

Police Study Group (PSG) – November 29, 2021 Posted for 5:30 pm. Agenda stated 5:45pm Virtual / Hybrid meeting

Attending members: Select Board members: Melissa Makepeace-O’Neil, Chair; Rita Farrell

Town Administrator, ex-officio member: Becky Torres,

Acting Chief, Shutesbury Police Dept, (SPD): Kristin Burgess,

Personnel Board member: Melody Chartier,

Finance Committee member: Susie Mosher,

Community at large members: Cheryl Hayden, Mike Vinskey, Mary Jo Johnson

General Public: Rachel Schwab-Rehorka, Susan Rice, Kate McConnell, Tim Logan, Stephen Sullivan,

Doc Pruyne, Brighid Murphy

The meeting convened at 5:47 pm.

Review agenda: No Public Comment agenda item listed. CH mentions that Survey review and Spreadsheet review are not on the agenda. MM states we can add those to this meeting agenda.

Minutes:

Minutes of 11/15/21 approved as amended.

Public Comment:

No public comments offered by attendees.

Review survey updates:

Shutesbury Police Study Group Survey Draft #4. Draft #4 was the result of comments the PSG made on Draft #3 at the last PSG meeting and edited by CH.

MM suggests, since MV provided an email input to the subcommittee we should review those inputs.

MV states he was unaware we were going to be discussing the survey and needs some time to find his notes.

CH states she emailed the draft to the group this afternoon.

None of the group members received the email.

Paper copies of Draft #4 are handed out to committee members attending the meeting in person. Those attending remotely do not have a copy.

BT leaves the meeting to scan the paper copy to be able to screen share it.

While BT is gone CH suggests we schedule our next meeting.

Next meetings scheduled for December 9 and December 23 at 5:45PM.

Draft #4 is screen shared.

MM asks MV if he wants to review his comments or how anyone would like to proceed.

MV states he would like to review the draft and see if his comments were incorporated.

CH states this draft is the result of comments made at the last PSG meeting and does not include MV comments.

The seven questions are reviewed individually. Extensive discussion on most questions ensues.

MV: During discussion of Question 5 MV states he is having difficulty following the flow of the survey questions without having his own copy. He requests MM email him a copy. There is a short delay while

MM sends the document.

Tim Logan: Raises concern that answers to one question might be in total conflict with answers to other questions. He emphasizes survey respondents need to understand differences.

BT: States Shutesbury has reached out to New Salem regarding policing. New Salem has started a policing review. BT, MM, KB were invited to meet with the New Salem Select Board on August 9, 2021.

MC: Asks are we looking for a minimum number of responses to the survey?

CH: We would expect 20-30% return. Less than 20% is not a representative sample. This is a self collected sample. It won't be representative of the town.

SM: The Finance committee is working on the FY23 budget. Decisions the PSG makes on a particular model will impact the budget process. It's another reason for the PSG to get to some sort of end at a certain time.

SM: If the next draft is emailed to the group members and they are fine with it, can the member notify the chair so that the survey review process can come to an end?

CH: No. The approval of the survey needs to be done at an open meeting.

MM: We did not get to agenda items of Police Budget History or Log. We will put those on the next meeting agenda.

CH: The next survey draft will be emailed to the group.

MM: Next meeting will be December 9, 2021 at 5:45PM

Meeting adjourned at 7:31PM

Minute taker: Mike Vinskey

Documents used: Shutesbury Police Study Group Survey Draft #4

Note: There is no question #6 on this draft.

comments/

suggestions: _____

- response to emergency calls
- response to complaints
- visible police presence
- traffic control
- preventive patrol
- investigative work
- building relationships with the community

2. Below is a list of services that may be provided by local police departments. What services do you think are important to have in Shutesbury? Please indicate level of importance on a scale of 1 - 4, where

- 4 - very important
- 3 - important
- 2 – somewhat important
- 1 – not important

Shutesbury Police Study Group Survey Draft #4

1. Have you or anyone in your family been in contact with anyone in the Shutesbury Police Department who was acting in an official capacity?

- yes, someone in my family contacted the Police Department
- yes, someone in the Police Department contacted someone in my family
- no one in my family has had contact with anyone in the Police Department
- prefer not to say
- other _____

prefer not to say

7. Are you aware that one of the services provided by the Police Department is referrals to community resources available to Massachusetts residents?

yes

no

5. Do you think it is important for Shutesbury to continue to have its own police chief and department?

yes

no

no opinion

prefer not to say

prefer another option _____

4. Do you think it is important to have 24 hour local police coverage?

yes

no

no opinion

prefer not to say

other _____

3. What do you consider to be an acceptable police response time to emergency calls?

less than 10 minutes

10-20 minutes

greater than 20 minutes

8. The Shutesbury Police Department currently follows the community policing model, which aims to provide services and promote a safe environment by interacting positively with residents and visitors on a day-to-day basis. How would you like the police to engage with you and your family as residents of Shutesbury?

coffee with a cop

ride-along with a cop

civilian training sessions

other _____

Comments _____
