

AGENDA
CITY OF LARAMIE, WYOMING
CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING
CITY HALL, COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 406 IVINSON
AVE
Wednesday, April 7, 2021, 6:00 pm
(Via Zoom Meeting)

City Council Meetings are open to the public. Council Chambers seating is unavailable at this time due to social distancing. We encourage the use of the following tools to participate: watch live meetings on You Tube Live Feed or Cable Channel 191; or Zoom meeting: Meeting ID #862 2156 1202 Password: 811980. Public Comments can be made by Zoom meeting <https://cityoflaramie.zoom.us/j/86221561202?pwd=RVdPMGE0Z2d0WjJiTzRQaGdtenQwQT09> or Phone # 1(669)900-9128 Meeting ID #862 2156 1202 or emailing council@cityoflaramie.org. Participants on Zoom will be muted until the Mayor asks for public comments. Please email: clerk@cityoflaramie.org to request to make public comment during speaking time by no later than 3:00 pm on the day the meeting is to occur. Position of speaking will be assigned by lottery. Requests for accommodations from persons with disabilities must be made to the City Manager's Office 24 hours in advance of a meeting.

Please be advised no additional agenda item will be introduced at a Regular City Council meeting after the hour of 9:30 p.m., unless the majority of the City Council members present vote to extend the meeting.

Public Comment is limited to three (3) minutes per speaker. Written public comment shall be submitted to the City Clerk for dissemination and retention for official City records, or submitted to the City Council through electronic correspondence at council@cityoflaramie.org. Full text available in Code of Conduct 4.02 and Appendix B and C.

Written material relative to an agenda item shall be submitted six (6) days in advance of the meeting (sooner if there are holidays prior to the meeting) in order that copies may be included with the agenda and to give the council an opportunity to review the material in advance of the appearance.

1. SPECIAL MEETING

Documents:

[SM Reso 2021-18 4-7-21.pdf](#)

1.A. CALL TO ORDER

1.B. Roll Call

1.C. Resolution 2021-18, Creating the Ad Hoc Working Group for Police and Community
[Jordan, CM]

Documents:

[CoverWGPC4-7-21.pdf](#)

[Reso 2021-18 Ad Hoc Working Group Police and Community 4-7-21.pdf](#)

[WGPCFactSheet.pdf](#)

1.D. Adjournment

**NOTICE OF CITY COUNCIL
SPECIAL MEETING**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Special Meeting of the Laramie City Council will be held Wednesday, April 7, 2021, 6:00 pm via Zoom Webinar ID #862 2156 1202 Passcode #811980, City Hall, Council Chambers, 406 Ivinson Ave, Laramie, WY, for the following purpose:

1. Resolution 2021-18, Creating the Ad Hoc Working Group for Police and Community [Jordan, CM]

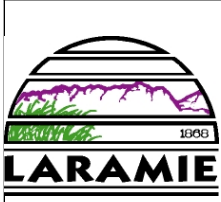
/s/ Paul Weaver, Mayor and President of Laramie City Council

Attest:/s/Nancy Bartholomew, City Clerk

Advertised: April 3, 2021 published in the newspaper Laramie Boomerang.

####

CITY OF LARAMIE COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING April 7, 2021



Agenda Item: Resolution

Title: Resolution 2021-18, Creating the Ad Hoc Working Group for Police and Community

Recommended Council MOTION:

Move to **Approve** Resolution 2021 – 18, Creating the Ad Hoc Working Group for Police and Community, and Authorize the Mayor and Clerk to Sign.

Administrative or Policy Goal:

Background:

On June 30, 2020, Council adopted Resolution 2020-38 setting forth objectives with respect to policing services and community relations. On February 23, 2021, Council reviewed a report as to progress attained in meeting the four objectives outlined in the resolution (attached). Staff also provided an overview of our research addition, staff will discuss the use of COB in policing including an overview of prevalent national models, best practices, and case study.

On March 16th, Council postponed this item to March 30th to allow for a special meeting for the purpose of receiving public testimony and subsequently established a special meeting on April 7th for voting consideration of Resolution 2021-18.

