# QUESTIONS

# From the public

# **Received City Clerk**

ccfn 200214 - Communication from the Office of the Mayor, the Milwaukee Police Department, and the Fire and Police Commission relating to circumstances under which a curfew is declared, the policies used to enforce it, and the operational definition of the phrase "civil unrest" and the manner in which it is enforced.

From:

Owczarski, Jim

Sent:

Thursday, June 04, 2020 1:44 PM

To:

Polanco, Joanna

**Subject:** 

FW: PUBLIC SAFETY AND HEALTH COMMITTEE SPECIAL MEETING COMMENTS

## QUESTION.

Jim Owczarski, CMC City Clerk (414)-286-2998 @mkeclerk

From: Stephen Appel [

Sent: Thursday, June 04, 2020 1:32 PM

To: Owczarski, Jim

Subject: PUBLIC SAFETY AND HEALTH COMMITTEE SPECIAL MEETING COMMENTS

Dear Mr. Owczarski,

I write to comment on the upcoming special meeting of the Common Council and Public Safety and Health Committee tomorrow 6/5/2020 to address citywide curfews and the civil unrest in the City of Milwaukee.

I would like to suggest the following items/questions to be discussed at the meeting:

]

- 1. Why were the curfews on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday so broad, affecting even people in neighborhoods not near civil disturbances? Was the option considered to have a more focused curfew (banning large assemblies, for example)? Was there enforcement of curfew outside of areas of unrest?
- 2. Who authorized the use of respiratory irritants like pepper spray and tear gas? Was it authorized to use irritants for enforcement of non-violent illegal activity and/or crowd control? Was it taken into consideration that these irritants could cause spread of the Coronavirus/COVID-19?
- 3. Police, sheriff's deputies, and National Guard members can be clearly seen in close contact with the public without any face covering. Does the city of Milwaukee and/or the Milwaukee Police Department have and/or enforce policy about wearing masks when in close contact with the public during the COVID-19 pandemic?
- 4. The Milwaukee Police Department claimed in a public that:

"At approximately 8:08 p.m., on Tuesday, June 2, 2020, in the area near 6th and McKinley, an individual threw a molotov cocktail at uniformed police officers."

There needs to be an investigation into 1) if there were legitimate weapons such as molotov cocktails used against police 2) if the police used this to justify their use of force against the crowd and 3) the chain of custody of the evidence they show in the tweet.

5. Were areas of the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee campus used for any police operation such as staging or holding individuals in custody? If so, were officials from UWM, UWM Police Department, or the UW-System Administration consulted?

I'm sure you will be receiving many e-mails and hope you are able to consider my concerns at this meeting or in the near future.

Sincerely, Stephen Appel

Ben Balcom

Sent:

Thursday, June 04, 2020 11:30 AM

To:

Owczarski, Jim

Subject:

Milwaukee Resident - Illegitimate Police Activity

Hello,

My name is Ben Balcom and I live in Riverwest. I am disturbed by recent police action in response to protests. I attended a day-long peaceful protest on Tuesday, during which police used teargas and fired rubber bullets at peaceful protesters. The protest was *entirely* peaceful and was one of the most hopeful exhibitions of city-wide solidarity I have ever witnessed.

The laying down of spike guards in the roads, the raising of bridges, the pre-emptive presence of heavily armed police and national guard: all of this suggests that the city government wants to suppress our constitutional right of assembly, it preempts violence and is itself a violent display.

This cannot continue. The Milwaukee government must stand on the side of its citizens and allow peaceful organization.

I believe the city needs to immediately remove all national guard presence and stop the helicopters from circling our neighborhoods. That is an act of psychological warfare and communicates to us citizens that you want to pacify the people and suppress our voices. It induces fear. Is that what you want us to feel as we fall asleep? Fear of our city? Why not inspire us? Why not communicate that you are *for making change*.

Rubber bullets and tear gas are incredibly harmful and dangerous. Tear gas is especially dangerous during a pandemic that targets respiratory health. The use of tools must *immediately* be <u>made illegal</u>.

Please stand on the side of your citizens. Act now to remove the national guard, the helicopters, and stop using chemical weapons and violent tactics against your citizens. Please release all protesters that have been arrested in the past week. AND DO NOT PRESS CHARGES FOR ANY ACTS MADE DURING ANY OF THE PROTESTS.

Can't you hear the anger and sadness in your citizens voices? Please, help inspire us. Tell us how you will make a change.

Please do everything in your power to demilitarize the police and protect the black and brown citizens of Milwaukee. No more abuse. No more police brutality. No more violence.

Thank you for your time.

- Ben Balcom

Ben Balcom

414-902-0236

From:

Mariah Beck

Sent:

Friday, June 05, 2020 10:17 AM

To:

Owczarski, Jim

**Subject:** 

The Common Council'd Public Safety and Health Committee meeting

## Dear Public Safety and Health Committee

My name is Mariah and I live in District 5 in the City of Milwaukee. I am writing in regards to the current protests occurring within our City and across the nation responding to the murder of George Floyd, demanding an end to police brutality and the systemic racism upon which current policing and so many other systems and policies currently operate within our nation and our own City.

The enactment of curfews, especially without proper notice, is encouragement for police officers to act aggressively and arrest peaceful protestors. It is an inefficient ordinance and should no longer be enacted.

In your discussions about the operational definition of "civil unrest," please understand that the people who have been marching on the streets the past week are peaceful protestors demanding racial justice. Calling the current happenings civil unrest is sending a message loud and clear: the leaders of our City and the MPD care about physical property over Black lives. Property can be replaced. Black lives cannot.

The current enforcement of these peaceful protests by MPD is unlawful and is NOT protecting Milwaukee's civilians. Issuing tickets, citations, and arrests is unlawful. Detaining peaceful protestors without food, water, a phone call, and no rights read is unlawful. The use of tear gas, a chemical banned in war, being used during a global pandemic of a respiratory virus is unlawful. The use of rubber bullets is unlawful. This needs to stop immediately. The residents of our City have a right to protest peacefully in our streets without facing the very same police aggression that they are protesting against.

The City of Milwaukee is reacting to Black pain by calling more police on our communities. This is not the solution.

If you as the Common Council on this committee believe in investing in Milwaukee's communities, especially our Black, Brown, and Indigenous communities, I implore you to demand the Milwaukee Police Department and National Guard end the use of tear gas and rubber bullets on peaceful protestors. It is clear that major reform needs to happen with the policing in our country and in the City of Milwaukee, but the first step is to immediately call on the Milwaukee Police Department to end their use of force on peaceful protestors.

We want our voices heard and an end to these unlawful actions immediately. I am hopeful the committee, who is dedicated to the public safety and health of Milwaukeeans, will agree and will voice these same demands.

Respectfully, Mariah Beck

From:

Owczarski, Jim

Sent:

Friday, June 05, 2020 10:05 AM

To:

Polanco, Joanna

**Subject:** 

FW: BLM

## **QUESTIONS**

Jim Owczarski, CMC City Clerk (414)-286-2998 @mkeclerk

From: Davalos, Veronica [

Sent: Friday, June 05, 2020 9:56 AM

To: Owczarski, Jim Subject: BLM

Dear City Clerk,

]

My name is Veronica Davalos. I hope this email finds you the best under these circumstances. On Wednesday, June 3rd 2020, an armed white supremacist group was spotted at a Black Lives Matter protest on Prospect Ave. They identify themselves as the "boogaloo movement," a far-right extremist movement. According to the Anti-Defamation League, the "boogaloo" typically promote their movement as a war against liberals. They also promote their movement as a race war or a white revolution (1). The members of the movement, "Boogaloo Bois," (2) identify themselves with military fatigues, weapons, and "Hawaiian" print. These "Boogaloo Bois" were in attendance at recent Black Lives Matter protests. Attached are images taken of them on Prospect Ave. I have attached the photos from the protest below.

As City Clerk, I ask you to forward this concern to the Public Safety and Health Committee for their meeting on June 5th, as this is a public health concern. Ensuring that the boogaloo's presence persists at Black Lives Matter protests endangers marginalized groups, especially black people. If the safety of people of color is a concern to you, I would like to have these questions answered after the meeting: Will the presence of armed extremists be tolerated? What will the City of Milwaukee do in regards to this situation? Will the City of Milwaukee ensure that these Boogaloo Bois are removed from public demonstrations, to ensure the safety of marginalized communities?

