

## **Minutes –Advisory Committee on Public Safety (ACOPS)**

Paradise Valley Police Department  
6433 East Lincoln Drive  
Paradise Valley, AZ 85253

Date of Meeting: February 9, 2021

ACOPS Members in Attendance:

Councilmember Ellen Andeen  
Mike Cummiskey  
Tim Dickman  
Jeff Gaia  
Jay Ozer  
Ryan Wooddy

ACOPS Members Absent:

None

PVPD in attendance:

Community Resource Officer Steven McGhee  
Chief of Police Peter Wingert

Public Attendees: None

The ACOPS meeting was called to order at 6 p.m. on February 9, 2021 at the Paradise Valley Police Department Auditorium and was held via Zoom.

### **Agenda item #II, Assign minute taker/approve past minutes:**

Tim Dickman agreed to take the minutes of the meeting. Jay Ozer made a motion to approve the minutes of the December 22, 2020 meeting. Mike Cummiskey seconded the motion. The minutes were unanimously approved.

**Agenda item #III,** Councilmember Andeen welcomed everyone to the meeting.

**Agenda topic #V:** Police Chief Wingert presented a report on the Arizona Law Enforcement Accreditation Program (“ALEAP”). The accreditation program is sponsored by the Arizona Chiefs of Police. It includes 175 standards and best practices. The Paradise Valley Police department engaged in a two-year self-assessment that began in June of 2016. A more detailed evaluation and self-assessment was started in April of 2019 and work was completed in July of 2020. An on-site assessment was conducted in October of 2020. In January of 2021 the ALEAP Commission recommended to the Arizona Association of Chiefs of Police Board the Paradise Valley police department receive full accreditation. The Committee congratulated Chief Wingert and the department on this accomplishment.

**Agenda topic #VII a.** Mike Cummiskey reported on the Police Foundation unwinding. He reported that all outstanding bills from the foundation have been paid. He also reported that any remaining funds will be transferred directly to the town of Paradise Valley.

**Agenda topic #VII b.** Chief Wingert reported on the Kiva School parking and traffic issues. He indicated that due to COVID more students are not taking school buses and this traffic issue has gotten somewhat worse. He indicated that the department is working with the school and church to arrange extended space for student pick up.

**Agenda topic #VIIc.** Chief Wingert gave an introduction to legislative efforts underway.

**Agenda topic #VIIc. i.** Community Resource Officer McGhee gave an update on the short-term rental problems in the town. He presented a video on the topic to the Committee.

**Agenda topic #VIIc. ii.** Police Chief Wingert indicated that he expected some legislative activity around an attempt to ban photo enforcement across the state. He indicated that he will advise the Committee members when this topic arises at the legislature. The town's position continues to be to support photo enforcement. Chief Wingert indicated that he appreciates the Committee's assistance when this comes up in the legislature.

**Agenda topic #VIIc. iii.** Police Chief Wingert indicated that the town of Paradise Valley has been funding its pension liability for the police department. It appears that the pension fund may be adequately funded and for the next year we may not need to fund the pension or at least not fund the pension to the extent that we have historically done so. The State of Arizona may pass a law that would withhold shared revenue to any town that engages in de-funding the police. The funding of the pension liability has been recorded as a police department expense. It may artificially look like we are not funding the department to the extent that we have historically done so. However, that is not the case. It may just appear that way due to the accounting issue around the pension funding. The committee discussed the possibility of re-classifying the expense to legitimately correct the record and avoid any issues around the shared revenue from the state.

**Agenda topic #VIII. a.** Police Chief Wingert reported on traffic restrictions occurring in the town.

**Agenda topic #VIII. b.** Police Chief Wingert reported on resort related traffic restrictions particularly around the new Ritz development. He reported on the issues with respect to Lincoln Drive and Mockingbird Lane. Chief Wingert reported that Lincoln Drive re-paving should be complete in July.

**Agenda topic #VIII.c.** Community Research Officer McGhee gave a presentation on a new campaign to promote a "Nine O'clock Walk" to the community. He demonstrated a posted website and gave examples of safety action and future posts to social media.

**Agenda topic #IX.** Community Resource Officer McGhee presented future topics to be covered in the "Coffee with a Cop." He reported the following topics:

March- IRS COVID-19 tax schemes

April- Arizona Automobile Theft Authority

May- Report on 2022 General Plan and its impact on public safety.

Officer McGhee reported that the number of people attending the “Coffee with a Cop” has been down in person presumably due to COVID-19. However, the sessions are recorded and posted on-line. When looking at the total number of in-person and remote viewing, the numbers of the public participating have actually increased.

**Agenda topic X.** Councilmember Andeen solicited any public comment. There were no members of the public present and no comments were made.

**Agenda topic #XI.** Councilmember Andeen reported that the next meeting of the Committee will be held on March 30, 2021 at 6 pm.

**Agenda topic #XII.** Councilmember Andeen solicited any future agenda topics. There were no suggestions.

**Agenda topic #XIII.** Mike Cummiskey made a motion for adjournment. The motion was seconded by Jay Ozer. The motion to adjourn was passed unanimously at 7:35 pm.