Legal/Statutory Authority:

- Laramie Municipal Code: Title 15
 - Wyoming Constitution
-

Responsible Staff:

City Attorney's Office
City Manager's Office

**CITY OF LARAMIE, WYOMING
RESOLUTION 2021-18**

**RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING AN AD HOC WORKING GROUP
FOR POLICE AND COMMUNITY**

WHEREAS, On June 30, 2020, Council adopted Resolution 2020-38 setting forth objectives with respect to policing services and community relations. On February 23, 2021, Council reviewed a report as to progress attained in meeting the four objectives outlined in the resolution;

WHEREAS, on February 23, 2021, City Manager, City Attorney and Chief provided a research brief on the use of citizen oversight boards including best practices and strengths and weaknesses of prevalent models, along with a case study and citations to original sources, so that interested persons might explore those materials;

WHEREAS, City Manager is recommending the formation of an ad hoc working group who will review municipal policing practices, legal framework, and service statistics to build a knowledgeable panel whom can provide recommendations to city leadership in these matters.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE CITY OF LARAMIE, WYOMING, HEREBY RESOLVES:

Section 1. To establish the Ad Hoc **Working Group for Police and Community (WGPC)** as follows:

PURPOSE

A broad-based working group that will consider Laramie's municipal policing services and provide a body of recommendations to city leadership. At the first meeting, working group will elect a Chair and Vice Chair and establish bylaws for the conduct of their meetings subject to the approval of the City Clerk and Attorney for parliamentary and legal appropriateness. Within 12 months of the first meeting, the working group will provide recommendation to city leadership as follows:

- a. Investigate data, evidence, and available resources and, subsequently, advise city government leadership regarding community values, needs, and priorities for policing, and
- b. Advise regarding potential solutions and methods for meeting the policing values, needs and priorities of the community;
- c. Advise on how best to build understanding, effective communication and trust between Laramie's police department and the community;
- d. Advise regarding transparency and accountability around use of force, police conduct and police oversight; and

- e. Advise on other community-related policing matters which may be expressly referred to working group by the City Council and/or City Manager; and
- f. As part of these efforts, working group will host at least one (1) community forum facilitated by an impartial third-party.

MEMBERSHIP (21)

The working group will consist of twenty-one (21) total members for a term of one year. Representation will include individual residents of the city of Laramie, institutional partners, municipal officials, and community liaisons.

Community/Resident Representation (8)

- Six (6) Laramie Residents, Selected by Nominating Committee & Confirmed by City Council
- Two (2) Laramie Residents Engaged in Provision of Local Social Services, Selected by Nominating Committee & Confirmed by City Council

Application disclosures will be sufficient to establish eligibility of community resident members. No current member of the Laramie Police Department, or his or her family members of first degree or dependents, may serve as a community resident member of the working group. No active employee of the city may serve as a community resident member of the working group. Not more than one (1) community resident member position may be filled by a retired, sworn law enforcement professional.

Nominating Committee will review applications for community resident member positions and, subsequently, select and submit the slate of eight (8) community resident members for confirmation by the City Council. Nominating Committee will be comprised of key community leaders as indicated:

1. Albany County School District Superintendent
2. Municipal Chief Operating Officer
3. UW Chief Diversity Officer
4. UW Criminal Justice Program Director
5. Representative from the Faith Community

Selection Criteria: Nominating Committee will select resident members who represent the diverse communities within the city.

Institutional Representation (7)

- One (1) Albany County School District Member (ACSD), Appointed by ACSD Board
- One (1) University of Wyoming Criminal Justice Program Faculty Member, Appointed by Department Head
- One (1) Council for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Member (CDEI), Appointed by CDEI
- One (1) Associated Students of U.W. (ASUW) Member, Appointed by ASUW

- One (1) Albany County Crime Victim Witness Representative (ACCVW), Appointed by ACVW Director
- One (1) Albany County Community Mental Health Board (ACCMHB) Member, Appointed by ACCMHB
- One (1) Legal Defense Member (*Pending Response---Staff Will Provide an Update Upon Confirmation from the Prospective Partner Agency of their Willingness to Participate*)