,
,

Sources:

(1)

(2)

From:

Katherine Dixon

Sent:

Thursday, June 04, 2020 11:28 AM

To:

Owczarski, Jim

**Subject:** 

Mistreatment of protests

#### Dear Jim Owczarski,

What are you doing? Milwaukee has completely mishandled the protests in almost every form imaginable. You're tear gassing the citizens of your city without cause. You're tackling them, assaulting them, shooting them with rubber bullets. You've decided that the police get to assault Milwaukee citizens with impunity for daring to say that the police mistreat people of color. Not treating the police with proper "respect" is now a crime in Milwaukee punishable by arrest, injury, or death. There is no due process and no accountability. Meanwhile, people who are pro-police get to walk the streets with AK-15s to harass and intimidate the protestors. Your wildly inappropriate response has lead to a state of fear and marital law. Milwaukee is a place where I could get tear gassed, harassed or assaulted by men with automatic rifles, or arrested for daring to go outside at any time of day, and even when I'm inside, I have to keep my blinds shut to keep the search lights of military helicopters out of my apartment at night and duct tape my air conditioner into the window to try to keep the tear gas out of my home. How dare you. How dare you treat the citizens of our city this way. The city's response to this is disgusting.

How can you fix it? Going forward, I suggest you do the following:

In the short term...

1) Instruct the police that it is their job to PROTECT protestors instead of trying to hurt and arrest enough of them to stop the protesting. Police should be walking with the protestors in solidarity, completely unarmed. If police have a problem with this, they should be fired.

2) Create actual guidelines as to what constitutes a "riot" rather than letting the police decree that any gathering of people can be called a riot at any point without cause, and the police can attack them for "rioting."

3) Expunge the records of anyone arrested during the protests, and do not make any more arrests.

4) Police can no longer be allowed to lash out with violence--beating, screaming, shooting, gassing--when they are "disrespected" (protestors throwing plastic water bottles at their tanks, spitting on their shoes, or saying any variation of "fuck the police"). If any officer does so, they need to immediately be arrested for assault. An officer's job is not to be venerated as the god-like keepers of the law, so speaking out against them should not be a crime.

In the long term...

1) All Milwaukee officers must be disarmed. No more guns.

- 2) At least 75% of the current police budget should be redirected to community initiatives, such as better healthcare, food access, education, and social work. Keep the minimum staff, return all riot gear/tanks/tear gas/smoke and flash bombs/guns and bullets (including rubber).
- 3) The police should no longer be in charge of wellness checks, traffic control, noise complaints, etc.
- 4) The police should not "patrol" anywhere, but only come when all other options have been exhausted.

Thanks,

Katherine Dixon Teaching Assistant, UW-Milwaukee English Digital Commons Editorial Board Curtin 286

From:

Owczarski, Jim

Sent:

Friday, June 05, 2020 11:26 AM

To:

Polanco, Joanna

Subject:

FW: Why is there lack of training on police?

## **QUESTIONS**

Jim Owczarski, CMC City Clerk (414)-286-2998 @mkeclerk

From: Dragan Filipovic [

]

**Sent:** Friday, June 05, 2020 11:23 AM

To: Owczarski, Jim

Subject: Why is there lack of training on police?

Why is there excessive use of force on peaceful protestors? Why isn't every police officer held accountable to the fullest degree as us civilians would if we beat or pushed someone who was innocent? Why are cops above the law? Why can a police officer who murders someone wrongfully, get fired, and possibly get paid along with being able to apply at another cities police station? Why don't the good police officers stop them and have the authority to do so? Unfortunately until there is justice and a reform for all police going forward there will never be peace sadly. As I expect the world to act towards injustice.

From:

Emma Fredrickson

Sent:

Friday, June 05, 2020 10:28 AM Polanco, Joanna; Medhin, Ted

To: Subject:

Questions for today's meeting

Dear Public Safety and Health Committee,

#### My name is Emma Fredrickson

and I live in riverwest in the City of Milwaukee. I am writing in regards to the current protests occurring within our City and across the nation responding to the murder of George Floyd, demanding an end to police brutality and the systemic racism upon which current policing and so many other systems and policies currently operate within our nation and our own City.

The enactment of curfews, especially without proper notice, is encouragement for police officers to act aggressively and arrest peaceful protestors. It is an inefficient ordinance and should no longer be enacted.

In your discussions about the operational definition of "civil unrest," please understand that the people who have been marching on the streets the past week are peaceful protestors demanding racial justice. Calling the current happenings civil unrest is sending a message loud and clear: the leaders of our City and the MPD care about physical property over Black lives. Property can be replaced. Black lives cannot.

The current enforcement of these peaceful protests by MPD is unlawful and is NOT protecting Milwaukee's civilians. Issuing tickets, citations, and arrests is unlawful. Detaining peaceful protestors without food, water, a phone call, and no rights read is unlawful. The use of tear gas, a chemical banned in war, being used during a global pandemic of a respiratory virus is unlawful. The use of rubber bullets is unlawful. This needs to stop immediately. The residents of our City have a right to protest peacefully in our streets without facing the very same police aggression that they are protesting against.

The City of Milwaukee is reacting to Black pain by calling more police on our communities. This is not the solution.

If you as the Common Council on this committee believe in investing in Milwaukee's communities, especially our Black, Brown, and Indigenous communities, I implore you to demand the Milwaukee Police Department and National Guard end the use of tear gas and rubber bullets on peaceful protestors. It is clear that major reform needs to happen with the policing in our country and in the City of Milwaukee, but the first step is to immediately call on the Milwaukee Police Department to end their use of force on peaceful protestors.

We want our voices heard and an end to these unlawful actions immediately. I am hopeful the committee, who is dedicated to the public safety and health of Milwaukeeans, will agree and will take action.

Emma Fredrickson

From:

Ana Lilia Gutierrez

Sent:

Friday, June 05, 2020 10:15 AM

To:

Owczarski, Jim

## Dear City Clerk,

My name is Ana Gutierrez and I am a resident of Milwaukee. I hope this email finds you the best under these circumstances.

On Wednesday, June 3rd, 2020, an armed white supremacist group was spotted at a Black Lives Matter protest on Prospect Ave. They identify themselves as the "boogaloo movement," a far-right extremist movement. According to the Anti-Defamation League, the "boogaloo" typically promote their movement as a war against liberals. They also promote their movement as a race war or a white revolution (1). The members of the movement, "Boogaloo Bois," (2) identify themselves with military fatigues, weapons, and "Hawaiian" print. These "Boogaloo Bois" were in attendance at recent Black Lives Matter protests. Attached are images taken of them on Prospect Ave. I have attached the photos from the protest below.

As City Clerk, I ask you to forward this concern to the Public Safety and Health Committee for their meeting on June 5th, as this is a public health concern. Ensuring that the boogaloo's presence persists at Black Lives Matter protests endangers marginalized groups, especially black people. If the safety of people of color is a concern to you, I would like to have these questions answered after the meeting: Will the presence of armed extremists be tolerated? What will the City of Milwaukee do in regards to this situation? Will the City of Milwaukee ensure that these Boogaloo Bois are removed from public demonstrations, to ensure the safety of marginalized communities?

Thank you,
Sources: (1)

(2)

From:

Emily Herda

Sent:

Friday, June 05, 2020 10:15 AM

To:

Owczarski, Jim

Subject:

6/5-200214-Common Council Public Safety and Health Committee

My name is Emily and, until last month, lived in District 6 in the City of Milwaukee. I am writing in regards to the current protests occurring within the City of Milwaukee and across the nation responding to the murder of George Floyd, demanding an end to police brutality, and the systemic racism upon which current policing and so many other systems and policies currently operate within our nation and our own City.

The enactment of curfews, especially without proper notice, is encouragement for police officers to act aggressively and arrest peaceful protestors. It is an inefficient ordinance and should no longer be enacted. In your discussions about the operational definition of "civil unrest," please understand that the people who have been marching on the streets the past week are peaceful protestors demanding racial justice. Calling the current happenings "civil unrest" is sending a message: the leaders of our City and the MPD care about physical property over Black lives.

