



City of Greenville Police Community Relations Committee

6:00 p.m. Tuesday, May 9, 2023
Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints
307 Martinsborough Road
Greenville, NC 27858

Committee Members Present:

Sonny Bass (Chair)	District 5
Mark Parker (Vice Chair)	District 1
Diane Kulik	At-Large
Sterling Ruffin	District 4 – Arrived after roll call
Rosemary Johnson	District 3

Committee Members Absent/Excused:

Rev. Philip Lyon	Mayoral – At graduation
Vacant	District 2

City Staff Members Present:

Police Chief, Ted D. Sauls Jr., Staff Liaison
Assistant City Attorney, Donald K. Phillips, Staff Liaison
Major David Bowen, Administrative Services Bureau
Lt. Keith Garner, Strategic Services
APO. C.B. Stocks, Traffic Safety Unit
Community Projects Coordinator, Devinder Culver, Staff Liaison

The meeting was officially called to order at 6:05 p.m. by Chair Sonny Bass. Sonny welcomed everyone to the meeting. He asked Staff Liaison Devinder Culver to call the roll call. A quorum was established.

Chair Sonny Bass thanked Mrs. Diane Kulik for all her hard work in arranging this meeting. He welcomed Mayor Connelly, Councilwoman Monica Daniels and Chief Sauls.

Chief Sauls welcomed everyone and reiterated the purpose of the Police Community Relations Committee (PCRC) which is to provide the community with the opportunity to engage with the police and make a difference. He encouraged the audience to utilize these meetings to share ideas, opinions and to work together on issues of concern.

Chief Sauls thanked Mrs. Diane Kulik for her commitment to PCRC, for organizing this meeting and for her love for her community, which shows in all her endeavors.

Mayor Connelly thanked everyone for coming and commended Mrs. Diane Kulik for her coordination of this meeting. He remarked on the importance of these meetings as they were a conduit for citizens to be informed about the happenings in the community and to share their points of view.

Chair Sonny Bass then introduced Master Police Officer (MPO) Chapel Stocks of the Special Operations Division, Traffic Safety Unit and Mr. Casey Whitley of the North Carolina Department of Transportation.

Presentation Highlights

I. Traffic Safety – MPO Chapel Stocks, Special Operations Division, Traffic Safety Unit

MPO Stocks provided a brief overview of the Traffic Safety Unit (TSU). TSU members:

- enforce the of motor vehicle laws and ordinances as established by NCGS Chapter 20 and Title 10 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Greenville
- operate speed measuring devices
- provide data driven targeted traffic enforcement
- operate breath analysis equipment
- have specialized traffic crash reconstruction training and
- participate in community engagement activities to include education sessions on the “Click It or Ticket” and “Booze It and Loose It” campaigns.

MPO Stocks shared information on the top fifteen (15) high crash intersections in Greenville and data on crashes for 2021 and 2022. The data showed that crashes had decreased by 15% from 2021 to 2022.

MPO Stocks stated that crashes can be prevented by for example:

- not speeding
- paying attention to all signs, lights, and signals
- not drinking, and driving and
- not texting while driving.

II. NCDOT Lead Engineer, Evans Street Road Widening Project: Mr. Casey Whitley

The “Traffic Safety and the NCDOT Evans Street Widening Project” presentation focused on the need to increase capacity and improve traffic flow along Evans Street /Old Tar Road. The objective is to widen Evans Street/Old Tar Road to multi lanes from Worthington Road to Greenville Boulevard. The scheduled improvements are expected to increase safety along the roadway and will provide continuous designated areas for cyclists and pedestrians, thereby improving safety and promoting these alternative means of travel. The scheduled improvements will impact hundreds of citizens and will take over 3 years to implement.

Mr. Whitley shared a video of the proposed changes. He emphasized that there will be some changes to the information on the video which is currently being updated. Mr. Whitley mentioned that the right of way acquisition is underway, that utility relocation is scheduled to begin in the Spring of 2024 and that construction is scheduled to begin in the Spring of 2025. It is anticipated that project construction will take approximately three (3) years with an estimated cost of \$124.6 million.

The discussion arising from the presentations was both lively and spirited.

Mr. Sonny Bass thanked APO Stocks and Mr. Whitley for two very instructive presentations.

Chair Sonny Bass asked for a motion for approval of the agenda. Sterling Ruffin made a motion to approve the agenda and Mark Parker seconded the motion. The agenda was approved unanimously.

Mr. Sonny Bass then asked for a motion to approve the minutes for April 11, 2023. Sterling Ruffin made a motion to approve the minutes and Mark Parker seconded the motion. The minutes were approved unanimously.

Mr. Bass asked for a motion to adjourn. Sterling Ruffin made a motion to adjourn, and Mark Parker seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Devinder Culver

Devinder Culver, Staff Liaison