Current Police Oversight Representation (6)

- Two (2) City Council Members, Appointed by City Council
- One (1) Member of the Civil Service Commission, Appointed by Civil Service Commission
- One (1) Police Sworn-Management Member (Chief of Police/Asst. Chief)
- One (1) Police Civilian, Non-Sworn-Management Member (Manager/Asst. Manager/H.R. Director)
- One (1) Police Legal-Management Member (Attorney/Asst. Attorney)

Liaison Representation

- One (1) Municipal Sworn Officer, Non-Command
- One (1) Police Chaplain
- Other liaisons may be established at any time as necessary by majority consensus of the Working Group

MEETINGS

Working group will meet not less than monthly for twelve (12) months.

ANTICIPATED SCHEDULE

City Council Resolution: April 7, 2021

Application Period for Community Resident Members: April 10 - 30, 2021

Nominating Committee Convened as Needed: April 20 - May 14, 2021

City Council Confirmation of Community Resident Members Candidate Slate: May 18, 2021

Appointment Period for Institutional Representatives & Sworn Officer Liaison: April 1 – May 14, 2021

Initial WGPC Meeting: May 19 – 30, 2021

Recommendations Due to City Leadership: May 2022

PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED THIS 7th day of April 2021.

Paul Weaver, Mayor and President of the
Laramie City Council

Attest:

Nancy Bartholomew, City Clerk



FACT SHEET—Q & A

Police & Community Ad Hoc Working Group

Q. What does “oversight” mean? What does “oversight” include?

A. “Oversight” is a general term that may include a wide spectrum of activities from the direct, day-to-day legal and managerial responsibility for determining operating and personnel management policies performed by Police Chiefs, City Managers and City Attorneys, to the political oversight and stewardship performed by elected officials, to general advice, public opinion and perspective provided by Laramie citizens and visitors who are the beneficiaries of policing services.

Q. Will the proposed ad hoc committee perform oversight of the police department?

A. No. As recommended by the City Manager in Resolution 2021-18, the ad hoc working group will not have any authority to exercise any form of oversight of the Laramie Police Department.

Q. Is it appropriate for police officers to sit on working groups like the one proposed?

A. That depends on the focus and purpose of the group. Police officers often participate on working groups where education and community relations are the focus like the proposed ad hoc working group - although there are almost always limitations on how many members may be law enforcement officials. It is much less common for police officers to serve on citizen oversight boards.

Q. Is it appropriate for citizen lay-persons to sit on working groups like the one proposed?

A. Yes. It is common practice across the country for citizens to participate in their local government and have input on the services it provides, including policing! In this capacity, residents may review policing actions and policies, gain understanding and provide advice to professional management and elected officials. Nearby examples include Fort Collins and Cheyenne, to name a few.

Q. What will the ad hoc committee do?

A. “Ad hoc” groups are temporary and must complete their assigned work within a predetermined amount of time. The ad hoc group proposed in Resolution 2021-18 must first become educated and knowledgeable about municipal policing practices and policies and then, within 12 months, will provide advice to city leadership about:

- community values, needs, and priorities for policing services
- potential solutions and methods for meeting the values, needs and priorities of the community for policing services
- how best to build understanding, effective communication and trust between Laramie’s police department and the community, and
- transparency and accountability

Q. Will the ad hoc committee make policy for the police department?

A. No. Resolution 2020-18 does not grant any form of policymaking authority to the ad hoc working group. The working group may *only* provide advise as described above.

Q. How will the city enact the recommendations of the ad hoc group?

- A.** All recommendations of the ad hoc group will be reviewed by professional staff to determine whether the recommendations are legally permissible and appropriate and, thereafter, will be considered by the governing body. The city may, or may not, enact any recommendation of the ad hoc group at its sole discretion.

Q. Will the ad hoc committee lead to the formation of an oversight board?

- A.** No. Resolution 2020-18 does not predetermine or dictate any outcome as might result from the ad hoc group.