

Minutes of the Town Board for Joint Meeting with the Coalition on Community Safety and Engagement, Town of Yorktown held via Zoom Video Conference on Thursday, March 4, 2021, 363 Underhill Avenue, Yorktown Heights, New York 10598.

**Representatives from the Town of Yorktown Present:**

Matthew J. Slater, Supervisor  
Thomas P. Diana, Councilman  
Edward A. Lachterman, Councilman  
Alice E. Roker, Councilwoman  
Vishnu V. Patel, Councilman

Diana L. Quast, Town Clerk

Robert Noble, Chief of Police  
Detective Thomas Nadoraski

Adam Rodriguez, Town Attorney

**Members of the Coalition on Community Safety and Engagement Present:**

James Poulin  
Paul Cirillo  
John Lanza  
RoseMarie Panio  
Toni Reynolds  
Liz Rivera  
Rabbi Robbie Weiner

**Community Partners Present:**

Colin Smith, Westchester County Legislator

Daks Armstrong, Yorktown for Justice  
Stephen Ronco, Westchester County District Attorney's Office

**Community Speakers:**

John Campobasso  
Sergio Esposito  
Ilan Gilbert  
Anthony Grasso  
Jay Kopstein  
Mike Mattone  
Marisa Ragonese  
Amy Savino  
Sarah Wilson

**Supervisor Matt Slater**

Good evening and welcome to tonight's joint town board meeting with the Yorktown Town Board and the Yorktown Coalition on Community Safety and Engagement. If everyone could please rise and join me in the Pledge of Allegiance, we'll begin our meeting.

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

**Supervisor Matt Slater**

Thank you. If you could all please join me in a moment of silence as we keep in our thoughts and prayers, those we've lost this past year as we have now crossed the one year anniversary of the Covid19 pandemic reaching the State of New York. In our thoughts and prayers, all of our frontline workers, our doctors, nurses, grocery store workers, our sanitation workers. Of course our first responders and police officers. We also keep in our thoughts and prayers, the bravest men and women in the world, the men and women serving in our military overseas today.

**Supervisor Matt Slater**

Thank you. Good evening. My name is Matt Slater. I'm the Town Supervisor for the Town of Yorktown. This is a joint meeting of the Yorktown Town Board and the Coalition on Community Safety and Engagement. We are joined by Councilwoman Alice Roker. We also have with us Councilman Ed Lachterman. I see that we are also joined by Westchester County Legislator Colin Smith, which is great to see. Good evening again, County Legislator. From the Coalition. We have with us Pete Lanza, Jim Poulin, Liz Rivera, Paul Cirillo, Rabbi Robbie Weiner and Rose Marie Panio. We also have with us the Chief of Police of the Yorktown Police Department, Bob Noble. And on behalf of Yorktown for Justice, we are joined once again by Daks Armstrong. Again, this is a joint meeting, we released on February 15, 2021, the report generated by the Coalition from "Great to Greatest, a roadmap for the Yorktown Police Department." This has been on the town's website for a number of days now. This is all part of our compliance with Executive Order 203, which was handed down by Governor Cuomo last June. This process, I think has been a very good one for our community. I think it's made us have some very important dialogue, made us reflect on our community and our police agency, which was the directive of Executive Order 203. We've had a number of meetings. Since we began we've had six meetings in total on October 8, October 20, November 12, November 19, November 24. And January 6, was our last meeting. Again, the focus of EO 203 as outlined by the Governor requires any municipality with a police agency to perform a comprehensive review of the current police force, employment strategies, policies, procedures and practices and develop a plan to improve such deployment strategies, policies, procedures, and practices for the purposes of addressing the particular needs of the communities served by such police agency and promote community engagement to foster trust, fairness, and legitimacy and to address any racial bias and disproportionate policing, of communities of color. We have had several presentations from the Chief of Police, we've had several listening sessions where we've solicited comments from the public, those comments, again, were provided by testimony, oral testimony, we also receive written testimony, all of which was shared. Some of the, and I just want to just glance briefly go over the report that was released for those who may have not had a chance to review it. The police data, which was again provided to us by Chief Noble. Among the data that he did provide a provider 53 data slides which documented police activity from January 1, 2016 through June 13, 2020. And among the key data points for that period were 293 use of force incidences of which 180 or 61.4% consisted of dispatching animals that were suffering now, that 293 number comes at a time when there were over 1,500 arrests made. And so that's the data that was presented by Chief Noble, regarding personnel complaints. The Yorktown Police processed nine personnel complaints from January of 2016 to June 13, 2020, civilians initiated the nine complaints and the remainder were internally generated. Lastly, what we also learned of our police department among many other things, but we've seen a significant increase in training. In 2016, again, looking at that same four year period, we saw 6,617 hours of training. And then as of 2019, over 10,000 hours of training nearly 10,500 hours of training for our police department, and the Chief of Police, Chief Noble went over all the different types of

