

**CITY OF LOMPOC
PUBLIC SAFETY COMMISSION MINUTES**

**Meeting of Wednesday, February 19, 2020
City Hall, 100 Civic Center Plaza, Council
Chambers**

Open Session called to order in Council Chambers at 6:00 P.M.

Commission Members Present: Frank Campo, Philip Gallandars, Maria Aguiniga, Oscar Luna, and Edwin Braxton.

Commission Members Absent: None.

Staff Who Spoke: Police Chief Joseph Mariani, Police Captain Kevin Martin, Fire Chief Gerald Kuras, City Clerk Stacey Haddon.

Others Who Spoke: Matthew Barron, Nicholas Gonzales, John Schleuter, Mark Ashmala, Teddy Grossini, Hinkins Alas, Angel Tamayo, Charlotte Arr, and Robert Schmedike.

Item 2. Approval of Minutes

ACTION: Motion/Second: Aguiniga/Gallanders. By a 4-1-0 (Commissioner Gallanders abstained) The Commission directed staff to return at a later date with a revised draft of the January 15, 2020 Public Safety Commission Meeting Minutes.

Item 3. Election of Chair and Vice Chair for 2020

Action: Motion/Second: Gallandars/Campo. By a 5-0 vote, the Commission appointed Maria Aguiniga as Chairperson for the 2020 calendar year.

Motion/Second: Aguiniga/Campo. By a 5-0 vote, the Commission appointed Philip Gallandars as the Vice Chairperson for the 2020 calendar year.

Item 4. Continue Discussion on Providing the City Council with Cost Saving Strategies Regarding the Public Safety Commission Meeting Costs.

The Commission discussed this matter at great length.

Public Comment:

Matthew Baron, Nicholas Gonzales, John Schleuter, Mark Ashmala, and Robert Schmedike spoke on the item.

Action: Motion/Second: Braxton/Aguiniga. By a 5-0 vote the Commission recommended to revise the meeting dates of the Public Safety Commission from monthly to bi-monthly meetings as a cost saving measure.

Item 5. Installation of City-owned cameras in the City of Lompoc.

Police Chief Mariani gave a brief presentation on the subject.

Member Gallandars inquired about linking business' and citizen's private security cameras into the current monitored surveillance database. Police Chief Mariani responded that expert opinion should be sought by those who work in that field because the storage of data needs to be considered.

Member Aguiniga discussed the prospect of a camera registration program and asked Staff if a registration program report will be submitted to City Council for review.

Item 6. Police Hiring/Recruitment.

Police Chief Mariani stated the Police Department provided a report on Police recruitment and hiring to City Council to review.

No Commission Action was taken on this item.

Item 5. Installation of City-owned cameras in the City of Lompoc. (cont'd)

Public Comment:

Matthew Barron, Nicholas Gonzales, John Schleuter, Mark Ashmala, Teddy Grossini, Hinkins Alas, Angel Tamayo, Charlotte Arr, and Robert Schmedike spoke on Item 5.

Oral Communications:

1. John Schleuter expressed concern about cameras installed in the City buildings before more cameras are installed in high crime areas in the City, and inquired about having cameras being donated to the Police Department.
2. Teddy Grossini stated that a windmill project company with several outside contractors and heavy equipment operators will be temporarily relocating to Lompoc for an extended period of time, and asked for the Police Department to provide heightened patrols of the local hotels during this time.
3. Hinkins Alas spoke about how visible cameras reduce criminal activity and encouraged the formation of the camera registry program.
4. Angel Tamayo expressed wanting to be involved in camera installation in the City.
5. Ms. Arr discussed the need for neighborhood watch programs and the installation of neighborhood watch program signs
 - o Member Campo recommended that after the meeting that Commissioner Gallandars speak with Ms. Arr regarding this issue.
6. (Name not stated) expressed there is a struggle for control over Lompoc, and articulated gratitude for Police and Fire.

Commission Requests and Comments:

Member Aguiniga requested clarification from the Chief of Police regarding the statistics of staffing that was discussed at the last Public Safety Commission on January 15, 2020.

Member Luna requested crime statistics from Police and Fire Department for the next Public Safety Commission.

Commission Requests and Comments: (cont'd)

Member Braxton paid his respects and requested a moment of silence for Captain Ramon Figueroa and Firefighter Patrick Jones who are members of the Porterville Fire Department who perished in an arson-related fire; discussed concern regarding a recent traffic accident which resulted in a death on Highway 1, and explained he will be making a request to Council Member Cordova to speak to CHP regarding their patrol strategy.

Member Aguiniga supported the need for capital improvements to the City's Public Safety Departments for appropriate facilities and equipment in order for Police and Fire to properly do their jobs. stating she advocates for more City-owned cameras, neighborhood watch programs throughout the City, an increase in Public Safety Commission meetings; requested a future agenda item for Fire and Police Chiefs to utilize the Public Safety Commission to help create an ongoing list which would outline short term and long term needs & goals that would be available during the budget process and for grant writing or public/private donations; requested a future agenda item to discuss the weekly report of Public Safety statistics and information provided to the City Manager and is available on the City website, in order to review the statistics and to ask questions. Chief Kuras reminded the Commission discussing particular calls for service would be a Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act violation. The first request was seconded by Member Campo and approved by a 5-0 vote. The second request was seconded by Member Luna and approved by a 3-0-2 vote, (Member Braxton and Member Campo abstained from voting).

ADJOURNMENT: Chairperson Aguiniga adjourned the Lompoc City Public Safety Commission at 7:48 P.M. to a Regular meeting of the Public Safety Commission scheduled for Wednesday, June 17, 2020 at 6:30 P.M., in the City of Lompoc Council Chamber.

Respectfully, submitted for Commission review on June 17, 2020 by:

// Joseph A. Mariani//

Joseph A. Mariani, Chief of Police
Public Safety Commission Secretary