The current level of enforcement to these peaceful protests by MPD is unlawful, excessive, and is NOT protecting Milwaukee's civilians. Issuing tickets, citations, and arrests is excessive and unjust. Detaining peaceful protestors without food, water, a phone call, and no rights read is unlawful. The use of tear gas, a chemical banned in war, being used during a global pandemic of a respiratory virus is unlawful. The use of rubber bullets is unlawful. This needs to stop immediately. The residents of our City have a right to protest peacefully in our streets without facing the very same police aggression that they are protesting against. The City of Milwaukee is reacting to Black pain by calling for escalating enforcement on our communities. This is not the solution and provides the optics of militarism upon peacefully protesting civilians. If you as the Common Council on this committee believe in investing in Milwaukee's communities, particularly our minority communities, I implore you to demand the Milwaukee Police Department and National Guard end the use of tear gas and rubber bullets on peaceful protestors. While it is clear that major reform needs to happen with the policing in our country and in the City of Milwaukee, initial steps should include immediately requesting the Milwaukee Police Department to end their use of force upon peaceful protestors. Citizens want their voices heard and an end to these unlawful actions immediately. I am hopeful the committee, who is dedicated to the public safety and health of Milwaukeeans, will agree and will voice these same demands.

Respectfully, Emily Herda

From:

Owczarski, Jim

Sent:

Thursday, June 04, 2020 11:12 AM

To: Subject:

Polanco, Joanna FW: Public Feedbac

## **QUESTION**

Jim Owczarski, CMC City Clerk (414)-286-2998 @mkeclerk

From: elhljt [

]

Sent: Thursday, June 04, 2020 7:10 AM

To: Owczarski, Jim Subject: Public Feedbac

Thank you for this opportunity.

I feel that several things were NOT handled properly during this past week of events regarding protests and curfew.

- #1. Tickets were issued in our community only for violation of curfews. It feels as though the curfew was implemented just to get the protests to stop! Why? The people of this city have a voice and this was a failed attempt to silent those voices.
- #2. We have a problem in our city with the MPD and their tactics, practices and prejudices against people of color in this city. That is not new news, yet still worth a mention.
- #3. There was NO proactive tactics taken to secure the INNER city, specifically King Drive from the civil unrest going on in the city. It was left as open target for ANTIFA and other organized groups to destroy the pride of our city.
- #4. After the first night of violence, there were still no proper reactive measures to secure the INNER city, specifically King Drive. Yet, the suburbs were blocked and secured.
- #5. MPD already has a bad reputation in our city, this was their opportunity to change the narrative and become an ally to the community such as Camden, NJ and other areas in the US that knelt, marched, etc with the people.
- #6. The use of tear gas and other tactics was OUT OF ORDER for the PEACEFUL protests going on. What is the purpose of Riot gear other than to expect a riot and act aggressively towards citizens.
- #7. Arrests were made of looters, who already feel disenfranchised by this racist city and state gvt but not of those inciting the violence who created the opportunity to loot.

#8. Chief Morales and Tom Barret are a terrible duo. Together there has been no improvement for the black people of this city. No decrease in crime nor an increase in opportunity for black citizens of Milwaukee.

The people call for a resignation of Chief Morales and Tom Barret as they do not have the foresight, compassion and agenda that furthers the equality of this city's black residents.

Signed, Fed up with Morales and Barrett.

From:

Owczarski, Jim

Sent:

Friday, June 05, 2020 10:07 AM

To:

Polanco, Joanna

Subject:

FW: Cruel and Unusual Punishment

## **QUESTION**

Jim Owczarski, CMC City Clerk (414)-286-2998 @mkeclerk

From: jake hansen [

]

Sent: Friday, June 05, 2020 10:05 AM

To: Owczarski, Jim

Subject: Cruel and Unusual Punishment

My question would mostly be directed at the MPD, but I certainly wouldn't mind hearing a response from all parties:

Per reports from multiple news sources and studies, Kinetic Impact Projectiles (commonly referred to as "less" lethal rounds) have a fatality rate of about 3%, and a roughly 15% chance of causing permanent injury.

I was wondering how these statistics equate KIPs to be a proper response to a nonviolent crime like staying outside past a temporary curfew, to peacefully protest. I was also curious how this type of punishment, for a nonviolent crime, is justified against the 5th Amendment, in particular "No person shall be... deprived of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law...", as well as a justification against the 8th Amendment's protections against cruel and unusual punishment.

Thank you,
--Jacob Hansen

From:

charlie II. hoehnen

Sent:

Friday, June 05, 2020 9:33 AM

To:

Owczarski, Jim

Subject:

Questions for 6/5 meeting

## Greetings,

Thank you for taking questions on this important issue. I recently purchased a home on the East Side, and have been a long time resident of Riverwest. I'm deeply concerned about the use of force, including chemical weapons, against our citizens. For the safety of my daughter, who has had respiratory issues since birth, I must demand police, national guard, sheriffs, and any other security force to cease using brutal weapons of war like tear gas. Use of these weapons must be investigated, and if the Chief or other authority insists on authorizing their use, they must be removed.

I am against any and all curfew or emergency rule that allows for the use of force in any event or individuality pursuing the cause of justice for peace. I refuse to be 1- bound to my own home in my neighborhood while my neighbors are crying for help 2- used as a prop - read: property owner - to justify police harassment and brutality.

Additionally, I must demand the firing of Mr. Mattioli who has been charged in the reckless homicide of Joel Acevedo. If the Chief will not or cannot fire Mr. Mattioli, it is this commission's duty to do so now. The additional delay in his termination will almost certainly increase the pressure of the civilian protests for police reform and or abolition.

Finally, please work to remove armed patrols from our streets, not just when we are upset we have allowed another black person to be brutalized or murdered, but always so that we are free from fear of them. Please push to remove the national guard and other security forces from our streets. Black helicopters circle our neighborhoods and terrify our children. Please work to stop the terror committed by our police forces and military forces on our communities.

I'm certain this is a better choice and will produce more peace than pursuing a further hoarding of power and wealth in police institutions so they can continue to protect the wealthiest and whitest of society from the poor black and brown folks they stole it from. This is the end effect of any curfew, emergency rule, or armed patrol that is designed to police our neighborhoods.

All the best,

Charlie Hoehnen

Evaluator, musician, writer, dad

From:

Owczarski, Jim

Sent:

Friday, June 05, 2020 10:03 AM

To: Cc: Polanco, Joanna Dimitrijevic, Marina

Subject:

FW: Public Safety and Health Committee - 6/5/2020

QUESTION.

Jim Owczarski, CMC City Clerk (414)-286-2998 @mkeclerk

From: Lauren Hudon [

]

Sent: Friday, June 05, 2020 9:54 AM

To: Owczarski, Jim

Subject: Public Safety and Health Committee - 6/5/2020

Dear Jim,

I hope this email finds you and your loved ones staying safe and healthy. I wanted to ask some questions for today's committee meeting. Please see below:

- 1) Please detail why the protestors on 6th and McKinley on Tuesday, June 2, 2020 were met with force during the afternoon. Isn't it safe to say these were peaceful protests? Citizens must have the ability to exercise their first amendment rights, especially while doing so peacefully.
- 2) Based on Tuesdays events, will the officers involved be disciplined or go through additional trainings so they understand what peaceful protests are?
- 3) Why is the police department messaging these protests based on a singular event (I.e., the murder of George Floyd) rather than acknowledging the basis of the organizations of these protests? The protests are being organized on the basis of police brutality generally. Why isn't the department recognizing this?
- 4) What is the basis for the hasty decision to re open restaurants and bars today at 2P even though there hasn't been any decline in covid diagnoses in the city? Is this an attempt to distract people from the protests and get them into establishments? An 18 hour notice doesn't seem very responsible given the current conditions of covid and the amount of work restaurant and bar owners have yet to do.
- 5) Milwaukee County declared racism a Public Health Crisis in April of 2019. What is Milwaukee actively doing about the proclaimed public health crisis?