training in detail that members of the police department receive. As for results and recommendations from the CCSE included revising the personnel complaint policy to require a quarterly report from the police chief on personnel complaints which currently was annually or just disciplinary actions initiated by the department. And this is recommended to be a policy implemented in 2021. It was also recommended to beta test body cameras with a report on the tests for the Town Board on April 30, 2021. To collaborate with Westchester County to restore the mobile crisis unit to better deal with emotionally disturbed individuals. To improve public understanding of the role the Town Board members play as acting Police Commissioners, to introduce annual anti-bias and de-escalation in service training, to post the police complaint policy on the department's website and to enhance the integration and information sharing on the town's website. We acknowledge that racial profiling is prohibited and to continue community outreach initiatives, through outreach and new initiatives, diversionary and accreditation programs. Those are the recommendations, as part of the process that was set forth in EO 203. A public hearing with input from the public based on the report is our next step. That's why we are here tonight. And so I want to again, thank everyone for participating, I want to see if our Town Board members have anything that they'd like to add.

**Councilman Ed Lachterman**

Just want to thank everyone on the Coalition for their work and all those that imputed it through the community. And, of course, our police department in their open mindedness and input through all of this. So, thank you to all involved.

**Councilwoman Alice Roker**

Ed, that was well said, I'm just going to second what you said.

**Supervisor Matt Slater**

I'd also like to open it up now for the Coalition members, if there are any Coalition members who'd like to say a few words.

**James Poulin, CCSE**

I'm ready to hear what everybody else has to say.

**Supervisor Matt Slater**

Absolutely. How about Chief Noble, anything you'd like to add before we open it up for public comment? Chief, your muted. Chief, if you can unmute yourself? There you go.

**Police Chief Robert Noble**

Good. Like I said, thankfully, my daughter had her laptop for me to utilize. But no, I just like to thank everybody. I'll speak at the end when we're all done. The process was very respectful. I think, I mean, I know, I listened and I'm very thankful that people were able to listen to me and to just be open about the policies that I shared, the data that was shared, and that it's easy. This process was good for me to be able to kind of communicate about what good work our police department does in the community. And you know, it turned into a positive for us, because, like I said, I've got a fantastic crew, the men and women in the Yorktown Police Department really do an exemplary job in the community. So with that, I'll take it away, whoever's up next.

**Supervisor Matt Slater**

Well, let me apologize and also recognize our town clerk Diana Quast, who has been working tirelessly as a partner on this. She's taken all the minutes and has helped organize these zoom meetings for us. So again to our Town Clerk Diana Quast, and her staff a big thank you from the

Town and the Coalition for all you've done. Appreciate that. I see that we're also joined by Steve Ronco from the DA's Office. It's good to see Steve. Diana, do you have a list? An ordered list? That's usually how we've done these for the public hearings.

**Town Clerk Diana Quast**

I can go through because we let everybody in, but I'll go through and we'll pull them one at a time.

**Supervisor Matt Slater**

And forgive me, just for the record, do you have the photo of the notice that was published for this meeting?

**Supervisor Matt Slater**

Perfect. Thank you. That was published in the Yorktown News. Okay, so if you wouldn't mind, Diana, if you want to let us know who wants to testify.

**Town Clerk Diana Quast**

Why don't we start with Mike Mattone?

**Supervisor Matt Slater**

Great. Hey Mike.

**Mike Mattone**

Good evening. Good evening, everyone. Thanks so much for allowing myself and fellow members of the public some time and extend our appreciation as residents to the Coalition for putting together a great report. I did get a chance to review the report, and just have one question for the Coalition, Town Board and Chief Noble. Coming from the private sector, it almost reads like a strategic planning session, in terms of how you're looking at the future of the department. And my question is, how is the Town Board, the Coalition, and the Police Department looking at utilizing this document, not as a single standalone document, but as a starting point to continue to make positive actionable change to you know, live up to the goal, which is from great, the greatest, looking at potential integrations with other policies, from other municipalities and the County, and are there regular checkpoints in which we're going to look at the effectiveness of the recommendations that have been made?

