

**City of Washington
Public Safety Committee Meeting
December 16, 2019**

Chairman Butler called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM.

Voting Members present:

Chairman- Brian Butler, Alderman-Brett Adams, Alderman-Randall Black

Non-Voting Members present:

Alderman Lilija Stevens, Alderman Daniel Cobb

Other Officials present:

City Administrator-Ray Forsythe, Chief Michael McCoy, Deputy Chief Stevens, WFD Chief Roger Traver and Admin Assistant-Linda Storer

Residents:

Mr. Paul Spiezio

1. Alderman wishing to be heard on a non-agenda item:

Alderman Stevens asked if draft minutes from PSC could be distributed to council before PSC meeting? Chief McCoy advised Alderman Stevens that the approved minutes are sent to Pat Brown and included in the agenda. There is a link on the agenda if you want to have them prior to the PSC Meeting.

Alderman Stevens asked if there was a CPA (Citizens Police Academy) ceremony. Chief McCoy advised it was held on the last day of class. Each participant received their certificate.

2. Citizen wishing to be heard on non-agenda items:

Mr. Paul Spiezio read from his prepared statement regarding speeding on Dallas Road. (Attached).

3. Approval of Minutes – November 18, 2019

Motion to approve requested by Chairman Butler – Alderman Black motioned, 2nd Alderman Adams.

4. Business Items:

A. School Resource Officer Contract with Washington Community High School

Chief McCoy advised the Committee that a contract for \$80,000.00 was drafted. Dr. Kyle Freeman of the high school is aware of the 2020 contract. This contract increased by 2.77% from the 2019 contract.

B. Private Camera Registry

This concept would allow residents to voluntarily sign up with the Police Department to share home camera activity, such as on a Ring system. With having a registry, it would give the police department the knowledge of who may have cameras should an incident occur. The resident could review their cameras and advise us of anything found or allow us to see them if they chose to at the time.

Chief McCoy stressed this is completely voluntary and just another tool that would assist the police the department if the need arouse.

C. Vehicle Update

The pool van was involved in an accident and is likely totaled. We are waiting for the insurance company to determine the cost of the damage.

The PD has received a title for the Equinox seized in 2013. We are in the process of determining what repairs will be needed to use as the pool car. Hopefully, the repairs are few and we can put this car in the fleet.

The F150 truck is back with a new engine and transmission. We received a faulty car and it has been fixed under the Ford warranty.

D. NTFD Update

The ordinance and registration forms were sent to the Northern Tazewell Fire Department as it relates to providing ALS (advanced life support) to Washington residents. Currently, NTFD does not have this certification. With the new ordinance, they must comply if they want to operate within Washington's jurisdiction. They have been asked to fill out the forms and return by December 30, 2019. This would show their intent to comply.

There have been instances where NTFD and WFD are dual dispatched to an address and WFD takes over the call because they are ALS certified paramedics. This has caused angst between departments and the employees.

WFD is looking for the best outcome for the patient and would like to have NTFD come into compliance with the Washington ordinance.

East Peoria Fire Department has asked NTFD for a similar requirement, to no avail.

5. Other Business:

Chief McCoy explained the discretion given to officers on traffic stops.

Alderman Adams asked if WPD was involved in finding the missing person, John Tyler that has been in all the media. Chief McCoy advised him that it is a Tazewell County Sheriff's Office case and if we are called to assist, we will. To date, there is no new information regarding this case.

6. **Adjournment** 6:15 P.M. Motion by Alderman Adams and 2nd by Alderman Black.

M.D.M.

As most of you know my name is Paul Spiezio and I live at 900 Dallas Rd. I have been addressing the speeding problem on Dallas Rd since 2016. However, I want to make it clear I am not here to ask for stop signs or speed bumps or speed changes for Dallas Rd although each of those would help address the speeding problem. Why, because it was stated clearly to me by Chairman Alderman Butler at the August 21, 2017 meeting that the City was done with me, was tired of hearing about the issue and would do nothing further to address the problem. Alderman Butler and the committee's instructions were to work with the Police Department to resolve the issue.

Statement from the August 21, 2017 meeting minutes: Mr. Spiezio, the speed will not be reduced from 30 to 25, we will not place a speed bump on the pavement, even if funded by you, no stop signs will be installed and the committee has no interest in bringing before the full council the request to change the speed limit.

