background of what the Public Safety Advisory Commission has been doing. He said he would submit the background to all Committee Members for their review. He then suggested that a change be made to Section 2 (d) of the Hybrid Ordinance. He said instead of the ordinance saying "the Commission may request the issuance of a subpoena", he would like to change the language to say "a member of the Commission may request the issuance of a subpoena". Committee member Begley made a motion to change the language of the ordinance to read,

"A member of the Commission may request the issuance of a subpoena". Seconded by State Representative Hugley and carried unanimously by the members present, with Reverend Chester being absent for the vote and Councilor Garrett being absent from the meeting.

REQUEST(S):

- Committee Member Shameika Averett made a request to have the PSAC Ordinance committee meetings recorded and made public through Facebook or YouTube.
- Councilor Barnes requested a history of the cases that have been handled by the Public Safety Advisory Commission.

TAKEAWAYS:

- Get all of the information together to provide to the public
- There was a vote to make the change in the wording of the ordinance
- Review the history of the Public Safety Advisory Commission in order to take to the public

ADJOURNMENT:

Meeting was adjourned at 2:38 p.m. by Mayor B. H. "Skip" Henderson, III. The next general meeting will be at 3:00 p.m. on November 16, 2020, at the Columbus Civic Center.

Minutes submitted by: Name