



Public Safety Commission

# AGENDA

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**Wednesday, February 7, 2024**

**7:00 p.m.**

This meeting includes in-person and virtual participation.

Albany Fire Station 11

611 Lyon St SE, The Ralston Room

Or join the meeting here:

<https://council.cityofalbany.net/groups/saf/zoom>

Please help us get Albany's work done.

Be respectful and refer to the rules of conduct posted by the main door to the Chambers and on the website.

1. Call to order
2. Roll call
3. Approval of December 6, 2023, minutes. (Pages 1-2)
4. Department reports
  - a. Police- Marcia Harnden
  - b. Fire- Shane Wooton
5. Business from the members
  - a. Election of Chair and Vice Chair
  - b. Public Information Officer Laura Hawkins
  - c. Discussion of ongoing developments surrounding Measure 110
6. Next meeting date: Wednesday, April 3, 2024, at the Albany Police Department.
7. Adjournment

*This meeting is accessible to the public via video connection. The location for in-person attendance is accessible to people with disabilities. If you have a disability that requires accommodation, please notify city staff at least 48 hours in advance of the meeting at: [rochelle.james@cityofalbany.net](mailto:rochelle.james@cityofalbany.net) 541-917-7564*

*Testimony provided at the meeting is part of the public record. Meetings are recorded, capturing both in-person and virtual participation, and are posted on the City website.*

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## MINUTES

December 6, 2023

7:00 p.m.

Ralston Room, Albany Fire Department/Hybrid

DRAFT

### Call to Order

Cynthia Greene called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

### Roll Call

Members present: Erik Rau, Cynthia Greene, Kevin Kreitman, Evan Church, Nicholas Fowler

Members absent: Adam Brenneman, Evan Church, Pat Kidd, Erik Anderson

Staff present: Marcia Harnden, Police Chief; Chris LaBelle, Deputy Fire Chief;  
Julia Tremain, Clerk III

Others present: Sandy Roberts, Community Risk Reduction

October 4, 2023, Minutes were approved as written.

### Staff Updates

#### **Police Update – Chief Marcia Harnden**

Chief Harnden opened by reviewing the statistics snapshot to the end of October. Violent crimes are up 20%, while robberies have only increased slightly. Cynthia Green asked for clarification on the definition of the different kinds of larceny, specifically the “other” category. Chief explained it is a type of catchall theft, like off a porch.

Due to the bill that closed the Measure 110 loophole, user levels of fentanyl have been recriminalized. There will be a push to change 110 even further, as well as trying to repeal it altogether. Currently the available options to combat drug use are limited. Chief Harnden stated that the law as it exists right now is a failure. Overdose deaths in Albany are up 600% since 2019. Native Americans are one of the demographics most affected. Drug courts have potential as a diversion from usage, however many of those resources and staff have gone away. She states that we have “no teeth” to persuade the public to use services, and the services they do have available are dwindling. With fentanyl being the worst drug to withdraw from, it makes the incentive to get clean that much harder to find. There is more cocaine available as well.

With the rise in drugs comes a rise in crime, and the drug-related deaths are due to double from last year, with 101 deaths due to fentanyl. With every overdose death comes a narcotics team response.

Police are at full staffing which means more officers are making self-initiated calls. They are 3,551 calls up from last year. Hiring is going well, with ten staff hired, five of whom are officers. There is one pending officer hire in February.

### **Fire Update – Deputy Fire Chief Chris LaBelle**

Chief LaBelle began by reviewing the call numbers, which show AFD has slowed down since summer on calls, but the numbers are still up on structure fires. Motor vehicle collision numbers continue to be up as well. The numbers have decreased for fire and life safety evaluations. There are two firefighters on light duty currently who will fill in, so AFD will see those numbers increase. The department has hired four paramedics and one EMT intermediate for the single-role program. These new hires have been brought on to specifically staff peak activity time periods so AFD will have full coverage. Chief confirmed that one of the new hires used to work here, and has decided to come back, bringing lots of experience with him. There have also been two promotions: Ray Wooldridge and Hans Reerslev. Chief Wooldridge will take over our EMS division chief position and LT Reerslev will fill the Lieutenant vacancy.

In further news, the City Council has extended their approval to begin the process of obtaining two new remounted medic units; however, AFD is still 15 months out from having those in the stations.

A request was made by Cynthia Green to have a rotation of the firehouses for future meeting spots. While two of the stations have limited room for meetings, stations 14 and 15 would be available.