Thank you for your attention to my questions,

Lauren L. Hudon

From:

Owczarski, Jim

Sent:

Friday, June 05, 2020 10:30 AM

To: Subject: Polanco, Joanna FW: "Special meeting"

## **QUESTION**

Jim Owczarski, CMC City Clerk (414)-286-2998 @mkeclerk

From: Kerry Kallas [

1

Sent: Friday, June 05, 2020 10:21 AM

To: Owczarski, Jim

Subject: "Special meeting"

Good morning,

This email is in reference to the request to submit questions and comments for this afternoon's special meeting.

I'd like to know why the city of milwaukee hasn't committed to not using rubber bullets and tear gas on mass gatherings specifically and at all, for any reason.

I'd like to know why police wouldn't arrest specific people that they believe are committing dangerous offenses in the middle of the marches, rather than using blanket action against everyone. How can "collateral damage" that results in harm to community members continue to be justified? Do we really feel police can spray dangerous weapons into groups of community members without even attempting to target supposed dangerous offenders?

I'd like to know why, even if there are people who think we need police, the city isn't working to publicly enact the policies cited in

If it is possible to implement evidence-based policies that would reduce police violence by 72%, what is the justification for not implementing those policies?

Thank you.

From:

Owczarski, Jim

Sent:

Friday, June 05, 2020 10:25 AM

To:

Polanco, Joanna

**Subject:** 

FW: Police Brutality & Civil Unrest Enforcment

## **QUESTIONS**

Jim Owczarski, CMC City Clerk (414)-286-2998 @mkeclerk

From: Jason Kern [

]

Sent: Friday, June 05, 2020 10:12 AM

To: Owczarski, Jim

Subject: Police Brutality & Civil Unrest Enforcment

Hello,

I am contacting you regarding today's emergency meeting with the following question and statement about police brutality:

Context: I'm a middle class white american, father of two, employed, homeowner.

**Statement:** The police response to protesters that are peacefully demonstrating is totally unacceptable and must not go unpunished. Milwaukee Police Chief Alfonso Morales and those responsible for ordering and executing the use of tear gas and rubber bullets on protesters must be addressed TODAY.

The presence of the National Guard in this city is an unwelcome response and escalation to a group of people just speaking their minds.

## **Questions:**

How will the use of tear gas and rubber bullets on protesters be prevented moving forward?

Can you make public a list of behaviors that would warrant the use of these methods?

How can the protesters best prevent themselves from being assaulted by the police?

Thank you, Jason

From:

Owczarski, Jim

Sent:

Friday, June 05, 2020 9:16 AM

To:

Polanco, Joanna

Subject:

FW: Public safety meeting questions

## **QUESTION!**

Jim Owczarski, CMC City Clerk (414)-286-2998 @mkeclerk

From: Michaelia K [

٦

Sent: Friday, June 05, 2020 7:21 AM

To: Owczarski, Jim

Subject: Public safety meeting questions

Good morning!

During the public meeting can you please address

- -What will be done with officers who turn off or hide their body cameras
- -What will be done with officers who grab at or harm civilian cameras
- -What will be done to officers hiding their badges
- -What will be done to officers who witness excessive force and do not do anything
- -What will be done to protect officers who speak up about other officers
- -How minorities will be included in the police system
- -What is done when an officer is under investigation for use of force -do they keep getting paid, how many times can they have a use of force issue and remain a officer, etc
- -How a civilian who has witnessed a use of force that was not needed can report the officer
- -Is it possible to set up a system where officers must get recomendations and reviews from the public in order to get promotions/raises. This would allow the public a chance to become closer with them as well as force the officers to interact in. More positive ways with the public.
- -Is it possible to have a public hearing that must include at least 50% civilian minorities to review any issues with officers use of force or other possible racially motivated issues

From:

Owczarski, Jim

Sent:

Friday, June 05, 2020 9:19 AM

To: Subject: Polanco, Joanna FW: Question

**QUESTION** 

Jim Owczarski, CMC City Clerk (414)-286-2998 @mkeclerk

From: Shannon Kirsch [

]

**Sent:** Friday, June 05, 2020 7:42 AM

**To:** Owczarski, Jim **Subject:** Question

Why don't the members of the mpd know the difference between a water bottle and a molotov cocktail?

From:

Owczarski, Jim

Sent:

Friday, June 05, 2020 9:37 AM

To:

Polanco, Joanna

Subject:

FW: guestion for committee

## **QUESTIONS!**

Jim Owczarski, CMC City Clerk (414)-286-2998 @mkeclerk

From: Lexis and Malia [

Sent: Friday, June 05, 2020 9:29 AM

To: Owczarski, Jim

Subject: question for committee

Dear Jim,

My question is why when the "Covid-19 key indicators" are still stating Yellow and Reds which restaurants were originally relying on to reopen are no longer a key factor. Why would we follow a system for so long and one day without no communication or guidelines would we be able to open last minute? Yesterday we had 492 reported cases, when we shut down in March we were in the tens. There is no specific downward trend and this seems to be quite ignorant and irresponsible from a political standpoint.

]

Is this a ploy to take away from the important revolution happening world wide?

From:

Owczarski, Jim

Sent:

Friday, June 05, 2020 12:11 PM

To:

Polanco, Joanna

**Subject:** 

FW: Ouestions about notice of curfew

## **QUESTION**

Jim Owczarski, CMC City Clerk (414)-286-2998 @mkeclerk

From: Joe Milton [

]

Sent: Friday, June 05, 2020 11:38 AM

To: Owczarski, Jim

Subject: Questions about notice of curfew

Jim,

I am wondering what legal statute in the Wisconsin constitution or City of Milwaukee regulations allows for supersession of the the first amendment protection to assemble? It was apparent that the curfews put in place came with very short notice and did no consideration of first amendment protections. How do the recent curfews not conflict with the outcome of cases such as Hodkins v. Peterson (2004) (7th US Circuit Court)?

I am saddened that the City chose to override the freedoms of its citizens and then used its police force to beat, injure, and further suppress freedom of assembly. You should be ashamed of the stain which was brought on our City this past week,

-Joe Milton

From:

Owczarski, Jim

Sent:

Friday, June 05, 2020 9:21 AM

To:

Polanco, Joanna

Subject:

FW: Questions for the MPD stemming from recent protests

## **QUESTIONS**

Jim Owczarski, CMC City Clerk (414)-286-2998 @mkeclerk

From: Jason Lloyd [

]

Sent: Friday, June 05, 2020 8:01 AM

To: Owczarski, Jim

Subject: Questions for the MPD stemming from recent protests

Here are some Questions I'd like to see addressed by the milwaukee police department:

In light of the protests being related to police violence against citizens, how do the police plan on regaining the trust of the citizens of milwaukee after the violent actions we've seen taken against individuals during this past week? How do you regain the trust of the people who experienced being shot at by police while peacefully protesting - why should they ever think you exist to serve, and protect them? How do you expect to be respected even by children when their parents/grandparents will tell them the stories of how they were shot at and gassed by MPD while peacefully protesting police violence?

What evidence exists that the items that may have been thrown at the police were intentionally incendiary (let alone a molotov cocktail)? Why is the evidence provided for when the item was thrown show this was after the officers had already begun to shoot? Why are groups of protestors being blocked in by officers, then attacked? How can we ever again accept the 'one bad apple' argument when these things were done by hundreds of officers, none stopping the other?

Why are military weapons, and vehicles being brought to a peaceful protest? Why do police actions, and the official twitter of MPD seem more like a counter protestor than an official part of the government? Why are there military helicopters circling peaceful protests? Why are Stingrays being used to intercept private citizens' cellphone communication?

Hundreds of police gathered together in parking lots of malls waiting to trap and shoot at protestors, while leaving those who are not a part of the protests to commit crimes seems like a cynical attempt at building support for clamping down harder on protesting. By attempting to convince others that the protests are violent, when they're anything but. Why can't the police do their job at the same time as there are protests, considering all of the additional support being provided by the military, and neighboring police forces?

We wear masks to protect our fellow citizens, why aren't the police who serve and protect the citizens, wearing masks to prevent the spread of COVID-19? Is this an attempt to reduce police/citizen contact? Or just an intentional sign of disrespect for the people they come in contact with?

