

CITY OF NORTHFIELD, MN
CITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION 2020-103
ESTABLISHING A CITIZEN POLICE ADMINISTRATIVE POLICY REVIEW TASK FORCE

- WHEREAS, the City of Northfield Vision Statement reads that “Northfield is an open, safe, and welcoming community, recognized for its world-class colleges and historic riverfront downtown, and is dedicated to sustainably enhancing and preserving its vibrant culture, celebrated arts, strong economy, and an excellent quality of life where all can thrive.”; and
- WHEREAS, the police department provides professional police services to the residents, visitors, colleges, and businesses within the city; and
- WHEREAS, the City conducted a staffing and operational assessment of the police department in 2019 in an effort to improve efficiency and effectiveness of the Department as an action item within the Strategic Plan (2018-2020) of the City Council; and
- WHEREAS, the 2019 study recommended opportunities to improve the administrative and procedural practices of the Department, in particular updating the police department policies; and
- WHEREAS, the police department is currently reviewing and editing the standard policies provided by Lexipol to fit the department and community, and as part of this review process, the police department has requested assistance from the public in providing feedback on select policies that have been highlighted during recent calls for police reform; and
- WHEREAS, a task force of members of the public to provide feedback to the department through a series of meetings this fall and winter will be helpful in crafting policy in alignment with best practices and community expectations; and
- WHEREAS, the Northfield City Council’s Strategic Plan stresses the importance of a welcoming community that recognizes diversity, equity, and inclusion, as well as operational effectiveness with an emphasis on improved trust and improved external communication; and
- WHEREAS, community members appointed to this task force represent a diverse cross section of our community and as a representative of the organizations they work with and the people that make up their organization, including their staff, clients, and stakeholders have the ability to provide meaningful feedback on policies; and
- WHEREAS the Northfield Citizen Police Administrative Review Task Force intends to meet on an as needed basis over a period of not more than 5 months; and
- WHEREAS, the Council has the Authority to create advisory boards and commissions in accordance with Section 3.2 of the City Charter and Minnesota Statutes, Section 412.111; and
- WHEREAS, Section 3.2 of the City Charter provides that the Mayor shall appoint the members of

advisory boards and commissions subject to confirmation by a majority vote of the council; and

WHEREAS, the scope of the review will be further defined at a future date with a focus on police reform policies.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL THAT:

The Northfield City Council establishes the “Citizen Police Administrative Review Task Force” as follows:

1. Work to review the police department policies to include the following:
 - Preservation of constitutional rights;
 - Conformity to police reform law changes;
 - Prioritization of policies to protect life and livelihood of citizens;
 - Prioritization to align with the city strategic plan; and
 - Prioritization to align with 21st century poling initiatives.
2. The Northfield Citizen Police Administrative Review Task Force shall terminate upon completion of the review and submittal of a report to the City Council.
3. The following persons are appointed to serve on the Northfield Citizen Police Administrative Review Task Force:
 - Vernon Green (St. Olaf College Student)

PASSED by the City Council of the City of Northfield on this 20th day of October, 2020.

ATTEST:

City Clerk

Mayor

VOTE: ___ POWNELL ___ DELONG ___ GRABAU ___ NAKASIAN
 ___ NESS ___ PETERSON WHITE ___ ZWEIFEL