

MINUTES - Community Advisory Committee

Meeting Date: July 17, 2025

Chairman: Jon Reaud

Vice-Chairman: Shawn Javed

Members:

Dwight Benoit, John Dean, Carlos Hernandez, Sohaib Jabbar, Shawn Javed, Glen Johnson, Will Landry, Roy McGrath, Lashon Proctor, Jon Reaud, Rodney Robichau, Frances Graham, William "Bill" Sam, Thomas Sige

Call to order by Community Advisory Committee: Chairperson Jon Reaud

July 17, 2025- 1:00 p.m: A normal meeting of the Police Community Advisory Committee was held in the Beaumont Police Training Classroom

Members in attendance:

Dwight Benoit, Shawn Javed, Frances Graham, Glen Johnson, Roy McGrath, Bill Sam, Jon Reaud, Rodney Robichau,

Members not in attendance: Carlos Hernandez, John Dean, Sohaib Jabbar, Will Landry, Lashon Proctor, Thomas Sige

Members of the Police Department in attendance:

Chief Ocnashek, Chief Plunkett, Capt. Schuldt, Capt. Laird, Sgt. Swope, Judi Rawls, Emma Nelson

Guests in Attendance:

Mayor Roy West, Vicki Johnson

Pledge of Allegiance

Moment of Silence for fallen officers

Invocation – Reverend Benoit

Roll Call – Vice-Chairman Javed

Chairman Reaud expressed his concern over attendance of committee members. Glen Johnson asked if there was an absence limit in the bylaws. At first, the committee thought that the issue was at the discretion of the councilperson, but Mr. Johnson found in the bylaws where it said that 75% of meetings should be attended. The Mayor expressed wanting to see the attendance at committee meetings in general addressed at council.

Chief Ocnashek shared info about Lt. Breaux's visitation and funeral services. He also shared about the upcoming Fun Day in the Park at Rogers Park. He spoke about the bond committee and that the stats seem to be in favor of a new facility for police. Chief spoke about how much training we offer to agencies and individuals throughout the region. He spoke about current tech, training, and personnel patterns within the dept. Retention is difficult because BPD is competing with both large and small agencies that often pay the same. Chief Plunkett said that

the volume of work our officers are doing is also a factor. Reverend Benoit commended the department on the solving of crimes – the rapid work of the crime center and its ability to involve people in the community.

Robichau asked about the game room issue and if they felt like crime would go down. Ocnaschek and Plunkett explained how difficult it is to directly connect crime to game rooms – but that it contributes to a more systemic issue. Plunkett also explained that these machines are unregulated with no stats on payouts. They can be set however. It's not about crimes at the locations, its about the environment that perpetuates among the most vulnerable in our community.

Mr. Johnson asked where the station would be. Ocnaschek said they aren't sure, but they are looking for somewhere central to downtown. Plunkett said that the cost of this is the largest number being put in front of voters, but there will never be a smaller number put before voters. Construction costs go up at least 9% every year. Upkeep of the current building is astronomical.

Ocnaschek went over recognitions and awards. Frances Graham said that Officers Stevenson and Gilmore have been helping with two special needs men in Pear Orchard. She commended their effort and service.

The Mayor encouraged the committee members to contact their councilperson or mayoral appointer. There is no way for them to really absorb all the reports that come across their desk. If something positive or negative is happening, then let them know.

In closing, Reverend Benoit asked how they could express support for a new building to be placed on the bond. Plunkett said that if they would just reach out to the bond committee and council to express their concerns as a citizen, that would be the most help.

Meeting Ended: 2:20

Next Meeting: August 21, 2025 at 1:00 pm in the BPD Training Classroom

Minutes Taken by: by Emma Nelson/Community Outreach Specialist/Beaumont Police Department/Administration Division