

# City of Gainesville

*City Hall  
200 East University Avenue  
Gainesville, Florida 32601*



## **Minutes - Draft**

**Monday, November 23, 2015**

**3:00 PM**

**City Hall, Ground Floor, Room 16**

## **Public Safety Committee**

*Commissioner Helen Warren, Chair  
Commissioner Charles Goston, Member*

*Persons with disabilities who require assistance to participate in this meeting are requested to notify the Equal Opportunity Department at 334-5051 or call the TDD phone line at 334-2069 at least two business days in advance.*

**CALL TO ORDER**

**ROLL CALL**

**ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

150554. Approval of August 24, 2015 Minutes (B)

**RECOMMENDATION** *The Public Safety Committee approve the minutes of the August 24, 2015 meeting as submitted.*

The approval of the August 24, 2015 minutes was postponed until the next meeting in January due to only one member present for the meeting.

**DISCUSSION OF PENDING REFERRALS**

140027. Police Dogs (NB)

**RECOMMENDATION** *The Public Safety Committee hear a presentation from GPD staff on the use of canines, policy, deployment, and training.*

GPD Canine Supervisor Sergeant Brad Litchfield spoke to the changes in the GPD Canine Policy after two incidents where youth were bitten by a GPD Canine. The main changes in policy are 1) the dogs will remain on leashes during all demonstrations; 2) all area searches have been eliminated from demonstrations; 3) there will be no petting of the canines; 4) at all special events there will be a Safety Officer present who observes but does not participate in the event; and 5) the Safety Officer and Canine Handler will determine whether to proceed or not if an event/demonstration draws a larger crowd than expected or has a rowdy crowd.

Since the two incidents a year and a half ago, there have been no further incidents. The dog in question in the incidents, along with his handler, have received additional training and have been recertified on the State level.

Citizens Mary Anderson and Donald Shepherd spoke to the matter.

150375. School Crossing Guard Program (B)

**RECOMMENDATION** *The Public Safety Committee hear a presentation from GPD staff on the overview of the school crossing guard use and funding.*

Police Service Technician Supervisor Robert Huff gave an overview of the costs and the locations for the GPD School Crossing Guards. School Crossing Guards are temporary, part-time City employees. GPD School Crossing Guards have a less than a 1% personnel turnover; many SCG's have been with GPD for twenty or more years.

School Crossing Guards not only cross children at schools but are trained to direct traffic using the Department of Transportation qualifications. They receive both classroom and in-traffic training.

For the current school year the funding for the SCG's is 20% from the School Crossing Guard Trust Fund, \$43,000, which comes from a percentage of traffic citations, and the other 80% is from the General Fund, \$204,000. None of the funding comes the Alachua County School Board.

150555. Public Safety Committee Referral List (B)

RECOMMENDATION

*The Public Safety Committee discuss the remaining pending referrals for Committee.*

Commissioner Warren requested to briefly discuss the Underage Drinking Ordinance. This item has also been referred to the General Policy Committee. Lieutenant Mike Schibuola recommended a presentation at the next Public Safety Committee meeting on the proposed ordinance changes. Police Chief Jones would like to invite representatives from the University of Florida and Santa Fe College to present at the discussion.

Staff will plan on making the presentation at the January 11, 2016 Public Safety Committee Meeting. Members of the UF Student Government who were in attendance during this discussion were invited to come to the January meeting to participate in the discussion at the time.

Citizens Mary Anderson and Donald Shepherd also spoke to the matter.

**MEMBER COMMENT**

**CITIZEN COMMENT**

**NEXT MEETING DATE**

The next scheduled meeting is January 11, 2016 at 3:00 p.m.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m.