**Police Chief Robert Noble**

I'd be happy to jump on Mike. Good evening. You know what, I'm usually pretty good with names. Did you email me last year about national night out? if my memory serves me, right?

**Mike Mattone**

I did. And I'm still waiting for the check that used my son on Facebook eating ice cream.

**Police Chief Robert Noble**

You'll be happy that is in the planning stages. Right now we're looking to implement that. So I know you all, you offered to help out with that I got a pretty good memory. So the first Tuesday in August, I got Jimmy Martorano from parks lined up, I think we're going to run up to Granite Knolls and try to make that happen. But I think we're going to take a stab at that, too. You know, like I said, from great to greatest with all of the community outreach that we do. We're going to try our hand at that. And, you know, like I said, I always say I have a great crew. You know our PBA President Tommy Nadorski, he's on here right now. And, you know, we're looking to try to really, really make this happen. And Granite Knolls will give us a nice venue, a nice open area,

that if you want to bring the kids they can run around, and then it'll be well attended by the police department. A lot of different people from a lot of different walks will have a chance to mingle, talk to us, ask us questions and kind of follow up because, while zoom, I wish I had bought stock in zoom before COVID, there's nothing better than meeting everybody face to face and putting a face to a name and actually being able to talk to somebody, even if it's six feet apart. But we're looking to do that and answer your questions a little bit from a police perspective. We looked at Executive Order 203 and we tried to make it the Yorktown community and what could we do to engender a little more for the people who may not trust us as much as others or are maybe a little bit leery of us, we try to really take a good look at our policies, post policy both on our website, and invite the town government to put it on their website, as to where you support policy is how we use force, the data shows that we de-escalate and non-escalate all the time. We do an excellent job of that. And then putting our personnel complaint policy up on our website, and the town's website, I think, you know, it only serves to give people the understanding of how if they have a complaint, it will be investigated, and to kind of show them, hey, look, we're not hiding anything. If you have a complaint with our service we do want to know, and what I will say and what I have said is that the Town Board, Alice, how many people you've said a few people to me, that did quite understand, why what happened, happened the way it did, or they had some questions. And I think, she can say, or anybody that sends anybody to the police department, whether it was speaking to me, or one of my staff, they left there with an understanding that they had a fair shake, that there were sound reasons for what we did, and if there was something that maybe wasn't right, we looked into it, and we gave it a good faith assessment. And by putting these policies up online, I think it shows a commitment that we're trying to try to do the right thing. Sharing that data, it shows there's no police brutality in your town, it just is not there. The data shows that you have to be able to demonstrate that to the community. It is there, and the documentation of how we show that we document the use of force. We send these copies now with the DCJS and New York State. So like I said, in the beginning of this process, for me to be able to communicate and speak this to the public, I'm sure there's people on here that really didn't realize that we do that. And that's kind of what my agency is trying to do moving forward. I've got the buy in, like I said, I've got a great staff, and we're all just looking to do the best that we can for the community. We want to be your partner, we don't want you to look at us, like the enemy, we want to be a partner, and make Yorktown as great as we can. We just want people that when they see a police officer, to be able to be comfortable, to come up to speak in a conversation. And I think, what the Coalition has come up with and, the suggestions that I've made, I think it's a very positive step, and something that's going to continue.

### **Mike Mattone**

Thank you very much, appreciate it. And feel free to reach out to me to help out with national night out. I don't know if anyone from the Coalition or the Town Board, can also speak to the things that will be done from your perspectives to make sure that we continue to check on the progress of the recommendations that have been made, and how we will look to implement any additional recommendations that Chief Noble makes as he goes along this journey. And, you know, any additional best practices to help continue to improve the already well run police department here in Yorktown, according to the data provided by Chief Noble.

### **Rose Marie Panio, CCSE**

Can I just add something? One of the best things, Mike is that very often the Chief will be with us at a board meeting, not with us, with us on zoom. And he's there to update not only the board, but the community about what's new, or what's happening. But I do want to say that, I think this kind of conversation that we're having needs to continue. I think that we just become a better community by sharing with one another. So, I really hope that does continue.

