



**CITY OF NORMAN, OK**  
**PUBLIC SAFETY OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE MEETING**  
Development Center, Room B, 225 N. Webster Ave., Norman, OK 73069  
Thursday, March 13, 2025 at 4:00 PM

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## **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, March 13, 2025 at 4:00 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 Russell Rice  
Committee Member Ann Gallagher  
Committee Member Ashlie Durham

#### **ABSENT**

Committee Member Kenny Orr  
Committee Member Lea Greenleaf  
Committee Member Mark Emerson  
Committee Member Gregory Gilkey

#### **OTHERS**

Major Chad Vincent, NPD  
Asst. Chief Chad Roney, NFD  
Russell Anderson, Comm. Systems Manager  
Kim Coffman, Budget Manager  
Jacob Huckabaa, Budget Technician  
Dannielle Risenhoover, Admin. Tech IV  
Bill Scanlon, Citizen  
Anthony Francisco, Director of Finance

### **MINUTES**

1. CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL, REJECTION, AMENDMENT, POSTPONEMENT, AND/OR DISCUSSION OF MINUTES FROM FEBRUARY 13, 2025

Member Gallagher moved to approve the February 13, 2025 Public Safety Oversight Committee minutes which was duly seconded by Member Rice. The motion passed unanimously.

Items submitted for the record:

Citizens Public Safety Oversight Committee Minutes from February 13, 2025.

## REPORTS

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

Kim Coffman gave the report. Coffman stated that Sales Tax is flat. “We are still slightly below (budget) on the revenue side,” Coffman said.

The City of Norman has not received their February payment from Norman Public Schools (NPS) for providing their School Resource Officer Program.

Coffman reviewed the Public Safety Sales Tax expenditures for the month of February. She brought attention to two Capital Equipment expenses, one in the Patrol Division and one for the Vehicle Storage Facility located next to the Emergency Communications Operations Center (ECOC).

Director of Financing, Anthony Francisco was present at the meeting and commented on the recent Matrix Public Safety Study results. “Yes, some of the recommendations from that study have been included in budget requests. The Matrix Study is additional input into those budget requests. It gives better estimates than we may have had on what things can cost, better estimates on what staffing needs may exist or may not exist. It’s just an input. It doesn’t mean that we can afford any more than what we could already have afforded. It just means ‘here’s some more input into what is needed,’” Francisco said.

Chair Price asked Francisco if there have been discussions on where the money could come from. Francisco replied, “Nothing concrete. There have been discussions at the Management Team level and some citizen committees that I know of, about a potential “Norman Forward II”. I know there have been discussions about going back to the voters for an increase to the Public Safety Sales Tax rate that may pay for some of these things that cannot be afforded within the one-half percent of the Public Safety Sales Tax that we have now; but, at this point, it’s just discussions. I don’t know of any Council actions that are recommended to be taken.”

Citizen Bill Scanlon asked about the possible establishment of “public safety districts” that could aid in the funding of the Matrix recommendations. Francisco said, “I think that (idea) is misleading. The property owners in a given district or area would petition the City to raise their taxes within that district to pay for additional public safety services; so, that would not be anything that would be a citywide petition.” Member Rice commented, “Who’s going to vote to tax themselves?” Francisco replied, “That is the question.”

Member Hurley asked Anthony Francisco, “Who is leading the charge when it comes to which of these (Matrix recommendation) lists we’re going to tackle first, second, third, never, and then there is also the financing piece behind that? Is there any discussion at your level as far as what the next steps look like?”

Francisco stated, "How that relates to this Committee, you've seen the Matrix study, you know what's in there. You can make recommendations to Council about how you would prefer to make next steps. That's within this Committee's purview. Your recommendations can drive the next steps."

Items submitted for the record:  
Financial Reports

## **DISCUSSION & ACTION ITEMS**

### **3. MONTHLY UPDATES**

#### **a) FIRE DEPARTMENT UPDATES**

Assistant Chief Chad Roney gave the update. The replacement for Engine Three is expected in December 2025 and the replacement for Ladder One is expected in May 2026. The Department is down to two reserve Brush Units. The Department is expected to take possession of a third Brush Unit in fall of 2025.

#### **b) POLICE DEPARTMENT UPDATES**

Major Chad Vincent gave the update. The Police Department is currently short 14 commissioned officers. The next Police Academy starts in April 2025. Seven men and four women will comprise the academy for a total of 11 cadets. Vincent states that the Police Department is gearing up for a lot of community outreach projects and that Teddy Wilson will rotate in as the new Lieutenant SRO in May or June.

The Police Department has ranked the Matrix Public Safety Study recommendations internally. "There are 55 specific recommendations. We've ranked those internally at an executive staff level and we're really trying to focus on those top few. Anthony's right, it recommended a ton of stuff but we know we're not going to get it all; so, we'll try to grab a few pieces and strategically bring those forward, year after year, knowing it could be a long term plan," Vincent said.

#### **c) DISPATCH UPDATES**

Russell Anderson gave the update. The Dispatch Department is down three employees.

The City of Norman's Legal Department has completed its contract for the City of Moore to join the City of Norman's radio system.

The Dispatch Department continues to work with the University of Oklahoma (OU) Computer Science Department to develop voice to text platforms. Anderson states that the work with OU is "going to save lives eventually".

#### **d) EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS OPERATIONS CENTER (ECOC) UPDATES**

Russell Anderson gave the update. Two punch list items remain at the Emergency Communications Operations Center (ECOC). They involve lighting adjustments and an HVAC issue. It is expected that Crossland's Construction will have these issues resolved before May.

#### 4. ESTABLISH TOPICS FOR THE APRIL 10, 2025 MEETING

Member Hurley stated that he believes it is the job of the Public Safety Sales Tax Committee to look at what the next steps are regarding fulfilling the recommendations of the Matrix Public Safety Study. "I think that we should ask Council for guidance or to at least make a recommendation," Hurley said. "In my mind, I'm thinking it's like a half day retreat where we've got representation from Police, Fire, Dispatch, Finance, City Manager's Office, this group, and just discuss everything that's gotten thrown at us, how we can prioritize, and come up with your ten-year plan or something like that, and then we can discuss the financing. That would be my recommendation. I think how we move forward here is beyond this group. We need everybody's attention."

Anthony Francisco advised the Committee that proceeding as Hurley wished, with a half-day retreat, would require a separate agenda-ized meeting.

Chair Price asked that the Police, Fire, and Dispatch Departments keep the Committee informed as to any input the Committee should have regarding recommendations to City Council and/or the City Manager.

The meeting topics for the April 10, 2025 meeting will remain the same.

#### **MISCELLANEOUS COMMENTS**

None.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

Member Rice 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