### Guest speaker- Fire Community Risk Reduction

Sandy Roberts attended to speak about the Albany Fire Fighters Community Assistance Fund (AFFCAF). This is a non-profit organization started by firefighters who wanted to be able to solve needs in the community as they saw them arise. The funding for AFFCAF comes from community donations, firefighters, and fundraising events like the annual golf and cornhole tournaments, Antiques in the Streets, the Bottle Drop, and selling hats, shirts, and sweatshirts. This program provides many resources to the community such as life jackets, car seats, and taxicab rides. These rides could be for people who need to go to the hospital and don't have a medical need to ride in the ambulance, or who need to get somewhere for a job interview and don't have a way to get there themselves, among others. Cynthia Greene asked about the return rate on life jackets; Roberts says it is a 60-70% return rate but because of how many are donated and the grant AFFCAF receives every year to purchase more, AFFCAF can focus more on them getting used and less on how many get returned. AFFCAF accesses other programs as well to save money, like Fish of Albany and the Red Cross.

### Next Meeting Date

The next regularly scheduled meeting is on Wednesday, February 7, 2024 at station 11.

### Adjournment

Hearing no further business, Cynthia Greene adjourned the meeting at 7:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Reviewed by,

Julia Tremain  
Clerk III

*\*Documents discussed at the meeting that are not in the agenda packet are archived in the record. The documents are available by emailing [cityclerk@cityofalbany.net](mailto:cityclerk@cityofalbany.net).*



**PUBLIC SAFETY COMMISSION  
DEPARTMENT REPORT  
December 6, 2023**



Albany Fire Department Total Responses				
Month	FY 21 Total	FY 22 Total	FY 23 Total	FY 24 Total
July	858	1,070	992	1,001
August	884	1,048	968	1,018
September	893	1,010	920	862
October	866	958	972	957
November	824	941	970	891
December	876	945	1158	
January	883	911	1007	
February	817	829	914	
March	795	853	880	
April	926	864	905	
May	905	896	891	
June	922	936	924	
<b>Total</b>	<b>10,449</b>	<b>11,291</b>	<b>11,495</b>	<b>4,729</b>
Fiscal Year 24 Projection 11,349				

Fire & Life Safety Evaluations				
Month	FY 21	FY 22	FY23	FY24
July	126	142	79	65
August	113	98	97	51
September	113	88	60	98
October	123	69	54	82
November	144	85	31	70
December	114	95	83	
January	107	172	72	
February	86	132	72	
March	117	110	102	
April	145	92	54	
May	205	73	57	
June	175	175	75	
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,568</b>	<b>1,083</b>	<b>836</b>	<b>366</b>

Community Paramedic Activity				
Month	FY 21	FY 22	F23	FY24
July	24	40	47	28
August	33	50	29	45
September	16	45	26	24
October	46	46	38	40
November	70	13	40	
December	35	14	23	
January	42	30	58	
February	16	21	19	
March	17	14	54	
April	9	33	33	
May	24	29	64	
June	38	44	46	
<b>Total</b>	<b>370</b>	<b>306</b>	<b>477</b>	<b>137</b>

Average Response Times City of Albany Calls Only 911 Call Received to Arrival Time				
	FY 21	FY 22	FY 23	FY 24 (Average)
Emergent Responses	7:15	7:10	7:18	7:09
Structure Fires	6:08	6:18	6:09	6:43

Top 25 Responses	Count
SICK PERSON	759
FALL	407
LIFT ASSIST	350
BREATHING PROBLEMS	307
UNKNOWN MEDICAL PROBLEM	278
MVC INJURY	229
CHEST PAIN	219
FIRE ALARM ACTIVATION	211
UNCONSCIOUS FAINTING	210
TRANSFER	209
OD INGESTION POISONING	112
SEIZURE	101
HEMORRHAGE BLEED	95
SMALL MISC FIRE	93
STROKE	81
EMERGENCY TRANSFER	76
ABDOMINAL PAIN OR PROBLEMS	71
DIABETIC PROBLEM	69
HEART PROBLEMS	68
CARDIAC OR RESPIRATORY ARREST	60
PSYCHIATRIC SUICIDE ATTEMPT	59
TRAUMA INJURY	51
PUBLIC ASSISTANCE	48
FIRE MOVEUP ONLY	47



Row Labels	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Grand Total
00	17	24	27	12	20	13	17	130
01	17	17	12	16	16	16	17	111
02	21	13	17	15	17	11	20	114
03	21	15	14	11	14	17	7	99
04	18	11	12	13	9	9	11	83
05	11	22	13	15	18	8	14	101
06	17	15	20	19	26	13	18	128
07	21	24	26	26	21	20	18	156
08	25	31	34	33	29	23	26	201
09	31	34	36	41	40	36	25	243
10	35	45	42	31	29	34	39	255
11	27	37	36	31	28	30	40	229
12	38	43	36	57	35	31	35	275
13	36	40	50	51	47	25	24	273
14	40	32	39	32	38	25	36	242
15	29	32	32	37	38	41	27	236
16	39	45	39	45	35	50	29	282
17	41	34	30	53	33	37	32	260
18	30	43	55	40	56	45	35	304
19	39	34	42	25	32	41	31	244
20	29	26	37	33	45	38	32	240
21	26	32	36	32	23	21	29	199
22	25	17	19	27	26	32	24	170
23	23	24	31	27	12	16	21	154
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>656</b>	<b>690</b>	<b>735</b>	<b>722</b>	<b>687</b>	<b>632</b>	<b>607</b>	<b>4729</b>