**Rose Marie Panio, CCSE**

Well, I wrote some comments, because I wanted to evaluate everything that we talked about. So, if I may, what I looked at was have we met the objective of the Governor's 203 mandate and beyond. Is Chief Noble satisfied with the report, does he feel it adequately addressed all concerns about the Town Board, our committee, the public, the police department, but I'm really concerned will there be follow up from time to time to determine if the suggestions made are actually implemented, and are all of our elected officials, town, county, state and federal engaged to achieve our goals and maintain the goals that we've set in order to safeguard our community and of course, we want to maintain everyone's rights and respect everyone. I think this is an opportunity. I remember Alice at our first meeting said a picture is worth 1000 words. And we have an opportunity to turn this whole thing around by perhaps presenting from time to time a video to our, and I'm sure that Alice is going to be tapped to help with this given her experience so that we could reach our residents, you know, especially seniors who are home and are watching more TV now than they ever have. But we could demonstrate what our wonderful police department does, what the proper behavior is and how you should react in different situations. So I think this is something we might want to think of Board members, Mr. Supervisor, and everyone that's involved in this. So that's just my take on it. I know that I would watch it. And I would learn a lot, just like I've done in this process.

**Supervisor Matt Slater**

Those are great points. I think that, Chief Noble, we've already had some conversations with Tom Sciangula about videos, I think Councilwoman Roker was a part of that conversation, additional videos for the police to further continue this public education of what our police department does, how it operates. But the data tracking, I think, is an important point. I think it's important, you know, for the public here, because even though it does get sent to DCJS, and again, as a reminder, that we are lucky. So lucky to have a DCJS accredited agency. Just because that data gets sent to DCJS, it doesn't necessarily mean that it gets disseminated to the residents. So that may be an opportunity for us to further share that data on an annual basis to show that we continue to be in compliance with that accreditation.

**Rose Marie Panio, CCSE**

Well, you know, it gave me another reason to be proud to live here, frankly.

**Supervisor Matt Slater**

Yeah. I agree. Okay. Any other comments from the Board or from the Coalition members on that point from Mr. Mattone. Mike. Thank you. Great points. Diana who do we have next.

**Town Clerk Diana Quast**

Amy Savino.

**Supervisor Matt Slater**

Great.

**Amy Savino**

Hi.

**Supervisor Matt Slater**

Hi Amy. How are you.

### **Amy Savino**

I'm good tonight. I'm so I'm here representing Yorktown for Justice. And like to start off by saying that I'm extremely happy to hear about the testing of body cameras. That's a wonderful thing. But I have to admit that I was extremely disappointed by the rest of the report. The report is really offering any new information. All I'm seeing your Chief Noble's ideas, these same ideas that you've heard at every listening session repeated, it's going no further than that. It mentions abstract goals with no words or timeline on how to achieve them. Reminding people that profiling is illegal is a very nice scent to hold. And I'm sure it is one that we all agree on. But it is not an action point. profiling will not cease to exist simply because a report said it is prohibited. We need to why and we need to how to get to that point. There's also no indication that the town considered comments by the public, such as individuals who said we should have a civilian Review Board. Most glaring to me is the general absence of any data. Without data. How are we supposed to know where our department might need help? The public needs to have an avenue for complaints through a citizen Review Board. There was no mention of and data collecting published, once again, as is a common theme with this report. But no effort to do any of these things, and no timeline which indicates when they might occur. In this vein, I would love to hear from the Chief on what the review process of the body cam tested is and what he would need to see in order to make a recommendation to institute use of them full time. I and many others are also curious about the mobile crisis unit implementation from the County. How will the town department move forward with advocating for the reinstatement? And how would we deal with mental health crises? Without it we spend a lot of time in our listening sessions saying our police department is accredited. I can't count the amount of times it has been mentioned. And while it's wonderful, I have to admit that a terse report like this is not the way I would expect an accredited department to act. Compare our five page primer with bullet points to the Putnam County Police's 194 page report. They address all kinds of things, including making a greater effort to hire more people of color to help diversify the department. It's an actual report. And even if we don't agree, there was obviously a certain amount of research enough to put something substantial. I'm simply not seeing that same attention to detail from Yorktown. And I know we can and must do better. The only reason I'm being so intense today is because I know we have the capacity to do a lot. Going forward, I really expect a lot more accountability from the coalition on that. And we'd like to hold them to it. Thank you.

### **Supervisor Matt Slater**

Thank you, Amy, any comments from the Board or any comments from the Coalition members.

