

Police Commission Meeting January 5, 2022 6:30pm Glendale City Hall

Present:

Mark Ferguson (Glendale Police Chief)
Mary Viergutz (Commissioner)
Paul Kranz (Vice Chair, Acting Chair)
Eric Zentner (Secretary)
Tomika Vukovic (Commissioner) (on Zoom)

Absent Excused:

Joe Zancanaro (Chair)

The meeting was called to order at 6:37 pm

The minutes of the September 21st meeting were approved.

Chief Ferguson gave the following update:

There have been 17,897 calls for service in 2021, compared to 17,104 in 2019. 133 motor vehicle thefts compared to 66 in 2020 and 43 in 2019. A lot of this is due to Kias and Hondas being so easy to steal and very young kids stealing cars recreationally. There were 156 calls from Nicolet H.S. in 2021 and 10 arrests, all municipal citations and turned over to custody of parents. The department is now 5 officers short (not counting the one-patrol-officer staff reduction). They have advertised in more outlets than the past and have 35 applications, which is fewer than in past years but more than other communities are getting. Tomika said she appreciates that they are reaching out more broadly.

We then went into closed session for interviews. Chief Ferguson explained that per state statutes we can't change the ranking of already-ranked candidates. We can approve or disapprove of the candidates, but we can't rank them.

The commission then interviewed seven sergeant candidates in closed session and discussed the information shared in those interviews.

We reconvened in open session.

Tomika made a motion that the commission should approve all seven candidates, Paul seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

We discussed the fact that Glendale paid \$19,000 for a study about consolidating the North Shore police departments. The chief said that he is not opposed to the concept of consolidating as long as all communities support the idea. To make consolidation work, it should be designed to increase the capabilities of the department and not just be designed to save money. If consolidation is done strictly to save money it will have a detrimental impact on services. Consolidation will eventually save money but will cost more up front for infrastructure and equipment.

Because there is no impending need, we did not set a date for the next meeting.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:38pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Eric Zentner
Secretary