

# Town of Brunswick, Maine

## POLICING REVIEW COMMITTEE

---

### MEETING SUMMARY

---

Thursday, April 1, 2021  
5:00 P.M. – 6:00 P.M.

---

**Present:** Police Commander Paul Hanson, Councilor Dan Ankeles, Councilor Kathy Wilson, Linda Asher-Ford, Jason Gould, Flora Hull, Claudia Watson and Town Manager John Eldridge

**Absent:** Councilor James Mason, Troy Henninger (joined meeting at 5:15 pm)

**Approval of meeting summary from March 18, 2021:**

**Councilor Kathy Wilson motioned to approve the minutes from March 4, 2021 as submitted. Claudia Watson seconded the motion. The motion carried.**

Commander Hanson introduced himself as the patrol commander for the Town of Brunswick, who has served with the Brunswick Police Department for almost 19 years. He has watched the Policing Review Committee meetings and is happy to answer any questions that may arise.

Chair Gould explained that they would use this meeting to recap the previous meetings and work on the next steps. There are two more committee meetings to come up with recommendations, according to their charge. He acknowledged the scope of work done in the previous meetings, and the reason the group was brought together. Chair Gould invited the committee to think about and discuss the work which remains to be done, and recommendations to consider bringing to the Town Council. Overall, the Brunswick Police Department is considered to be doing very well, but they will be exploring opportunities for the department to do even better, particularly in the areas of community engagement.

Councilor Wilson and Claudia Watson commented, and Chair Gould replied. Linda Asher-Ford made comments, to which Chair Gould responded. Claudia Watson and Flora Hull made comments. Commander Hanson responded to Ms. Hull's comments. Councilor Ankeles, Chair Gould and Troy Henninger commented.

Town Manager John Eldridge thanked the committee for its work and looks forward to receiving their report.

Chair Gould suggested ideas that might be developed into recommendations, and stated that his ideas involved

- improving and building Community Relations, using a calendar for '20-'21 provided by the Police Department
- Community Relations, Social Work and Mental Health – staff resources available on an ongoing, ad hoc basis to respond to a mental health crisis
- Racial implicit or unconscious bias – is the Police Department's training enough?
- Other organizations – where it makes sense to do collaborations – Linda Asher-Ford
- Learning from Chief Stewart what he has learned from this committee – Troy Henninger
- Working on the engagement piece – to adapt and deliver services – Flora Hull

Chair Gould summarized the meetings conversations and plans, and asked for information to review next week from the Police Department and some committee members. He will prepare a summary of work to date, and is still interested in engagement with Brunswick students.

**Public Comment:** No public comments.

**Next Meeting:** April 15<sup>st</sup> at 5:00 pm.

**Linda Asher-Ford moved to adjourn the meeting, Claudia Watson seconded. The motion carried.**

Meeting adjourned at 5:59 pm.