### **Police Chief Robert Noble**

I can jump in here Actually, yeah, Amy, for the beta testing of body cameras, we expect to submit a report to the Town Board by April 30. And we have beta tested three different vendors, we're trying to see what is easiest for the officer to use in the field. What will give the best vantage point to the public, to us, basically, price and, demonstration, view from the vantage point of the officer, what is easiest for us to use? How can we get that to our DEA for discovery purposes, there are a multitude of things that are going into it. But that's what we expect to be able to present to the Board by April 30. Also, we are joined, I'm on the Westchester County Chief of Police. And we actually have a recruiting effort right now, to try to reach out. We partnered up with the Westchester Guardians, the Hispanic Law Enforcement Association, and Women in Law Enforcement to try to assist Westchester County in a recruitment effort of, people from all walks of life in every community to take this next test that's coming up. But that's more along the lines of a County. But we did recognize that we are jumping in on that. There is a video that our agency participated in, it was just filmed the other day, we hope to get it out in the next week or so. So that it'll drive up interest and recruitment in the upcoming test. As far as timelines, we said that, we train de-escalation and non-escalation. We've done that for several years. But now we've

committed to emphasizing that annually. And also implicit bias, we had that training last year, we're currently having it this month in March, and we've committed to doing that on an annual basis. And we're also going to try to reach out to have a, you a speaker who specializes in that to come to the police department and speak to us about that. Sometimes things get lost in the shuffle of 194. That's a lot of pages, and you focus on things that are meaningful and what is meaningful to the Yorktown community, I thought we did that. We're not going to please everybody I know that, I don't please everybody in my department, not everybody's happy with me there sometimes. But there was a good faith effort. If we fell short in your eyes, we're going to continue to try to do things as best we can. But, the effort was there and I thought we focused on important items that would be beneficial to the to the Yorktown community. And I want people everybody to feel good. You have some good people on this on this coalition that made some great suggestions. I listened to our suggestions, but so we'll keep moving trying to get it right. But I think this is, I think it was a job well done. It may not be, a long book or, pages and pages and pages. But sometimes, less is more when you get right to the point. And as far as what I put into our policy, as far as, racial profiling. There was some question about that. And with traffic stops, we use a New York State form called tracks. New York State Police use it, what we would need to do, because there have been some people asking, can you track this, we need the State to actually put the fields in there and have them self-populate, because, when you're on a car stop, are you talking to somebody you want to get in and out of that, especially a car stop, you don't want to be out on a vehicle stop any longer than you have to be. And if you stood on the side of the road, with cars whizzing by, you'd have a new appreciation for that. But if the State can put their money where their mouth is and actually update tracks so that my officers can actually populate these fields in a one stop shop, without having to guess, what ethnicity people are and ask additional questions. That would be beneficial on a state level. You mentioned the mobile crisis unit. Yes. That was a county initiative back when I was a police officer. And I used to have people from the mobile crisis unit respond to calls for service. And if it was dangerous, we were definitely needed. But after talking to a person for a minute or two, they'd be like, okay, we're good. Can you wait outside in the driveway? And that's what we did. But what we got away from that, and that's something that's on a County level, and that's what, like I said, Councilwoman Roker and Legislator Smith, they listened to me on that. And they thought it was a good idea to try to make that happen. And I know they're trying to reach out to the County on a County level to bring that back in. Because, as long as you don't defund me, I'm looking for all the help I can get from my officers. And, you know, I just shared over the weekend, a few reports involving emotionally disturbed persons, that my job handled, I think, flawlessly with the Coalition. And we're a jack of all trades, we may not be the ones you want coming to your house for certain calls. But we're the only ones out there 24-7-365, that when you pick up the phone, you've got us, and we're coming to try and help. So anybody else that wants to jump in.

### **Rose Marie Panio, CCSE**

Well I think we talked about funding, and we reviewed ways that we could possibly address that, which is kind of what I meant when I said that all members of government have to be involved Town, County, State and Federal, we need to see where we're going to get the funds to do some of the things we talked about. So we did talk about that. We also talked about the mobile unit. And of course, the education of the public, which we've been talking about all along, is very important. I frankly, maybe I shouldn't admit this, I've never been stopped by a policeman. I don't want to start now. But we should know what the criteria is, our children and our grandchildren should be shown. I just told how to act when something does happen. Not going to be 100%. Nothing ever is. But I think we're moving in the right direction with a lot of the suggestions that we've made. I hope so anyway.



