

CITY OF DALTON
PUBLIC SAFETY COMMISSION
MINUTES
JANUARY 21, 2025

The regular meeting for the Public Safety Commission was held today at the Dalton Fire Department's Station #1 conference room. Present were Chairman Truman Whitfield, Commissioners Terry Mathis, Lane Jackson, Mayor Annalee Sams, Fire Chief Matt Daniel, Police Chief Cliff Cason, City Attorney Jonathan Bledsoe, City Administrator Andrew Parker and Assistant City Administrator Todd Pangle. Commissioner Alex Brown was absent.

AGENDA APPROVAL

On the motion of Mayor Sams, second Commissioner Mathis, the Commission approved the agenda as presented.

PERSONNEL MATTERS

Fire Department – Promotion

On the motion of Commissioner Mathis, second Commissioner Jackson, the Commission approved the promotion of Donnie Blankenship to the rank of Lieutenant. The vote was unanimous in favor.

PUBLIC COMMENTARY

Kent Harrison the Head of School from Christian Heritage School wanted to bring up speeding concerns on Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd in front of Christian Heritage School. Mr. Kent inquired about the possibility of a roundabout. The Commission stated they would pass the concerns to City staff to research and come up with a solution.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Election of Chairman

On the motion of Commissioner Mathis, second Mayor Sams, the Commission elected Truman Whitfield as Chairman of the Public Safety Commission.

Election of Secretary

On the motion of Commissioner Mathis, second Mayor Sams, the Commission elected Alex Brown as Secretary of the Public Safety Commission.

MINUTES

The Commissioners were presented written copies of the regular meeting minutes of December 17, 2024. On the motion of Mayor Sams, second Commissioner Jackson, the minutes were approved as presented. The vote was unanimous in favor.

ALCOHOL APPLICATION REVIEW

On the motion of Mayor Sams, second Commissioner Mathis, the Commission gave a positive recommendation to the following new alcohol application.

1. Business Owner: Blue Star Hospitality
d/b/a: Holiday Inn Express
Applicant: Naren Patel
Business Address: 934 Market St.
License Type: Pouring Beer, Wine (Hotel)
Disposition: **New**

The Mayor & Council will vote on the application at the next meeting. The vote was unanimous in favor.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Crime and Crash Statistics for December 2024

Police Chief Cliff Cason gave a written and oral summary of the Crime and Crash Statistical Reports for the month of December 2024. As noted in the written summary, Chief Cason reported the Year to Date Part I crimes are approximately 18% lower, Part II crimes are approximately 32.3% lower, violent crimes are approximately 21.1% lower, and Property Crimes are approximately 17% lower when compared to the past 5-year average. Chief Cason further reported there were 119 non-private property crashes reported for the month, a decrease from the previous month.

On the motion of Commissioner Mathis, second Commissioner Brown, the December Crime and Crash statistic report was approved. The complete report in its entirety is a part of these minutes. The vote was unanimous in favor.

Financial Statistics for December 2024

Police Chief Cliff Cason presented the Financial Report for all divisions within the Dalton Police Department for the month of December 2024. Chief Cason reported the department has expended 98.4% of the budget and will have sufficient funds to close FY 2024.

On the motion of Mayor Sams, second Commissioner Jackson, the financial report was approved. The complete report in its entirety is a part of these minutes. The vote was unanimous in favor.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Monthly Statistical Report – December 2024

Fire Chief Matt Daniel presented the December 2024 Statistical Report to the Commission. Chief Daniel outlined details of the complete report, which included the Incident Report with 319 Total Responses, Incidents by Staff hours, Incidents by Months and Stations, Average Response Time, Average Turnout Time, Average Travel Time, Injury and Property Loss, Training Division Monthly Report, and the Inspection Summary.

On the motion of Commissioner Jackson, second Commissioner Mathis, the Commissioners approved the Statistical Report for the Fire Department. A copy of the report is a part of these minutes. The vote was unanimous in favor.

Monthly Financial Report – December 2024

Fire Chief Matt Daniel presented the Financial Report for the month of December 2024 to the Commission. Chief Daniel stated the department has expended 98.3% of the budget, and will have sufficient funds to close FY 2024.

On the motion of Mayor Sams, second Commissioner Jackson, the Commissioners approved the Financial Report for the Fire Department. A copy of the report is a part of these minutes. The vote was unanimous in favor.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Commissioners, on the motion of Commissioner Brown, second Commissioner Jackson, the meeting was adjourned at 10:04 a.m.

Truman Whitfield, Chairman

ATTEST:

Alex Brown, Secretary