How dare you take these actions to further divide my city. Shame on you for blaming the citizens for your lack of ability to do your job. It will be difficult for the city to forget what you have done these past few days. I am saddened for the damage your inability to properly police a protest has caused - it will last generations.

Thank you,

Jason Lloyd

From:

Jonathan Lohr

Sent:

Thursday, June 04, 2020 2:13 PM

To:

Owczarski, Jim

Subject:

Questions to be asked about "Molotov cocktail"

Hello,

I would like to submit some statements and questions to be asked about the so-called "molotov cocktail" that was tweeted about from the MPD account. This was a very widely-spread tweet that was even retweeted by the President of the United States as evidence that military martial law is needed, so the implications of the tweet are very important.

With this in mind I think it is necessary that representatives of the police department explain in detail what each item in the picture is and how it is to be used in a "molotov cocktail." Please also ask them to explain how a molotov cocktail would work with a plastic bottle, as traditionally a glass bottle is needed. Please ask them to explain how long that plastic bottle would be able to withstand being filled with an accellerant, as those are known to quickly break down certain plastics and the bottle shown is a particularly thin plastic. Please ask them to explain exactly what the top piece is, how it fits to the bottle, and how it would act as a "wick" to the cocktail. Please ask them to explain why the top piece is very burned but the bottle does not show any sign of fire or heat damage. Finally, please ask them to explain why this item, that was recovered an hour after the tear-gas was fired, was used as justification for the tear-gas. Finally, please ask them for all unedited body camera footage during this time to be released to the public.

If they cannot provide sufficient answers to these questions, an investigation into their purposefully inflagratory communications should be started.

Thank you, Jonathan Lohr

From:

Owczarski, Jim

Sent:

Friday, June 05, 2020 10:01 AM

To:

Polanco, Joanna

Subject:

FW: Questions for the 6/5 Public Safety and Health Committee Meeting

## **QUESTION!**

Jim Owczarski, CMC City Clerk (414)-286-2998 @mkeclerk

From: Julia Lorentsen [

]

Sent: Friday, June 05, 2020 9:50 AM

To: Owczarski, Jim

Subject: Questions for the 6/5 Public Safety and Health Committee Meeting

Hello,

My name is Julia Lorentsen and I am a Milwaukee Citizen in the Washington Heights neighborhood. Below are my questions for today's meeting:

- 1. What would motivate the City's leadership to defund the police department so that its funding does not exceed that of the next highest funded department?
- 2. Why are police that respond to the peaceful protests armed with rubber bullets, tear gas, and other weapons?
- 3. Why hasn't the murderer of Dontre Hamilton been criminally charged?
- 4. What plans are in place to demilitarize the Milwaukee police department?
- 5. What would the Committee choose to spend the money on when the police are defunded in part or totally?

Thank you, Julia Lorentsen

From:

Owczarski, Jim

Sent:

Friday, June 05, 2020 10:29 AM

To:

Polanco, Joanna

Subject:

FW: June 5th Public Safe and Health Committee—Questions

## **QUESTION**

Jim Owczarski, CMC City Clerk (414)-286-2998 @mkeclerk

From: Michael McKinley [

]

Sent: Friday, June 05, 2020 10:20 AM

To: Owczarski, Jim

Subject: June 5th Public Safe and Health Committee—Questions

Mayor Barrett, would you be willing to testify under oath that your decision to reopen bars/restaurants was unrelated to the ongoing protests and civil unrest?

From:

Owczarski, Jim

Sent:

Friday, June 05, 2020 9:11 AM

To: Subject: Polanco, Joanna FW: Meeting June 5

## **QUESTION!**

Jim Owczarski, CMC City Clerk (414)-286-2998 @mkeclerk

From: Elke Mischke [

]

Sent: Friday, June 05, 2020 1:04 AM

To: Owczarski, Jim Subject: Meeting June 5

Dear Council Members

I have a few questions/comments to consider regarding policing in Milwaukee

- 1. A complete evaluation of the police union contract
  - -in Milwaukee are officers records erased after X amount of years as in other cities, ie Chicago?
- -Can disciplinary issues and subsequent criminal charges be dealt with in criminal court instead of internally or before a grand jury so the officers are treated as civilians?
- Clear expectations of behavior resulting in an officer understanding what can lead to job loss, just as in the private sector. Most people know what can be terms of job loss.
- 2. Further vetting of officers before hire with an emphasis on violent behavior
- 3. Changing the culture...
  - -more psychological evaluation and therapy for officers who have complaints?
  - ease for officers reporting improprieties of other officers without retribution?
- 4. More interaction and internships and active recruiting for black and brown residents to encourage a more diverse department
- 5. Continuous diversity training that is taken seriously and of not passed could be disciplined and/or lead to job loss.

The police need to be accountable and understand that they can lose their job.

Lastly, a thorough review of the knee on the neck of a citizen on the south side this week. The chief on TV this week said this is not protocol, yet it was just recorded.

From:

Michelle Newsome

Sent:

Thursday, June 04, 2020 9:48 AM

To:

Owczarski, Jim

**Subject:** 

Ouestions and comments for the Public Health and Safety Committee

Chair Dimitrijevic, Vice Chair Lewis, Alders Borkowski, Spiker and Rainey

I want to thank you all for scheduling this very important meeting during a time of crisis in Milwaukee. I appreciate this opportunity to be heard by my elected leaders and to offer feedback about the direction of this city.

My questions are simple.

How many of your constituents killed by police is an acceptable number?

How many millions of dollars is the community prepared to spend to avoid any change in our police policies surrounding use of force?

How many times will this city be forced to settle lawsuits over the unjustified deaths of black men caused by law enforcement officers who the residents of this city pay generously to protect them?

Why is this city providing tanks and tear gas to the police but not providing basic services to the communities of color that the police continue to assault and oppress?

Why are the Milwaukee Police arresting elected officials who are representing the public interest by observing their excessive use of force on community members?

I look forward to your response and to the hearing tomorrow afternoon.

Michelle Newsome

From: Fiona Pantoga-Montoto

**Sent:** Friday, June 05, 2020 10:14 AM

To: Owczarski, Jim

Subject: We need new police policies

Dear Mr. Owczarski,

My name is Fiona. I am writing to you as a citizen of Milwaukee, Wisconsin in regard to the violent response from the Milwaukee Police Department during peaceful protests and other affairs that require police presence.

I urge you to change policing policies in order to appropriately and effectively protect and serve our community. Data proves that together, the *following eight policies can decrease police violence by* 72%. Here are the eight policies that must be implemented *immediately*.

- 1. Ban chokeholds and strangleholds.
- 2. Require de-escalation to allow officers more time, distance, space, and tactical flexibility during dynamic situations on the street.
- 3. Require warning before firing ANY weapon (automatic weapons, mace, rubber bullet rifles, teargas, etc.).
- 4. Exhaust ALL other means before firing ANY weapon.
- 5. Duty to intervene; to hold officers liable for failing to rescue another party who could face potential injury or death without intervention.
- 6. Ban shooting at moving targets, vehicles.
- 7. Require use of force continuum (infographic attached).
- 8. Require comprehensive reporting.

We must act now.

Thank you, Fiona Please address the following questions and comments at today's Public Safety and Health Committee Meeting:

- -How do we define uncivil rest?
- -If peaceful protesters are provoked, antagonized or afraid due to the militarization of our police officers they should have the right to defend themselves. De-escalation should be a best practice.
- -How effective are curfews?
- -Are curfews antagonizing people?
- -Where is the Fire and Police Commission as they provide oversight over Chief Morales and the police department? Each person on that Commission is appointed by the mayor and confirmed by the Common Council.
- -Are there consequences for the Fire and Police Commission not holding police officers and departments accountable?
- -Why does the City get sued instead of the police department if a police officer murders, harasses or abuses citizens? Taxpayers dollars should not go toward that.

Thank you,

Alyse Pfeil
City of Milwaukee Resident - 53211

From:

Pete Sanfilippo

Sent:

Friday, June 05, 2020 10:15 AM

To:

Owczarski, Jim

Subject:

**Police Policy Changes** 

Dear Mr. Owczarski,

My name is Pete Sanfilippo. I am writing to you as a citizen of Milwaukee, Wisconsin in regard to the violent response from the Milwaukee Police Department during peaceful protests and other affairs that require police presence.

