



# City of Fort Bragg

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## Meeting Minutes Public Safety Committee

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Wednesday, April 28, 2021

3:00 PM

Via Video Conference

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### Special Meeting

#### MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

Meeting Chair Peters opened the meeting at 3:00 PM

#### ROLL CALL

Present: 2 - Bernie Norvell and Lindy Peters

#### 1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- 1A. [21-191](#) Approve Minutes of the Special Public Safety Committee Meeting March 17, 2021

A motion was made by Committee Member Norvell and seconded by Chair Peters that these Committee Minutes be approved for Council review. The motion was carried by unanimous vote.

#### 2. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Public Comments on non agenda items made by:

Jay McMartin

Robert Krebs

#### 3. CONDUCT OF BUSINESS

- 3A. [21-192](#) Receive Verbal Report On Police Department Continued De-Escalation Efforts

Police Captain O'Neal explained the three most important factors in De-Escalation Efforts for the local Police Department. The three factors are cultural aspect in the department, equipment available to officers, and final and foremost the most important one training. The Fort Bragg Police Department has officers complete more than the POST required 24 hour training every two years in order to maintain officers aware and fully trained on potential situations.

Captain O'Neal shared the different types of equipment available at the local department and also equipment that the department plans on purchasing to assist in de-escalation efforts. A short video was demonstrated where the Bolo Wrap was deployed in attempt to safely detain a subject. Captain O'Neal mentioned that the Bolo Wrap is one of the pieces of equipment the police department is planning on purchasing in the near future to assist the officers in difficult

situations.

**3B. [21-193](#)** Update on Tobacco Compliance Checks and Paraphernalia Ordinance

Police Officer Zavala presented the update on the Tobacco Compliance within the City's businesses. He mentioned that the businesses visited requested ID from persons who appear to be under the age of 25. He commented on the fact that all synthetic marijuana were secured in locked displays at the same businesses.

Captain O'Neal elaborated on the update regarding enforcing a Paraphernalia Ordinance in the City. He mentioned that the planned approach is adapting the State guidelines regarding non-displays of paraphernalia within the City.

**3C. [21-194](#)** Update on Graffiti Abatement Program

An update was given by Captain O'Neal and how the program has been very successful with the community taking care of the graffiti. One example he mentioned was Waste Management taking on the initiative in covering up graffiti on their dumpsters around the City. There was one business that did not comply and an employee from the City's Public Works Department had to cover up the graffiti. Captain O'Neal clarified that this program is not for targeting any home owner or business but to have everyone keep the community free from graffiti.

**3D. [21-195](#)** Receive Verbal Report on Homeless and Mental Health Current Issues

Police Chief Naulty elaborated on the recent increase in mental health calls and what approach needs to be done in order to have more expedited care units with professional personnel assisting officers during mental health calls. Chief Naulty informed the public that the most difficult aspect has been finding sufficient funding and assistance since the State closed down numerous mental health facilities years ago. Chief Naulty would like the City of Fort Bragg to become a more proactive City in assisting any person going through mental health issues with all available resources in the community.

#### **4. MATTERS FROM COMMITTEE / STAFF**

**4A. [21-196](#)** Receive Oral Update From Staff on Departmental Activities

Public Works Director John Smith provided an update on projects that are currently being worked on around the City. Some of those projects mentioned were the re striping on streets and curbsides, replacing faded traffic signs, and other extra projects that were on hold due to staff shortages. There will be major work on about five alley ways off of Maple Street, where there should not be much traffic disruption while the work is being completed.

Committee Member Norvel commented on possibly having more foot patrol in the downtown area of the City. Captain O'Neal agreed on the fact that the Police Department should be more proactive in conducting more foot patrol in the downtown area. He is planning on establishing a sub station in the downtown area to accommodate the police officers in order

to complete their reports in a timely manner while having more availability to the downtown area.

Chief Naulty closed the meeting by mentioning that the police officers will be conducting more traffic enforcement around the City.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

**Chair Peters adjourned the meeting at 4:03 PM**