

FINAL



Approved MINUTES
FAIR & IMPARTIAL POLICING TASK FORCE
TUESDAY, JULY 7, 2020 – 7:00PM
REMOTE VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS
[LebanonNH.gov/LIVE](https://lebanonnh.gov/LIVE)

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** The Fair & Impartial Policing Task Force met remotely on July 7, 2020 via Microsoft Teams. The following task force members were present: Karen Liot Hill (Co-Chair), Suzanne Prentiss (Co-Chair), Diane Root, Devin Wilkie, Kathleen Beckett, Keiselim Montas, Barry Schuster.

Liot Hill introduced Breanna Glover '22, Intern with the City of Lebanon and School Diversity working on diversity and inclusiveness training.

2. **ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES:** Motion to approve minutes of May 28, 2020 made by Prentiss, seconded by Wilkie. Roll call vote was taken with unanimous approval.

3. **DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

- A. Provision 6 – Prentiss shared a modified version of Provision 6 that she prepared through a safety lens with the objective of avoiding consequences for the City that could come from interfering with the federal government, including loss of federal funding, while meeting the moral obligation for the city of notifying people about activities taking place within the City, e.g. immigration-related checkpoints. The draft language was as follows:

In order to maintain public safety and the orderly processes for all citizens traveling in and through the city of Lebanon, the presence of checkpoints along our roads and highways that interfere with the flow of traffic should be reported to the public. If any Agent of the City becomes aware of a Federal immigration authority's presence at said checkpoint in the City for the purposes of questioning, detaining or gathering immigration status information from any person or persons, or other enforcement action, the City shall act to notify the public as soon as they become aware. This should be done by both the City of Lebanon and community organizations once they become aware. Notification can be made through the LebAlert system as well as partner organization communications protocols.

Task force members discussed the draft language and considered some modifications. Attorney Waugh referenced an opinion that he prepared regarding Provision 6, including his response to a memo prepared by Attorney Kira Kelly. Waugh offered to look into other instances where the City and/or State is required to provide advance notification to the public, e.g. construction, accidents, DUI checkpoints, etc.

4. PUBLIC TESTIMONY: The Task Force heard public testimony from:

- Judith Bush – if ICE or Border Patrol notifies Police Department of an upcoming action, that should be communicated to public not just if an activity is already taking place.
- Phil Bush – raised attention to the memo from Attorney Kira Kelly.
- Mary Maxfield - on behalf of former student of Mexican descent regarding anxiety-inducing experience with border patrol checkpoint that took place in Lebanon last year
- Sarah Raight - expressed concern that narrowing the focus of Provision 6 to checkpoints exclusively takes from original broader intent of ordinance.
- Attorney Kira Kelly suggested that there are ways for the city to mitigate legal bills through pro bono law work. Addressed vagueness issues suggesting that language be included to say that if officials are in uniform, they are there on official business. Suggested task force members put yourselves in the shoes of a staff-member to ask if the ordinance is clear. Clarifying policies and procedures can be passed in the future.
- Diane Root shared testimony from someone who works in Lebanon and wishes to remain anonymous for security reasons. Concerned about the need to carry expensive documentation to prove their ability to be in the country and the difficulty of applying for new paperwork if it is lost.

5. OTHER BUSINESS: The Task Force resumed discussion following Public Testimony. Prentiss discussed avoiding pinning notification requirements to a specific person or title. Said she was hoping that tying Provision 6 to checkpoints was attempt at middle ground, since legal counsel had been advising against including it at all. She wanted to tie Provision 6 to public safety as an effort to avoid Provision 6 being taken out and rather keeping it in.

Waugh will continue to work on Provision 6, and the group will discuss Provision 1 at the next Task Force meeting.

6. ADJOURNMENT. Motion made by Prentiss, Seconded by Wilkie. Passed Unanimously by Roll Call vote.

Minutes recorded by Karen Liot Hill.

Due to the current situation with the COVID-19 Pandemic, the City of Lebanon is offering its meetings via Microsoft Teams. Members of the public are encouraged to attend by going to LebanonNH.gov/Live where you will find instructions on how to enter the meeting. Members of the public will be able to participate and ask questions through the Microsoft Teams software or by phone. Please visit LebanonNH.gov/Live for full details.

THE AGENDA, IN ITS ENTIRETY IS AVAILABLE ON THE CITY 'S WEBSITE AT [LEBANONNH.GOV](https://LebanonNH.gov)