

Agenda Report Reviewed by:
City Manager: 

**CITY OF SEBASTOPOL
CITY COUNCIL
AGENDA ITEM**

Meeting Date: June 16, 2020
To: Honorable Mayor and City Councilmembers
From: Mayor Slayter, Vice Mayor Glass
Subject: Update on Proposed Actions: Police Policy/Procedures/Protocols. The Mayor, Vice Mayor and City Manager will provide an update on actions taken, proposed actions, and Council Consider of request to set a specific date/time for a Special City Council Meeting.
Recommendation : Staff is recommending that the City Council receive the report and Select a Meeting Date for a Special City Council Meeting
Funding: Currently Budgeted: _____ Yes _____ No X N/A
Net General Fund Cost:
Amount: \$

Account Code/Costs authorized in City Approved Budget (if applicable) _____ (verified by Administrative Services Department)

INTRODUCTION:

This item is to request that the City Council receive an update on actions taken, proposed actions, and request to set a specific date/time for a Special City Council Meeting.

BACKGROUND:

Initiated by recent events across the country, communities are engaging in law enforcement policy, budgetary and staffing review. The Mayor and Vice Mayor would like to commence a community-wide conversation to ensure the Sebastopol Police Department is a reflection of our values.

DISCUSSION:

The City of Sebastopol appreciates peaceful demonstrations in response to racial injustices and prejudice. The City is working to make this community better, working to find ways to help vulnerable members of our community, and working on forums for community dialogue in a time when it is difficult to have in-person meetings.

Tonight’s item is to provide the City Council and community members a report on actions already taken and those proposed regarding police procedures and policies.

Actions taken to date include:

- Multiple Councilmembers joining the “My Brother’s Keeper’s Pledge” which include the following four points:
 - Review of police use of force policies.
 - Engage our communities by including in any review a diverse range of input, experiences, and stories.
 - Report the findings of our review to our community and seek feedback.
 - Reform our community’s police use of force policies as appropriate.
- Discussion with independent outside consultants for review of policies and procedures.

- Discussion with outside facilitator to conduct community listening sessions.
- Acting Chief of Police DeVore has banned Police Department use of the carotid hold.

Tonight's action is requesting the City Council agree to set a specific date/time Special city council meeting and any related actions. It is proposed that this meeting be held Tuesday June 23rd, at 6:00 pm; with an alternate date of June 30th at 6:00 pm.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

The City Council and City staff are grateful for messages of peace, unity and the condemnation of violence. A commitment to listening to each other is an important step towards the elimination of racism and social injustice.

The City has received numerous emails on this matter and all emails have been forwarded to the City Council. Any further communications received will be forwarded to the City Council and made a part of the public record.

PUBLIC NOTICE:

This item was noticed in accordance with the Ralph M. Brown Act and was available for public viewing and review at least 72 hours prior to scheduled meeting date.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no direct fiscal impact associated with the recommended action tonight.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the City Council receive an update on actions taken, proposed actions, and request to set a specific date/time for a Special City Council Meeting.

Attachment

None at this time.