



POLICE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Meeting Type: **Regular Meeting**
Date: **Tuesday, May 11, 2021**
Time: **5:30 p.m.**
Location: **ZOOM Teleconference Meeting**
Physical Address: **Due to COVID-19, There Is No Physical Location**
Contact: **(802) 893-6655**
Website: **www.miltonvt.gov**

Meeting Minutes

Police Advisory Committee Members Present: Harjit Dhaliwal, Acting Chair; Richard Edwards, Member; Lisa Reese, Member

Police Advisory Committee Members Not Present: Kevin Kimball, Clerk

Staff Members Present: Michaela Foody, Director of Public Safety

Members from the Public Present: John FitzGerald

I. Call to Order

Harjit Dhaliwal called the meeting to order at 5:31 pm.

II. Flag Salute

Zoom meeting attendants were muted and they recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. Public Forum

None.

IV. Agenda Review

Michaela Foody recommended that the Police Advisory Committee add to the agenda a time to generate a list of Committee accomplishments to present to the Selectboard during the joint Police Advisory Committee and Selectboard meeting on Monday, May 17th. She also recommended the Committee cancel the regularly scheduled Police Advisory Committee meeting on Tuesday, May 25th.

Motion made by Lisa Reese to approve the Agenda for this meeting with the addition of a discussion about cancelling the May 25th meeting and compiling a list of Committee accomplishments to present to the Selectboard. The motion was seconded by Richard Edwards. Motion Approved 3-0.

V. Approval of Minutes

Motion made by Lisa Reese to approve the meeting minutes from the May 7, 2021 meeting as presented with a second by Richard Edwards. Motion Approved 3-0.

VI. Explanation of process for filling a vacancy on the Committee

Michaela Foody explained the process of filling vacancies on Town Committees, Commissions or Boards. She stated that all members of Committees are appointed by the Selectboard per the Town Charter. The Selectboard or their designee will post a public advertisement of the Committee vacancy requesting applications from public. No less than 10 days later the Selectboard will select a person from the applicants to sit for the remaining of the vacant position. Once the vacancy is filled the Committee can elect a new Chairperson. Richard Edwards asked about previous applicants to the Police Advisory Committee. Michaela stated previous applicants will be reached out to and asked to reapply or resubmit their name to be considered for the vacant position. Harjit asked if Committee members could participate in the selection process. Michaela advised that Committee, Commission, and Board members do not usually get a say in the appointment of new members, but she will check to see if there was a way the Police Advisory Committee members could participate in the process. She stated that the Committee members could request copies of the applications under the Freedom of Information Act and they can attend the Selectboard meeting at which the applicants will be interviewed and/or selected to fill the vacancy.

VII. Canceling the 5/25/2021 Meeting

Michaela Foody recommended the Committee cancel the regularly scheduled May 25th Police Advisory Committee meeting as this current meeting and the joint Selectboard meeting on May 17th would meet the requirements of two meetings per month. She also advised that she and Chief Laroche have prior obligations that evening and would not be able to attend the meeting. The next regularly scheduled Police Advisory Committee meeting will be June 8, 2021. Richard asked what the purpose of the joint meeting is. Michaela advised that the Selectboard meets with all Town Committees, Commissions, and Boards at least annually, some more often than others, in order to check on progress, direction, and learn about events and actions of their meetings. Michaela advised that Chief Laroche will explain what the Police Department has presented to the Police Advisory Committee and the Committee should present a list of their accomplishments.

VIII. List of Committee Accomplishments

Lisa Rees proposed the Committee present to the Selectboard a list of recommendations the Police Advisory Committee has made and compare the list with action being taken by the Police Department in response to those recommendations. The Committee generated the following list of accomplishments:

- The members of the Police Advisory Committee will participate as part of the Oral Boards Interview Panel in the hiring process of Police Officers;
- The Police Advisory Committee has recommended questions to be asked during the Oral Board Interview process;
- Committee learned about Milton Police Department policies and procedures in order to better advise the Chief of Police;
- The Police Advisory Committee has reviewed Milton Police Department policies to determine policies dictated by State or Federal laws versus policies the Milton Police Department can impact;
- The Police Advisory Committee has provided the Chief of Police with a list of potential ways the Police Department can improve the relationship with the community.

Harjit suggested that the Committee ask the Selectboard to make mention of the Town's Committees and Commissions during their meetings to provide more visibility and awareness to the public about meetings they can attend. Michaela suggested the Committee generate a list of accomplishments the Committee hopes to achieve. The Committee discussed the future of the Police Advisory Committee and expressed their intent to have a Goal Setting Session when the vacancy is filled and for its members to be a better conduit of the public opinion. Michaela advised that any goals discussed during the future Goal Setting Session must fall within the scope of the Police Advisory Committee. If members of the Committee wish to alter the scope of the Committee, the request must be presented to the Selectboard to add onto the current charter or to create another committee.

Motion made by Harjit Dhaliwal to accept the above written List of Accomplishments with a second by Lisa Rees. Motion Approved 3-0.

IX. Adjournment

Motion made by Harjit Dhaliwal to adjourn the meeting with a second by Richard Edwards. Motion Approved 3-0.

Meeting adjourned at 6:30 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Michaela Foody

APPROVED MINUTES:

_____ Date: _____
Kevin Kimball, Clerk

Filed with the Milton Town Clerk's Office on this _____ day of _____, 2021.

ATTEST: _____, Milton Town Clerk

DRAFT