I last made a statement on May 20 of this year in regard to the speeding problem. I indicated I had been working with the police department at that time for over 1 and ½ years and the problem of speeding still exist. I have continued since May to work with the police department. I have contact with them at least once per month and in most months' multiple times. It is now over two years since I was instructed to work with the police department and yes no one has died due to an accident on Dallas Rd, as was a point made in the August 21, 2017 meeting for denying my request. **However, the speeding problem still exist, and I would be remiss to not have this issue recorded in public records.**

Just a few pieces of documentation for the record to back my statements. In September of this year, the results provided to me from the police department regarding speeding data from the electronic signs showed in a 7-day period that an average of approximately 70% of the vehicles traveling North Bound on Dallas Rd were speeding. On average, approximately 36% of the vehicles traveling South Bound were speeding.

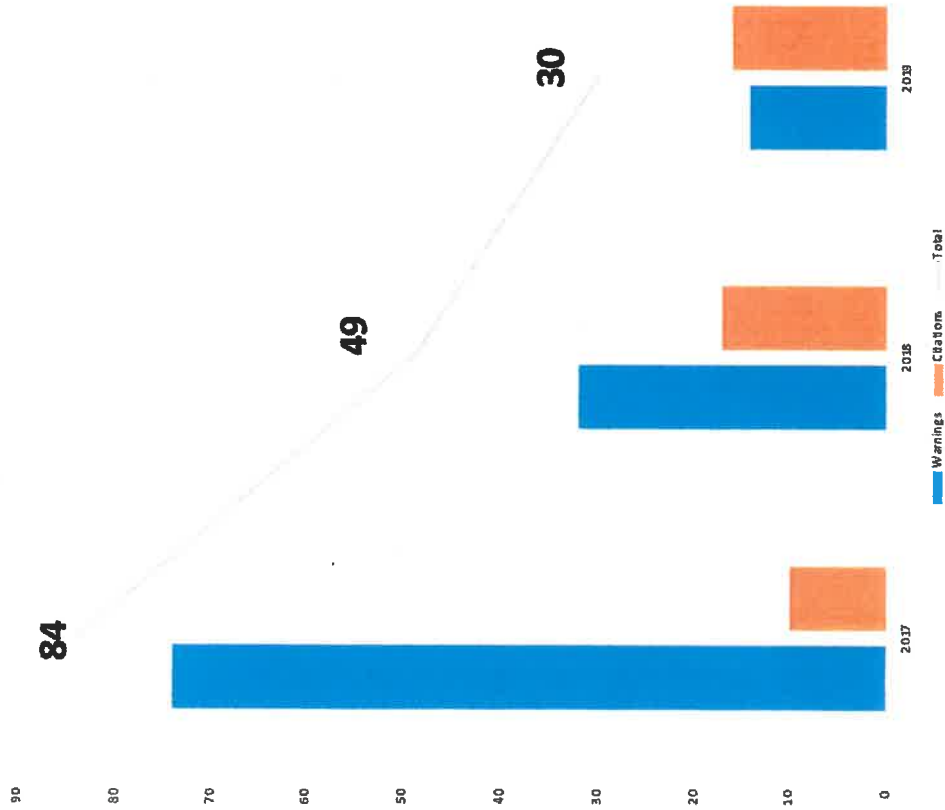
In addition, as you can tell from the graph on the document I provided, the number of citations and warnings have decreased every year since 2016 when I first brought this issue to the table. As I have been told the department is generally understaff and have more important work to do. Also, the second graph on the document I provided clearly shows that citations fines overall have decreased significantly in the past 3 years. Again, indicating the lack of time or resources, the department has to address the speeding issue.

Finally, when I addressed this issue in May of this year, I stated that the two cross walk signs had been stolen and not replaced. Those still have not been replaced and now the one at Dallas and Kingsbury has gone missing. Also, it would be helpful if the delivery trucks like Fed Ex and UPS, were not given a pass on speeding. And while I am mentioning exceptions, a couple of the buses from Washington Central School could be pulled over and warned.

Again, I understand I am not to make further requests of this committee because there is no interest in trying to solve this problem. Unless directed otherwise, I will continue to work with the police department. **But as I stated earlier, I would be remiss to not have this issue officially recorded in this committees' minutes.**

Thank You

Warnings and Citations total at Dallas Rd



Court Fines in \$

