CITY OF NORMAN, OK
PUBLIC SAFETY OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE MEETING
Development Center, Room B, 225 N. Webster Ave., Norman, OK 73069
Thursday, October 08, 2026 at 3:00 PM

MINUTES

The Public Safety Oversight Committee of the City of Norman, Cleveland County, State of Oklahoma, met in Regular Session in Conference Room B at the Development Center, on Thursday, October 08, 2026, at 3:00 PM and notice of the agenda of the meeting was posted at the Norman Municipal Building at 201 West Gray, Development Center at 225 N. Webster, and on the City website at least 24 hours prior to the beginning of the meeting.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT
Chairman Linda Price
Committee member Kyle Hurley
Committee member Ann Gallagher
Committee member Gregory Gilkey
Committee member Brittany Elliott
Committee Member Rebecca Bean

ABSENT
Committee member Mark Emerson
Committee member Russell Rice
Committee Member Nicholas Heflin

OTHERS
Kim Coffman, Chief Accountant/Asst. Finance Director
Dannielle Risenhoover, Admin. Tech. IV
Russell Anderson, Communication Systems Manager
Jacob Huckabaa, Budget Analyst
Jamie Vaughn, Budget Manager
Bill Scanlon, Citizen
Kyle Steele, City Council Member Ward 6
Captain Aaron Lancaster, NPD

MINUTES

1. CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL, REJECTION, AMENDMENT, POSTPONEMENT, AND/OR DISCUSSION OF MINUTES FROM SEPTEMBER 10, 2026

Member Gallagher moved to approve the September 10, 2026, Public Safety Sales Tax (PSST) Oversight Committee minutes which were duly seconded by Member Hurley. The motion passed unanimously.

Items submitted for the record:
Citizens Public Safety Committee Minutes from September 10, 2026

REPORTS

2. CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL, REJECTION, AMENDMENT, POSTPONEMENT AND/OR DISCUSSION OF FINANCIAL REPORTS

Chief Accountant and Assistant Finance Director Kim Coffman gave the report. The Public Safety Sales Tax (PSST) is approximately 1% over budget for the month of September. The September reimbursement payment from Norman Public Schools for the City of Norman provided, School Resource Officer (SRO) Program, was reportedly received and should appear in next month's financial report. The contracted amount for the SRO program is $552,694 for the 2026-2027 school year. The monthly charges include a 2% annual increase from the 2025-2026 SRO contract. Overall, the PSST revenues are about 3% below target due to delayed Norman Public School SRO payments.

The expenditures for September included two payrolls, and $42 in capital spending for a police department license plate. The Police Department is roughly 7% over budget due to an unbudgeted retirement leave payout and SRO overtime. The Fire Department is approximately 10% over budget, largely from overtime. Overall, the PSST Fund is approximately 1% over the budget target.

An inquiry was raised about predictive accrual accounting; the current approach tracks leave balances but does not budget payouts. Retirement leave payouts are not budgeted due to unpredictable retirement timing. The City's practice is to recoup payouts through attrition by delaying the refilling of positions.

Items submitted for the record:
Financial Reports

DISCUSSION & ACTION ITEMS

3. MONTHLY UPDATES

a) FIRE DEPARTMENT UPDATES

No Fire Department updates were given.

b) POLICE DEPARTMENT UPDATES

Police Captain Aaron Lancaster gave the update. The Police Department is authorized to employ 184 officers. They currently employ 179 officers with 159 available for assignment. Ten officers are on different discretionary leaves such as military leave and on-the-job injury leave; another ten officers are in the Police Academy. They are scheduled to graduate on October 29th.

Captain Lancaster reports that the Police Department is declining some school-requested SRO overtime. "We're trying to turn away some of the frivolous stuff that the schools ask for," Lancaster said. "We've been tracking our payroll very closely. It looks like this year compared to last year, we're down (in paying SRO overtime) pretty significantly."

c) DISPATCH UPDATES

Communications Manager Russell Anderson gave the report. A new academy will be starting soon with two dispatchers.

Anderson continues to work with the University of Oklahoma Computer Science Department in implementing an Artificial Intelligence (AI) triage system for 9-1-1 calls. The AI-powered simulation system is set up on a gaming PC. "It's what we need to make this monster work," Anderson said. Testing is expected next week.

Apart from the City's mutual aid group, the Fire Department and Police Department radios are now encrypted. The encryption programming glitch that EMSSTAT experienced to encrypt the ambulance service radios has been resolved. Their radios are now encrypted as well. The glitch required re-encryption due to a missed checkbox during radio programming.

Recently, the 9-1-1 phone system was down for approximately three hours. During this time Dispatch answered over 1,120 calls that only conveyed the sound of a fast-paced busy signal. The department pushed social media guidance early, directing all calls to 405-321-1444. The malfunction was later identified by AT&T as AT&T having an "aging switch issue".

d) EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS OPERATIONS CENTER (ECOC) UPDATES

Communications Manager Russell Anderson gave the report. The Emergency Communications Operations Center is fully functioning. The contractors continue to work through the final punch list items.

4. DISCUSSION OF PUBLIC SAFETY STUDY AND IMPLEMENTATION

Member Kyle Hurley gave the update. The Ad Hoc Public Safety Implementation and Funding Committee met for the first time on Wednesday, October 7, 2026. Kyle Hurley was elected Chair and Robert Post was elected Vice Chair of the Committee. The Committee is made up of 13 voting and two non-voting members who are tasked with making a recommendation to Council based on the recent Matrix Public Safety Study. The Committee is to take into consideration the City's need for: police & fire staffing, facilities, and equipment, as well as provide suggestions for long-term funding solutions.

Meetings are scheduled for the first and third Wednesdays of each month, through September 2027. Hurley stated that initially, the Committee will focus on building their knowledge. He is working to organize field visits to a variety of public safety related places such as the ECOC, Fire Stations, and Norman Investigation Center. He is also anticipating informational sessions presented by the Finance, Legal and Information Technology Departments.

5. ESTABLISH TOPICS FOR THE NOVEMBER 12, 2026 MEETING

There were no additional topics suggested for the November 12, 2026 meeting.

MISCELLANEOUS COMMENTS

There were no miscellaneous comments.

ADJOURNMENT

Member Gilkey made a motion to adjourn the meeting which was duly seconded by Member Gallagher. The motion passed unanimously.

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Linda Price, Chair
Citizens Public Safety Oversight Committee