

**PUBLIC SAFETY ADVISORY COMMISSION ORDINANCE  
COMMITTEE**

Meeting Minutes  
November 16, 2020

**OPENING:**

The regular meeting of the PUBLIC SAFETY ADVISORY COMMISSION ORDINANCE COMMITTEE was called to order at 3:07 P.M. on November 16, 2020 on the Arena Floor of the Columbus Civic Center, 400 4<sup>th</sup> Street, Columbus, Georgia by Mayor B. H. "Skip" Henderson, III.

**PRESENT:**

State Representative Carolyn Hugley, Councilor Jerry "Pops" Barnes, Councilor Walker Garrett, Shameika Averett, Tyson Begley and Major Freddie Blackmon. Assistant City Attorney Lucy Sheftall and Recording Secretary Tameka Colbert were also present.

**ABSENT:**

Councilor Judy Thomas & Reverend Adrian Chester were absent.

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**MINUTES:**

Approval of the Minutes of the November 3, 2020 Public Safety Advisory Commission Ordinance Committee Meeting. State Representative Carolyn Hugley made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Councilor Garrett and carried unanimously by the six members present with Councilor Thomas and Reverend Chester being absent from the meeting.

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**HYBRID ORDINANCE:**

Assistant City Attorney Sheftall alluded to the Committee's request to remove the word "deadly" from Section 2-234.1 (d) of the Hybrid Ordinance. She said she has made that change as requested. She said during the last meeting there was some discussion about changing the title of Section 2-234.1 to remove the word "certain". She said because this section is relative to all closed investigations it would not be necessary to remove the word "certain". She said we could possibly change the wording to "closed use of force investigations". The Committee agreed to leave the title as is.

With there being no further discussion regarding the Hybrid Ordinance, Councilor Garrett made a motion to present the ordinance to the public. Seconded by State Representative Hugley and carried unanimously by the six members present, with Councilor Thomas and Reverend Chester being absent from the meeting.

### **PROPOSED PSAC ORDINANCE COMMITTEE TIMELINE:**

Mayor Henderson asked the Committee Members were there any thoughts on the revision of the timeline.

Committee Member Averett said in order to get the community more involved, she and Councilor Toyia Tucker would reach out to organizations to include in the listening sessions.

Mayor Henderson suggested that Committee Members bring the contact information of any group or organization interested in hosting a listening session to the December 1<sup>st</sup> meeting. He said we will then begin to identify where and how the listening sessions will take place. Mayor Henderson said the meeting could be held virtually or in a town hall format.

State Representative Hugley suggested both options. She said the meetings could be held in a televised town hall format as well as virtually.

Mayor Henderson said he would get someone to reach out to Michael King at CCG TV.

State Representative Hugley asked about the background information that was requested during the last meeting.

Mayor Henderson advised that the information did not get distributed but there is an ordinance on the creation of the Public Safety Advisory Commission.

State Representative Hugley said the City Attorney could do an update on the ordinance and the Public Safety Advisory Commission could do a report on what they have done in the past. Then we could talk about what subpoena powers is.

Assistant City Attorney Sheftall pointed out Section 1 of the Hybrid Ordinance is identical to the current ordinance for the Public Safety Advisory Commission. She said the only thing that was added was item (m), which has to do with additional training. She said Section 2 is the new power to review closed investigations and this is also being added to the ordinance.

State Representative Hugley said she would like to clarify the reason why this information is being requested for the public discussion. She said the information is being requested because most members of the public are not familiar with the Public Safety Advisory Commission.

Committee Member Begley asked if the Committee should provide information regarding what prompted the conversation about the ordinance.

Mayor Henderson said providing that information should be a part of the listening session. He said it would not hurt to also include the following:

- The first two ordinances that went before Council and show how those ordinances evolved into the Hybrid Ordinance
- A run of show of how the meeting would go
- A narrative of how the original PSAC began
- Information on how the PSAC functions from a practical standpoint
- The two ordinances
- Information on how we got to this point
- The Hybrid Ordinance
- Get feedback from the public

He said we will not schedule a listening session until we have had another committee meeting.

State Representative Hugley said because there was contention in the first readings, the City should include background information about subpoena powers as it relates to belonging to Council and what the parameters are in terms of how it can be handled.

**REQUEST(S):**

- State Representative asked that the Assistant City Attorney provide information regarding alternatives 3 & 4.
- Councilor Barnes requested that the City provide a history/chronology of the cases that have been handled by the Public Safety Advisory Commission.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Meeting was adjourned at 3:32 p.m. by Mayor B. H. "Skip" Henderson, III. The next general meeting will be at 11:00 p.m. on December 1, 2020, at the Columbus Civic Center.

Minutes submitted by: Tameka Colbert