I urge you to change policing policies in order to appropriately and effectively protect and serve our community. Data proves that together, the *following eight policies can decrease* police violence by 72%. Here are the eight policies that must be implemented *immediately*.

1. Ban chokeholds and strangleholds.

- 2. Require de-escalation to allow officers more time, distance, space, and tactical flexibility during dynamic situations on the street.
- 3. Require warning before firing ANY weapon (automatic weapons, mace, rubber bullet rifles, teargas, etc.).
- 4. Exhaust ALL other means before firing ANY weapon.
- 5. Duty to intervene; to hold officers liable for failing to rescue another party who could face potential injury or death without intervention.
- 6. Ban shooting at moving targets, vehicles.
- 7. Require use of force continuum (infographic attached).
- 8. Require comprehensive reporting.

We must act now.

Thank you, Pete

# **USE OF FORCE CONTINUUM**

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LEVEL 1 OFFICER PRESENCE

LEVEL 2 TACTICAL COMMUNICATION

LEVEL 3 PHYSICAL CONTROL

LEVEL 4 DEFENSIVE / INTERMEDIATE WEAPONS

LEVEL 5 DISENGAGEMENT

LEVEL 6 LETHAL FORCE

1

From:

Alex colonials

Sent: To: Friday, June 05, 2020 10:14 AM Owczarski, Jim; Mayor Tom Barrett

Subject:

Curfews, Policing, Civil Unrest

To the Common Council and Mayor Tom Barrett,

We have a chance to be better. To not react in a fearful, aggressive way like other cities have unleashed their militarized police departments and curfews upon citizens who are peacefully demonstrating and protesting a militarized police force that acts in discriminatory, racist, and aggressive ways.

The police and the city leadership need to earn our respect again. There are cameras everywhere. The lies being perpetuated about escalation by protesters simply won't fly. We can see with our own eyes what the police are doing. I watched with horror what was happening on the TMJ4 live feed and then could only shake my head as the narrative continued to change.

Additionally, I applaud all restaurant and bar owners who are calling out the revised order allowing restaurants and bars to open early. Releasing such a last second change appears to be nothing more than an attempt to distract from our very real national crisis. It won't work.

If you truly want to heal the division and wounds then you need to stop distracting. Stand with the citizens. No more curfews. Tell the police to stand down. Circling the wagons and distracting will only continue to further erode the public trust. I encourage you to look at 8 Can't Wait -

We can do better. We are demanding better. It's up to you all whether or not you join us or be left behind as those who are seen simply as enablers of the problems that have rocked our community for so long.

Sincerely,

Alex Scheurell

From:

Peter Schwartz

Sent:

Thursday, June 04, 2020 11:26 AM

To:

Owczarski, Jim

Subject:

Questions and comments for the Public Health and Safety Committee tomorrow

I want to thank you all for scheduling this meeting during a time of crisis in Milwaukee. I appreciate this opportunity to be heard by my elected leaders and to offer feedback about the direction of this city.

My questions are as follows:

How will the Public Health and Safety Committee bring about change in policy to ensure the city's communities of color and police can work together and built trust?

Since 1995 the City of Milwaukee has paid out more than 24.15 million dollars in lawsuits due to police misconduct. Is it possible to create policy/ordinance/conditions of employment to indemnify and save the city, hold the city harmless against any and all claims for injuries or damages and any and all costs or expenses in connection therewith resulting or arising from any police misconduct, errors, negligence, misrepresentation, violation of good faith and fair dealing by making each police officer and/or the police union to obtain personal/professional liability insurance?

I look forward to your response and to the hearing tomorrow afternoon. Peter Schwartz. Milwaukee Resident of the 13th District

From:

Owczarski, Jim

Sent:

Friday, June 05, 2020 10:30 AM

To:

Polanco, Joanna

**Subject:** 

FW: Special Meeting Questions

# **QUESTION**

Jim Owczarski, CMC City Clerk (414)-286-2998 @mkeclerk

From: Rohan Shah [

]

Sent: Friday, June 05, 2020 10:23 AM

To: Owczarski, Jim

Subject: Special Meeting Questions

Hello,

My name is Rohan Shah and I live in Milwaukee County.

Why does taxpayers money go toward lawsuit settlements for Milwaukee Police Department, and is there any plans to use money from the police pension fund instead of taxpayer money to help settle these lawsuits? Citizens should not have to pay for the legal fees of criminals.

Do better,

Rohan Shah

From:

Owczarski, Jim

Sent:

Friday, June 05, 2020 9:39 AM

To:

Polanco, Joanna

**Subject:** 

FW:

# **QUESTION**

Jim Owczarski, CMC City Clerk (414)-286-2998 @mkeclerk

From: Mary Shippee [

]

Sent: Friday, June 05, 2020 9:34 AM

To: Owczarski, Jim

Subject:

Hello,

I'm a Milwaukee resident (53212) very concerned about our city's handling of these constitutionally protected protests. I have the following questions for today's meeting:

1- why is Officer Mattioli still receiving a paycheck? He killed somebody while violating safer at home orders.

2- protestors are calling for reform of the police- Mayor Barrett has said he's going to form a commission of leaders for this. But we already have three similar committees (the civilian oversight of mfd and mpd, the follow up community coalition from the DOJ reform report and the stop and frisk ACLU settlement agreement that hasn't even had appointees named yet). Why is this different, and why should we trust this will make any meaningful movement towards change?

Thank you, Mary Shippee

From:

Shawnette Smart <

Sent:

Thursday, June 04, 2020 11:51 AM

To:

Owczarski, Jim; Shawnette Smart

Subject:

Citizen input for Hearing today regarding police actions and curfew.

What is the purpose of the curfew? Protecting who and what from who and what? Our 1st Amendment right does not come with a curfew. Let's remember why we are out and that this action is LONG OVERDUE, apparently!

As for police action. What happened last night? I speak of last night specifically because I participated until around ten. Up to that point, the protest was **extraordinarily** peaceful and well organized and moving. When I checked online this morning, I could not believe the video footage saw from MLK drive.

As an older woman, an organizer suggested I go home for my own safety. I was incredulous! Why should I feel unsafe from police? Why should people of color feel unsafe from police?

This is where are are at.

Since I posed questions, I will end here and wait for answers. Here are the questions stated again:

- 1. What is the purpose of the curfew- protecting who and what from who and what?
- 2. As for police action, what happened last night?
- 3, Why should I feel unsafe from police?
- 4. Why should people of color feel unsafe from police?

Respectfully Submitted, Shawnette Smart

From:

Autumn S

Sent:

Friday, June 05, 2020 9:19 AM

To:

Owczarski, Jim

Subject:

Public safety and health

Dear Mr. Owczarski,

My name is Autumn Sparks. I am writing to you as a citizen of Milwaukee, Wisconsin in regard to the violent response from the Milwaukee Police Department during peaceful protests and other affairs that require police presence.

I urge you to change policing policies in order to appropriately and effectively protect and serve our community. Data proves that together, the *following eight policies can decrease police violence by* 72%. Milwaukee only enforces three of them currently. Here are the eight policies that must be implemented *immediately*.

1. Ban chokeholds and strangleholds.

- 2. Require de-escalation to allow officers more time, distance, space, and tactical flexibility during dynamic situations on the street.
- 3. Require warning before firing ANY weapon (automatic weapons, mace, rubber bullet rifles, teargas, etc.)
- 4. Exhaust ALL other means before firing ANY weapon.
- 5. Duty to intervene; to hold officers liable for failing to rescue another party who could face potential injury or death without intervention.
- 6. Ban shooting at moving targets, vehicles.
- 7. Require use of force continuum (infographic attached).
- 8. Require comprehensive reporting.

We must act now.

Thank you, Autumn Sparks

From:

Spink

Sent:

Thursday, June 04, 2020 8:39 AM

To:

Owczarski, Jim

Subject:

Public Safety and Health Committee Meeting questions and comments

Chair Dimitrijevic, Vice Chair Lewis, Alders Borkowski, Spiker and Rainey

I want to thank you all for scheduling this very important meeting during a time of crisis in Milwaukee. I appreciate this opportunity to be heard by my elected leaders and to offer feedback about the direction of this city.