CUSTOMER SERVICE · DIVERSE ORGANIZATION · INTEGRITY ·  
HEALTH & WELFARE · PROFESSIONALISM & TEAMWORK



# PUBLIC SAFETY COMMISSION DEPARTMENT REPORT OCTOBER, 2023



CRIME SNAPSHOT						
Selected Group A Offenses	Oct 2022	Oct 2023	% Chg	2022 YTD	2023 YTD	% Chg
<b>Person</b>	48	47	● -2.08%	364	438	● 20.33%
Homicide	0	1	● N/C	2	6	● 200.00%
Rape	0	1	● N/C	6	11	● 83.33%
Ag Assault	5	7	● 40.00%	52	55	● 5.77%
Assault - Other	32	34	● 6.25%	253	299	● 18.18%
Sex Crime	11	4	● -63.64%	51	67	● 31.37%
Human Trafficking	0	0	● N/C	0	0	● N/C
Domestic (subset of above)	9	5	● -44.44%	81	99	● 22.22%
<b>Property</b>	202	141	● -30.20%	1979	1529	● -22.74%
Robbery - Residence	0	0	● N/C	0	1	● N/C
Robbery - Business	1	2	● 100.00%	10	12	● 20.00%
Robbery - Other	2	1	● -50.00%	20	13	● -35.00%
Robbery 3 (subset of above)	2	0	● -100.00%	18	14	● -22.22%
Burglary - Business	7	5	● -28.57%	56	51	● -8.93%
Burglary - Other	3	1	● -66.67%	17	19	● 11.76%
Burglary - Residence	8	5	● -37.50%	53	57	● 7.55%
Stolen Vehicle	28	7	● -75.00%	161	97	● -39.75%
Larceny - From Vehicle	25	19	● -24.00%	312	207	● -33.65%
Larceny - Shoplifting	38	25	● -34.21%	352	311	● -11.65%
Larceny - Other	42	34	● -19.05%	441	348	● -21.09%
Arson	5	2	● -60.00%	23	21	● -8.70%
Vandalism	23	11	● -52.17%	286	121	● -57.69%
Fraud - Credit Card	3	3	● 0.00%	45	37	● -17.78%
Fraud - ID Theft	4	13	● 225.00%	79	104	● 31.65%
Fraud - Other	13	13	● 0.00%	124	130	● 4.84%
<b>Society</b>	38	35	● -7.89%	295	321	● 8.81%
Animal Cruelty	0	0	● N/C	7	8	● 14.29%
Drug Laws	3	3	● 0.00%	39	56	● 43.59%
DUII	22	16	● -27.27%	132	134	● 1.52%
Weapons Laws	13	16	● 23.08%	117	123	● 5.13%
<b>Livability</b>	52	41	● -21.15%	479	436	● -8.98%
Abandoned Vehicle	49	39	● -20.41%	452	398	● -11.95%
Junk/Trash	2	1	● -50.00%	23	29	● 26.09%
Overnight/Prohibited Camping	1	1	● 0.00%	4	9	● 125.00%
<b>Calls for Service</b>						
Call Source	2944	3016	● 2.45%	27371	30350	● 10.88%
Dispatched Calls	1774	1546	● -12.85%	17100	16528	● -3.35%
Self-Initiated Calls	1170	1470	● 25.64%	10271	13822	● 34.57%
<b>Response Time (Minutes)</b>						
Priority P & 1	5.22	5.26	● 0.81%	5.78	5.15	● -10.87%
Priority 2 & 3	8.58	10.73	● 24.99%	9.74	10.13	● 3.95%
Priority 4+	9.28	8.95	● -3.61%	7.32	6.11	● -16.49%

Changes in small numbers can result in large percentage changes and must be viewed with caution.

11/28/2023 8:04



Albany Police Department								
<i>Narcan</i>	Year	ODs	OD Death	Heroin	Fentanyl	Meth	LSD	Marijuana
10	2019	21	2	12	2	3	1	3
20	2020	29	1	14	4	6	2	1
39	2021	50	4	21	15	7	1	1
72	2022	91	11	14	63	18	0	8
149	2023	122	17	4	101	18	1	5

\*Year to Date



HIRING

2023 HIRING	
HIRED (10)	5 POLICE OFFICERS 4 DISPATCHERS 1 CLERK
PENDING HIRES	1 POLICE OFFICERS (02/16)
VACANCIES	1 (+ 1 2024 OVERHIRE)