### **Rose Marie Panio, CCSE**

I have to say that a lot of the information, the slides that the Chief presented, would have bolstered this report, because it had data in it and very important data in it and we were able to see it. But the other thing I want to talk about and to just add is that very often people don't if they don't see it, they don't know it, they don't believe it. And what I've talked to you about and I've talked to the Board about is that we need to give Tom some new jobs and one of them would be videoing the three beta body camera that the Chief is taking a look at, having the Chief and a police officer there doing whatever they do and explaining why they do, why they've made their decision to perhaps go with this one, rather than another one. Everything we talked about here, we can do on video and people can see. And I think that perhaps seeing very often is believing and for those who are not going to believe anyway, it's okay. But I think that's where we are today. I learned a lot from those slides that the Chief had where he went through everything they do in the department. So yeah, I'm not sure how to translate that to the report. But I think there has to be a way because the information there was really important.

### **Supervisor Matt Slater**

As part of the appendix the data slides will be transmitted to the State and they will be part of the final report as will be the meeting minutes, the meeting minutes themselves, or I believe we said what Clerk Quast about 150 some odd pages of testimony and conversation that bolsters the report as well, just in regards to length and detail. But all those pieces will be part of the final report that's transmitted to Albany.

### **Rabbi Robbie Weiner**

Two things. One is, we've heard it now a couple of times, the idea of the Coalition having further responsibilities, and so maybe it's the public is aware of certain responsibilities that I'm not aware of, which is could definitely be true. But it's my understanding that the Coalition's job was to only offer recommendations almost like a subcommittee of the town to say this is what we think would be important for our town. From that point forward. We then hand it we inform the State of our recommendations, but then the Town Board and the police department are empowered to do these things and as far as review, and follow up, I never saw that as our purview. And yet if it is, you know, I could be completely wrong. But again, to circle back to the end, you know, to circle back to the beginning I should say is, I thought that our job was to just offer some suggestions based on information that leads to the second comment that I want to make. And this we've heard not only from, I think her name was Amy, who spoke to us just that we're all kind of responding to. But we've also heard from others talk about data. And I'm glad that it already was mentioned that. The last, I'm not quite sure. And I would love to know, what data do we not have. I know that the report literally didn't list that data. But I would like to hear from any person who has this opinion that they would like to see more data, what's the data that's missing. Because exactly what the Chief said, it's my understanding that even as it relates to directly racial profiling, and directly to issues of questions of racism in the police department, the Chief told us exactly what he said tonight, he told us that a couple of weeks, months ago, that it's going to become a standard operating procedure that they ask at the stop, or that they put in the report at the stop, the race of the individual and more information than what we already have. And he's shared with us a ton of information, a ton of data on what happens in violent imports of where action needed to be taken, and all of these things. And all of that data is there. So I would love to know, for my own information, what's the data that individuals would like to see in the report. That's not already a part of the appendix or a part of things that was already learned.

**Police Chief Robert Noble**

I just want to jump in. We're not asking people at traffic stops or anything like that, that was a misunderstanding, what we're waiting for, hopefully, is that the State mechanism, the uniform traffic ticket that we use, and other police departments use, is going to change. It's just a simple adjustment that the state has to make. And then by scanning the license, it self populates into the format this way, we can't make a mistake. And we shouldn't be in a position, in a controlled environment. Yes, there's a State report that is called a 34. That is where you get ethnicity and things like that. But it's in a controlled environment. A traffic stop is not the place to be asking those type of questions or on a stop in public, you wouldn't.

**Rabbi Robbie Weiner**

My understanding, based on what you just said is, is that it is the hope, at least on your part is that the State is going to change how this stuff gets, that the information could be accumulated. And so the data that the specific data that I know, I would love that I remember you even talked about was like a form is going to be changed, possibly. And that could really benefit the data collection on race. I remember.