My questions are simple.

How many of your constituents killed by police is an acceptable number?

How many millions of dollars is the community prepared to spend to avoid any change in our police policies surrounding use of force?

How many times will this city be forced to settle lawsuits over the unjustified deaths of black men caused by law enforcement officers who the residents of this city pay generously to protect them?

Why is this city providing tanks and tear gas to the police but not providing basic services to the communities of color that the police continue to assault and oppress?

Why are the Milwaukee Police arresting elected officials who are representing the public interest by observing their excessive use of force on community members?

I look forward to your response and to the hearing tomorrow afternoon.

Paul Spink, Milwaukee Resident of the 14th District

Sent from my iPhone

From:

Benjamin Strong

Sent:

Thursday, June 04, 2020 10:03 AM

To:

Owczarski, Jim

Subject:

Questions for Virtual Meeting on Friday June 5, 2020

#### Hello Mr. Owczarski!

Thank you for receiving this message. I'm glad to see that the city of Milwaukee is attempting to reach out to the community and start discussing action for now and the future. The bulk of my questions focus on reforms being reviewed by congress, namely the proposal from Senator Sanders on police violence and the reforms necessary to "protect people and communities that have suffered this violence for far too long."

#### To the Office of the Mayor:

- The first and second point on the Sanders Police Violence Reform calls to amend the laws surrounding police misconduct. Will you seek reform to allow non-police civilians to pursue disciplinary action against police officers that have hurt or killed community members?
- Point seven dictates that all police departments will have to make their "police misconduct records publicly available". Will you support the community and the police department in unveiling and making fully transparent every police officer's full history?

## To the Milwaukee Police Department

- Many people in congress, including Presidential Candidates Kamala Harris and Bernie Sanders, have gone forward and introduced legislation that seeks to end qualified immunity, Rep. Justin Amash saying, "This rule has sharply narrowed the situations in which police can be held liable-even for truly heinous rights violations--and it creates a disincentive to bringing cases in the first place." Do you support ending qualified immunity?
  - If qualified immunity does get repealed, will you support full transparency to the community for any officers that infringe on or violate a person's "constitutionally secured right"?
- The community would like you to respond to the recent violence that has broken out as a result
  of the police at peaceful protests. Please describe in exact terms what you consider to be a riot?

## To the Fire and Police Commission

- Point six on Sanders' legislation refers to the creation of a civilian corps that handles, "maintenance violations, mental health emergencies, and low-level conflicts to aid police officers." Would you support the creation of a corps big enough to deal with all the mentioned situations?
- Point eight refers to the construction of "independent police conduct review boards". This board
  will represent the community and will answer to the community, and they will submit abuses and
  violations as a result of police misconduct, including deaths by police officers, to "federal
  authorities for investigation". Do you support an independent review by the community to decide
  which police officers, and officials overseeing police officers, qualify to serve the community?

From:

Kristy Sturgill Baars

Sent:

Thursday, June 04, 2020 11:47 AM

To:

Owczarski, Jim

Subject:

**Public Health and Safety Committee** 

**Attachments:** 

jan-jun-2019-settlement.pdf

Chair Dimitrijevic, Vice Chair Lewis, Alders Borkowski, Spiker and Rainey

I want to thank you all for scheduling this very important meeting during a time of crisis in Milwaukee. I appreciate this opportunity to be heard by my elected leaders and to offer feedback about the direction of this city.

My questions are simple.

- 1. How many of your constituents killed by police is an acceptable number?
- 2. How many millions of dollars is the community prepared to spend to avoid any change in our police policies surrounding use of force?
- 3. How many times will this city be forced to settle lawsuits over the unjustified deaths of non-white people / persons of color caused by law enforcement officers who the residents of this city pay generously to protect them?
- 4. Why is this city providing tanks and tear gas to the police but not providing basic services to the communities of color that the police continue to assault and oppress?
- 5. Why are the Milwaukee Police arresting elected officials who are representing the public interest by observing their excessive use of force on community members?

Institutional and organization change is needed. In 2002 our State settled a class action lawsuit against the county's child welfare agency. I have attached a PDF of the update of the conditions stipulated in that lawsuit.

Why there hasn't been a class action lawsuit against our police department requiring change, monitoring and oversight is beyond my comprehension. Why oppression and racist actions have been tolerated by the department that is in place to allegedly protect your constituents is also beyond my comprehension.

I look forward to your response and to the hearing tomorrow afternoon.

Kristy Baars, Milwaukee Resident of the 14th District

From:

Marie Truman

Sent:

Thursday, June 04, 2020 10:16 AM

To:

Owczarski, Jim

Subject:

**Questions** 

There is information being put out that there is a meeting occurring tomorrow concerning protests along with the police response and to contact the county clerk with questions and comments. If this is not correct please forward on to the appropriate party.

I am interested in hearing from our city leadership on a few items:

- 1. What changes are being done to change response to force. As a veteran, and deployed to a combat zone, we had very strict rules on responding to force with like force. For example, it would be against the Geneva convention if I fired my weapon at someone throwing a water bottle or rock at me. I think this needs to be addressed, as it seems a water bottle, triggers the MPD to use rubber bullets, tear gas, along with aggressive physical violence response. This seems counter productive if the whole protest is about Police brutality and the Police respond with brutal violence.
- 2. For the MPD, what programs are going to be implemented to provide appropriate training on deescalation procedures along with anger management. The longer my brother has been with the MPD the worst his anger and temper has gotten. As this is not how I remember him prior to joining the MPD I can only assume the MPD is the cause. I assume cops see some of the worst in people which creates mental health issues specifically around PTSD. However, with the macho attitude they always maintain these issues are never treated and instead become worst, which I believe is why we see violence not just against the city citizens but violence against their spouses and family members. Studies have shown that police officers show a higher rate of domestic violence compared to the general population.
- 3. Is the mayor going to participate in the Commit to Action pledge proposed by President Obama's organization? The pledge is located here:

I really hope these issues are addressed, so we do not have to continuously have protests because there is no political will to change the procedures, processes, and mental health of our police officers. We do want them in our community, but we want them in collaborating with our communities to solve issues instead of treating the citizens of Milwaukee as enemy combatants.

Thank you for your time and look forward to your response and the response from our city government officials on what our plan is not just to calm the current situation but to initiate change that we so desperately need here in our city.

Marie Truman

From:

Owczarski, Jim

Sent:

Friday, June 05, 2020 11:08 AM

To:

Polanco, Joanna

Subject:

FW: Meeting Agenda Question

# **QUESTION**

Jim Owczarski, CMC City Clerk (414)-286-2998 @mkeclerk

From: Amy Vanderheyden [

**Sent:** Friday, June 05, 2020 11:02 AM

To: Owczarski, Jim

Subject: Meeting Agenda Question

Hello!

What are city officials planning on doing about the 8 Can't Wait campaign? Milwaukee currently only enacts 3 of the 8 actions that can be taken to decrease police violence! Read more here:

]

Amy Vanderheyden

1

From:

Owczarski, Jim

Sent:

Friday, June 05, 2020 11:19 AM

To:

Polanco, Joanna

Subject:

FW: Questions for Public Safety and Health Committee

# **QUESTION**

Jim Owczarski, CMC City Clerk (414)-286-2998 @mkeclerk

From: Raul Vasquez [

**Sent:** Friday, June 05, 2020 11:22 AM

To: Owczarski, Jim

Subject: Questions for Public Safety and Health Committee

Mr. Owczarski,

I am writing to submit questions to the Common Council's Public Safety and Health Committee, in response to the statement by Alderwoman Zamarripa on June 4, in which she asked community members to submit questions through you.

