

## 11 July 2022

## **Annual Report To City Council for June 2021 / June 2022 From the Police Advisory Board**

- 1. The Ordinance that established this board that was approved on 27 June 2017, requires an annual report to the City Council of the activities of the Board.
- 2. This report is for June 2021 thru June 2022. We have completed our Fifth Year on 27 June 2022.
- 3. As a reminder, the Advisory Board was approved on 27 June 2017 and we spent the first year in existence primarily conducting training (in addition to those members who were enrolled and completed the Citizens Police Academy) to ensure that all of the members of the board were up to speed. Deputy Chief Allan Gilbert was in charge of all of the training conducted and it was outstanding. We all gained a great deal from his knowledge and leadership.

At this time, all but one current member of the Board has completed the Citizens Police Academy. The remaining member and any new appointments will attend the next session. Having completed the Academy, along with the understanding of the TPD existing Policies and Procedures gives each Board Member a wealth of knowledge in which to use to answer questions from the Public now that they have a better understanding of the law and TPD.

- 4. To date we have had only one formal request from a Citizen utilizing our policy to address the board, however that individual decided not to follow through with the request.
- 5. The Power Point Presentation I developed continues to be available to introduce the Tupelo Citizen's Police Advisory Board and each Board Member has a copy to use as they deem appropriate.
- 6. Collectively we have attended every neighborhood association meeting in the city. In addition, several of us have attended other meetings. All comments received from citizens regarding the police department have been addressed with the Chief in our meetings and appropriate action has been taken in all instances. Most of the comments are regarding traffic violations, such as speeding, running stop signs, etc. Such things

as extra patrols have been provided where deemed appropriate by the Command Staff to remedy these problems. In addition, the members of the Board have been utilizing the "Chief's Monthly Report" to the board that covers all of the statistics for the previous month to better inform the citizens at their local meetings. Many are amazed at the activity and had no idea of what the officers experienced each day and over the course of a month. With the city broken down into 8 zones and only one patrol officer assigned to each zone (plus a backup, a supervisor, and the Shift Commander), it is amazing what these offices get accomplished in a days-time with the calls for service running 5 to 6 thousand per month. This report also includes the activities of the other sections such as narcotics, CID, Special Operations, Animal Control, EOD, etc., who are also available for backup to the patrol division.

7. We will continue the community involvement type efforts. With the help of Lt White, the TPD COP Coordinator, we will be able to continue to make ourselves known and hopefully continue to receive constructive feedback to pass on to the Chief to improve what is already an outstanding Police Department.

- Members filled, however, we will have several Board Members who will be completing their second terms and must be replaced within the next month. Those slots needing to be replaced are: Ward 4 (Aaron Washington), Ward 5 (Larry Presley), and 1 Mayoral appointee (Michael Stegall) as he does not wish to be reappointed to a second term due to a work conflict. In addition, the mayor needs to appoint a new Vice Chairman to replace Larry Presley, the current Vice Chair, who is rotating off the board.
- 9. We look forward to continuing to work with Chief John Quaka. Chief Quaka has been very supportive of the Board and has injected some of his ideas to help improve the workings of the Board. The most recent being a recommendation that we meet every other month rather than monthly. This was approved by the Board and a request for the change was submitted to the City Council and received your approval on 17 May 2022. We will begin meeting in the months of January, March, May, July, September, and November. The meeting time and date will remain the second Wednesday of each month at 3:30 pm.
- 10. Because of the reduced meetings we will review our attendance policy and if approved will submit a

proposal to the City Council to change the Ordinance accordingly,

- 11. I invite all Council Members to attend one of our Board Meetings as you have the available time. We meet the Second Wednesday of each scheduled month at 3:30 p.m. in the Community Room at the Tupelo Police Department.
- 12. Please feel free to contact me with any questions or comments you may have.

**Respectfully submitted:** 

Bill Allen Chair Citizens Police Advisory Board