

COMMUNITY POLICE OVERSIGHT COMMISSION

Thursday, July 10, 2025 at 6:00 p.m.

2nd Floor City Hall, Council Chambers

MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER

A. The meeting was called to order at 6:09 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL – Current membership is at 5 (Full Board). Three commissioners are needed for quorum.

A. Commissioners: David Hammontree (Chair), Shalanda Hunt, Vittoria Jimerson (Secretary), Thaddeus Williams (Vice Chair)

B. City Council Liaison: Christy Davis (5th Ward Councilmember)

C. Staff: Chief Christopher Simpson

D. Absent: Salena Taylor (excused)

3. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

A. Motion to adopt the agenda made by Taddeus Williams, supported by Shalanda Hunt. Motion passed unanimously.

4. CITIZEN COMMENTS

(3-Minute Limit)

A. Citizen Comment Guidelines: Individuals will state their name and have three (3) minutes to address the Commission. Persons may only address the Commission once under this public comment opportunity and may not yield their time to others. Commissioners will not debate or answer questions at this time.

i. No Citizen Comments

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. Approval of May 8, 2025 Minutes

- i. Motion to approve the minutes from the meeting held on May 8, 2025 was made by Thaddeus Williams, supported by Shalanda Hunt. Motion passed unanimously.

6. REGULAR ITEMS

A. Incidents

- i. Major Investigations: Discussed the homicide that occurred on April 20, 2025 in the 900 block of Orchard Place.
- ii. Shooting Incident: A shooting incident occurred on June 16, 2025 in the 300 block of Robinson Street. Multiple shots were fired from several different firearms. Recovery efforts are ongoing, and an investigation is pending.
- iii. Fireworks Incident: On July 3, 2025, there were multiple disturbances involving fights among juveniles and adults, particularly at ISD and the Cascades Manor House.
 - 1. Discussion on proactive measures regarding fireworks and community tensions. Emphasis on the need for police presence to anticipate and mitigate protentional issues before they escalate.

B. JPD Updates

- i. Citizen Police Academy: Discussion on the initiative aimed at educating and engaging the community about law enforcement practices and increasing participation. Plans for a youth citizen academy are also in development.
- ii. New Officer: JPD recruited a new officer from the Eaton County Sheriff's Department following their county's failed millage.
- iii. Police Academy: JPD currently has 3 recruits in the Washtenaw Community College Police Academy.

C. Policies and Procedures

- i. Plans were discussed about using the CPOC meeting gap months for board development, including the use of force policy, defensive tactics, and search and seizure procedures.

D. Community Outreach (see also 7.B.)

- i. Recruitment Efforts: Ongoing initiatives to engage the community.
- ii. Juneteenth Celebration: This was a successful event with law enforcement presence.

iii. Upcoming Events:

1. ALPACT playground build scheduled for July 11, 2025.
2. Hot Air Jubilee, Summerfest, Back to School Bash, and Relay for Life scheduled for August 1, 2025.
3. GVI Summer Safety Series Events, including a community engagement event scheduled for July 23, 2025 from noon – 1:30 p.m.
4. JPD hosting a blood drive at the Commonwealth Center.
5. Ward 4 meeting on July 8, 2025.
6. Active shooter training and outreach efforts continue.

E. Goal Setting

- i. Discussion on increasing attendance at community events, including YMCA tournaments and a black part in the Flatiron District on August 9, 2025 from 11:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

7. COMMITTEE UPDATES

A. Complaint Review Committee

i. Discussion of June 12 Review Committee

1. The Committee watched video evidence and discussed policy implications.
2. Emphasized the importance of understanding the context of incidents, including the nuances of domestic violence cases.
3. Encouraged members to attend the August 19, 2025 City Council Meeting to update the Council on the Complaint Committee, and to encourage the public's attendance to CPOC meetings.

B. Informational Committee (Hunt and Jimerson)

- i. No new updates.

8. UNFINISHED ITEMS

A. ALPACT Updates: Seeking alternates for meetings on the 3rd Wednesday of each month at the MLK Center from 10:00 a.m. – noon.

- i. Motion made by Shalanda Hunt, supported by Thaddeus Williams for Commissioner Vittoria Himerson to serve as an alternate ALPACT representative. Motion passed unanimously.

- ii. Playground build scheduled for July 11, 2025.

9. OPEN DISCUSSION (NEW ITEMS/COMMISSIONER CONCERNS)

- A. Jackson County Sheriff's Office Open House
 - i. Discussion on community engagement and concerns related to Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) activities in the area.
- B. Traffic Concerns
 - i. Discussion on issues of reckless driving. The need for increased traffic enforcement was emphasized.
- C. Recruitment Issues
 - i. Challenges in recruiting for both the Fire and Police Departments were discussed. The need for specialized units such as traffic, gang/group, and neighborhood units were highlighted. Concerns were raised about the impact of staffing shortages on community safety and engagement.
- D. Homelessness and Community Resources
 - i. Discussion on the increase in homelessness and the challenges faced by local organizations in providing support. Concerns were raised about individuals being turned away from shelters and the need for better coordination among service providers.
- E. Aggressive Panhandling
 - i. Concerns were raised about aggressive panhandling in the downtown area. The need for enforcement of existing ordinances to protect businesses and patrons was discussed. Communication ongoing to encourage merchants to report incidents to law enforcement for investigation.
- F. Officer Assignments and Career Development
 - i. Discussion on the importance of rotating officer assignments to prevent burnout and promote career development. The need for officers to have opportunities for special assignments was emphasized.
- G. Community Engagement Initiatives
 - i. Suggestions for enhancing community engagement through events and outreach programs were discussed. The importance of building relationships between law enforcement and community members was highlighted.

10. CITY COUNCILMEMBER LIAISON COMMENTS

- A. Christy May Davis: No comments.

11. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

- A. Vittoria Jumerson: No comments.
- B. Thaddeus Williams (Vice Chair): Positive feedback on community engagement efforts.
- C. Shalanda Hunt: No comments.
- D. David Hammontree (Chair): Thanked everyone for their contributions and encouraged continued collaboration.

12. STAFF COMMENTS

- A. Chief Simpson: Emphasized the importance of understanding the use of force policies and the need for training on these topics. Plans to provide a briefing on the use of force policy and defensive tactics in the upcoming meetings were discussed. Also mentioned the upcoming report from the Equity Office regarding the 1st phase of the equity audit.

13. ADJOURNMENT

- A. The meeting was adjourned at 7:39 p.m.

14. NEXT MEETING – Scheduled for August, 14, 2025 at 6:00 p.m.