1

- -- There have been 63 homicides in Milwaukee this year, compared to 34 at this same time last year (In all of 2019, there were 97 homicides; in 2018, a total of 99 homicides). What percentage of the victims of these murders have been of African Americans? What percentage of the total homicide victims were killed by police officers? How will the Milwaukee Common Council address the spike in homicides in Milwaukee this year?
- -- During yesterday's protests in Wauwatosa, at least one individual was marching wearing an "Antifa" shirt. Many other citizens have in recent days reported sightings of what appear to be Antifa members who have come to Milwaukee from outside of the city to be a part of the marches some have even been seen wandering neighborhoods during the daytime, apparently to study the layout of these neighborhoods. Given the violent history of the Antifa organization (or this loose alliance of like-minded organizations that operate under the Antifa banner) and given their well-documented history of inciting violence on protest marches, what information can the Public Safety and Health Committee share regarding the presence of Antifa members operating in Milwaukee now?
- -- The lockdown orders that continue to be upheld by Mayor Barrett's administration have contributed to a reported spike in unreported child abuse cases, domestic abuse cases, suicides, overdoses, murders, massive new unemployment, mental health problems, and others ills. The premise for the emergency lockdown orders were to keep people from being in close proximity to one another in order to stop or slow the spread of the coronavirus. However, for nearly a week we have seen tens of thousands of people marching and socializing day and night and in very close proximity to one another. Why are the marches being allowed to take place, yet children still cannot go to the local library, or participate in athletic events? Is it safe to assume that

the lockdown orders in Milwaukee are only applicable to people who aren't protesters, b	ut they r	emain
in effect for everyone else?		

Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,

Raul Vasquez Milwaukee

From:

Owczarski, Jim

Sent:

Friday, June 05, 2020 11:11 AM

To:

Polanco, Joanna

Subject:

FW: Public Safety and Health Committee Question

# **QUESTION**

Jim Owczarski, CMC City Clerk (414)-286-2998 @mkeclerk

From! Maria Villalpando [

]

Sent: Friday, June 05, 2020 11:04 AM

To: Owczarski, Jim

Subject: Public Safety and Health Committee Question

# Good morning,

How can someone find out with more notice when curfews will be in effect? When emergency alerts have been sent out to phones, they've been sent after a curfew is already in effect or only 30 minutes prior to the curfew being in effect?

-Maria

From:

Owczarski, Jim

Sent:

Friday, June 05, 2020 9:31 AM

To:

Polanco, Joanna

Subject:

FW: QUESTION: PUBLIC SAFETY AND HEALTH COMMITTEE MEETING

# **QUESTION**

Jim Owczarski, CMC City Clerk (414)-286-2998 @mkeclerk

From: Sally Vander Wyst [

**Sent:** Friday, June 05, 2020 9:07 AM

To: Owczarski, Jim

Subject: QUESTION: PUBLIC SAFETY AND HEALTH COMMITTEE MEETING

# **Question for the Mayor:**

Mayor Tom Barrett are you aware of demands to implement #8CantWait Use of Force policies?

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Mayor Barrett - I urge you to take the pledge to enact the #8CantWait Use of Force policies. The #8CantWait policies are simple, common-sense and would make our community safer.

]

Milwaukee has to do better to protect our citizens. Would you agree?

MILWAUKEE is okay with the 3 policies that are a part of the #8CantWait pledge. Can you commit to enacting the following policies in red?

- 1. ban chokeholds and strangleholds
- 2. require deescalation
- 3. require warning before shooting implemented by City of Milwaukee
- 4. require exhausting all alternatives before shooting
- 5. duty to intervene implemented by City of Milwaukee
- 6. ban shooting at moving vehicles
- 7. REQUIRE USE OF FORCE CONTINUUM implemented by City of Milwaukee

# 8. REQUIRE COMPREHENSIVE REPORTING

Here is a link to more info on our demands:

Via

Thank you,

Sally Vander Wyst

Sally Vander Wyst Owner, Milwaukee Flower Co. (414) 899-1395

From:

Maggie Vlaj

Sent:

Thursday, June 04, 2020 2:34 PM

To:

Owczarski, Jim

Subject:

Committee Meeting, 6/5

#### Good afternoon,

It has come to my attention that you are requesting public input for the Public Safety and Health committee meeting tomorrow regarding the "circumstances under which a curfew is declared, the policies used to enforce it, and the operational definition of the phrase 'civil unrest' and the manner in which it is enforced.

The only thing I have to say is this. The police department declared that protesters were tear gassed and maced for "unlawful assembly" in the evening of Tuesday, June 2nd. News reports have brought people to indirectly believe that tear gas started at 8:00 p.m. after a "molotov cocktail" was thrown at the officers.

Tear gas was first used against protesters, including myself, at around 7:30 p.m. Why? A man was arrested moments before for "disorderly conduct" and kicked, kneed, and hit by the officers who tackled him to the ground. Why haven't they published that bodycam footage but published the blurry footage of the plastic water bottle mistaken for a molotov cocktail? Why did they arrest the man in the aggressive manner that they did? Furthermore, why did they not let the protesters leave the tear gassed area?

These are the only pressing questions I have that I'd really appreciate being addressed. Feel free to email me or call me at the number below if you have any questions.

Maggie Vlaj

(414) 249-7222

From:

Owczarski, Jim

Sent:

Friday, June 05, 2020 10:37 AM

To:

Polanco, Joanna

Subject:

FW: Questions - Public Safety and Health Committee

#### **QUESTION**

Jim Owczarski, CMC City Clerk (414)-286-2998 @mkeclerk

----Original Message----

From: Joshua Walling [

]

Sent: Friday, June 05, 2020 10:34 AM

To: Owczarski, Jim

Subject: Questions - Public Safety and Health Committee

Hello,

As a concerned citizen of the city of Milwaukee, I have a couple questions relating to the recent curfew's and the enforcement thereof:

1. The orders have been clear that the curfew applies to "vehicular and pedestrian travel on the public way, streets, sidewalks, and highways..."

As a Milwaukee resident, am I allowed to be on my own property, and not physically inside my home after curfew? If the police are marching down the street, do I need to be concerned about getting maced for an alleged "curfew violation"?

2. Why was the bus transit shut down? How does the city make such decisions when the poorest Milwaukeeans rely on public transit?

Thank you for your time and consideration, Joshua Walling

From:

Scott Wendlandt

Sent:

Friday, June 05, 2020 10:42 AM

To:

Owczarski, Jim

**Subject:** 

Special Meeting Questions 6/5/2020 - City of Milwaukee

Hello Jim,

In regards to the topics covered by your meeting description, my girlfriend and I have a question in regards to enforcing the curfews, and generically the response to 'civil unrest', why is tear gas considered a valid course of action for peaceful protests that linger after curfew? In these situations, this action seems a step too far. There should be better protocols for a calmer de-escalation and dispersal. Is there any plan to address policy around these points?

Thank you and your committee for your time and willingness to help during these times, Scott Wendlandt

From:

Owczarski, Jim

Sent:

Friday, June 05, 2020 9:59 AM

To:

Polanco, Joanna

**Subject:** 

FW: Public safety and health committee questions and concerns.

# **QUESTION!**

Jim Owczarski, CMC City Clerk (414)-286-2998 @mkeclerk

From: Matt Wes [

]

Sent: Friday, June 05, 2020 9:48 AM

To: Owczarski, Jim

Subject: Public safety and health committee questions and concerns.

- 1. How does a curfew benefit the community when it specifically targets minorities and working poor and makes day to day life dangerous and impossible in many ways?
- 2. Why are police officers using force on peaceful protestors?
- 3. Why are police allowed make public statements about Molotov cocktails being thrown at them without evidence such as body cam footage?
- 4. Why are the police authorized to use tear gas which effects the respiratory system and is extremely irritant to the respiratory system when we are in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic which is a respiratory effecting virus? Doesn't the city see how dangerous this is?
- 5. Why isn't the city assigning uniformed emergency medical technicians to areas where police are called during protests?
- 6. Explain how calling in the national guard is de-escalating the situation in Milwaukee.

From:

Owczarski, Jim

Sent:

Friday, June 05, 2020 10:31 AM

To:

Polanco, Joanna

Subject:

FW: Public Safety and Health Committee meeting agenda

# **QUESTION**

Jim Owczarski, CMC City Clerk (414)-286-2998 @mkeclerk

From: THERESA WHITING [

]

Sent: Friday, June 05, 2020 10:26 AM

To: Owczarski, Jim

Subject: Public Safety and Health Committee meeting agenda

Hi, I would like to address at today's meeting: What immediate actions are being taken to reform and address police officer misconduct and why are police officers assaulting peaceful protestors? Why was county supervisor Ryan Clancy unjustly arrested this past week?

Sent from