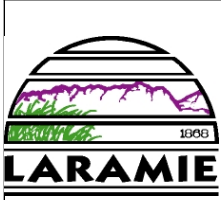


CITY OF LARAMIE COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING March 16, 2021



Agenda Item: Resolution

Title: Resolution 2021-18, Establishment of an Ad Hoc Working Group for Police and Community

Recommended Council MOTION:

Move to approve Resolution 2021-18, to Establish the *Ad Hoc Working Group for Police and Community* under the Direction of the Mayor, City Manager and City Attorney, 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.

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.

City Manager is recommending the formation of an ad hoc working group which will review municipal policing practices, legal framework and service statistics to build a knowledgeable panel whom can provide recommendations to city leadership. It is premature at this time to move directly to implementation of some form of citizen oversight structure. The City Attorney has advised about the statutory limits on personnel matters. In addition, many of the comments voiced at city public meetings were wide ranging concerns about criminal justice principles and system and were well beyond the structured and legally constrained arena of policing proper. At the federal level, as here locally, we see the deep complexity and concern surrounding policing and the manifestation of potentially embedded injustices within the criminal justice system; literally as I write this, this issue, in the form of federal legislation that may change the landscape of the criminal justice system, as well as policing, winds its way through congress. Finally, the need for the city to provide more robust information about our municipal policing services is clear and evident and, without it, residents can neither form fully informed opinions, nor provide knowledge-rooted recommendations about policing services. The ad hoc working group for police and community, over the course of 12-months, will serve as a venue where detailed information can be broken down and form the basis of informed dialogue and deliberation and, ultimately, recommendations for the future from a broad-base of resident perspectives.

The working group is described in the attachment and may be instituted by motion of the governing body.

Responsible Staff:

City Manager's Office

Attachment.

Working Group for Police & Community – As Described