

**Minutes**  
**Police Committee Meeting**  
**Wednesday, February 21, 2018**

The Police Committee Meeting was held Wednesday, February 21, 2018 at 3:00 P.M. in the Raymond Pridgen Auditorium. The following were notified of the time, date, and place of the meeting: Police Committee and local media. Present at the meeting were the following: Council Members: Eddie Kitchen, Carolyn Wilson, Jo Sanders, Police Chief Mike Bethea, City Administrator David Hudspeth.

- 1. Call meeting to Order & Welcome:** Chairman Kitchen
- 2. Disclosure that local media has been informed of meeting pursuant to South Carolina Freedom of Information Act**
- 3. Re:** Department Review

Council Member Kitchen stated the meeting was called since the departure of Joe Graham and Eddie Page. Kitchen questioned how those duties were split among the Department. Bethea stated Graham's duties were split between the remaining investigators. Page's position is no longer needed. Michael Hartson is now the Lead Investigator. There are a total of 25 officers, 3 of which are investigators. The investigators are taking turns working the road. Shawn Ceo, Taylor Wallace, and Antonio Strickland are working the schools.

Hudspeth stated some of those salaries could be divided among the remaining officers or used for things needed in the Department.

There are currently no employees attending the academy. Hudspeth stated if an officer graduates the academy and then goes to another organization, that organization has to reimburse us.

Kitchen stated while working on the budget those salaries could be appropriated.

Sanders would like to compare salaries to other departments. Hudspeth stated new hires make around \$26,000.00.

Bethea stated once the new officers are trained it will be decided who will go to the drug unit.

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Council Member Kitchen asked Hudspeth to explain what is going on with Municipal Court. Hudspeth stated Judge Campbell retired at the beginning of the week. Hudspeth stated any fine that could carry jail time would need representation from an attorney/public defender. Court should be transferred to the County. The fine money would go to the Magistrate's Office. The City collects around \$50,000.00 each year in fines. All court functions would be transferred to the County. Hudspeth stated negotiations are in the process with the County.

Kitchen asked how the Police Department would handle a shooting at a school. Bethea stated it would be handled the same way everyone else has. The location would be assessed before entering the building. It would be a multi-agency response. Officers are trained with active shooter classes.

Kitchen asked Chief Bethea and Captain Mostowski to record a daily activity log. Wilson asked what the purpose of the log was. Kitchen stated it could make things more efficient. Wilson stated employees have a duty list. Sanders stated the best thing would be to have a calendar with the things that need to be done. Bethea stated it was not necessary for investigators or road officers to use a daily log.

Kitchen would like to start doing ride alongs. It would be better to ride with an officer that has been with the Department for a while. Kitchen suggested riding with the watch commanders.

**4. Adjournment**

Kitchen adjourned the meeting.

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Eddie Kitchen  
Police Department Committee Chairman

ATTEST:

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Felicia Sawyer  
City Clerk