**Police Chief Robert Noble**

I think it'll speak very well for us, like I said, I think it'd be a benefit, for my job for everybody. I mean, I think that any data that's out there right now speaks to the job that we're doing that we're doing very well, and that we're doing it, in an accountable and transparent manner. I've got great people out there that are out there just looking to protect a community and they're not profiling. I said it early on, I think what was going on, and you'd find that cop out of a job. And then, myself, my command standard would probably have to take a walk as well. I mean, it's just, there's no place in law enforcement for that. And my guys know, that's where I stand. And when my lieutenants and everybody stands. Getting into the Yorktown Police Department and becoming a Yorktown Police Officer is not easy. It's not easy to land his job. And yes, we're going to step up our recruitment efforts. But, we're not taking this guy's friend and this guy's pal because that's when things go wrong. And thankfully, you have a Town Board and the Town Boards that I've worked with, that when we go down with a recommendation, they're not saying well, I know what guy and I know this guy, that doesn't happen. You're getting good quality people that are out there, doing the job for the right reasons. And like I said, so good right from the DOJ. This is what we put in our statement in our general rules. That's right. It says any police initiated action that relies on the race, ethnicity or national origin rather than the behavior of an individual, or information that leads police to a particular individual who has been identified as being, or having been engaged in criminal activity is prohibited. It's in black and white. And like I said, if anybody were to be profiling out there, number one, it would get out there. There are no secrets anymore. And number two, like I said, there's no place in law enforcement for this. And the men and women in my agency know that. And I think you've got lieutenants, you got the PBA President on here as well. I think they would agree. You know, Jim, I think the last, one of the last meetings, you asked, Is there racism in the police department. That was a question you asked. Well, what I did after that was I sent an email to my agency, and knowing that people may not be comfortable coming to me with an answer like that, I invited them to go to the PBA President Tommy Nadoraski. And Tommy, I don't think anybody came to you.

Detective Thomas Nadoraski

Not one.

**Police Chief Robert Noble**

Okay, but we put it out there. And like I said, that was even part of the community coalition. You know, Jim, put it out there. You know, I was a little incredulous. I sent the email out very directly,

very bluntly, if anybody, you know, felt that, you know, there was racism that existed in my agency, or felt the least bit uncomfortable harassed, I mean, what you're seeing right now, you know, with the governor, anything, and like I said, knowing that they wouldn't, they'd have trouble coming to me, go to a PBA representative and tell them. And, you know, what, like I said, this was a great process. But what I can't say enough, is that we've got a great culture. In our building, we worked hard to develop that, that's why you see us at community outreach functions, and a lot of these men and women they're on their own time, I don't even have to pay them, they come out, and they mix it up with the public. And they're out there doing the right thing. And yes, I think the data will speak well for us with the State, we'll take the steps to incorporate the mechanism to take that data in, and we're happy to share. I could go on all night, but I'll stop.

**Supervisor Matt Slater**

I would go on to say, though, that this may be a good point, though, for to amend the report, specifically on this point, because we're already telling the County that we'd like to see the mobile crisis unit, you know, reimplemented, that maybe we should, and since it's going to the State and the State is going to review it should we also include then that we want the State to update it's form so that it's automatically populated. So it's an automated process that gets the data sharing, that everyone, I think is pointing to. So you know that just seems to make a lot of sense. So that maybe one of the amendments that maybe the Coalition Board would be willing to include.

**Councilwoman Alice Roker**

Matt, is Colin on with us.

**Supervisor Matt Slater**

Yes, yes he is. Mr. Smith.

**WC Legislator Colin Smith**

Yes, I'm here.

**Supervisor Matt Slater**

Good to see you. Again. Welcome back to Yorktown. I know that we've spoken about the mobile crisis unit, correct?

**WC Legislator Colin Smith**

Yes, we have.

**Supervisor Matt Slater**

And you mentioned it actually, as part of your report to the town just this past Tuesday.

**WC Legislator Colin Smith**

That's correct. And we spoke a little bit. Well, I should say, I was having a conversation about it earlier today at one of our committee meetings down in White Plains, as we go through our taskforce recommendations and the consensus is that everybody feels there needs to be more done with respect to this issue of, bolstering law enforcement with the resources they need in order, that will help them better able to deal with these issues surrounding mental health. And as the Chief was talking about before, whether or not it's something that the police need to handle or better handled by mental health professionals now, I wasn't involved with politics or within, with mental health or police back when I guess the mobile crisis unit was really in full swing. But I think as the Chief had alluded to, at some point, it just, it essentially lost funding, my understanding is and that's what happened. And so, the County Executive as indicated, a commitment to finding ways

to sort of whether it's really starting what we used to have with regards to the mobile crisis unit or some other permutation of that. But certainly the need is one that, as clearly as is recognized here in your town is recognized across the county, and will be something will be will be one of those issues that we will be looking to address right away, once we get through the process of, getting our report to Albany, so we don't run afoul of the governor's April 1 date. And, as was mentioned, I have been having conversations with yourself Supervisor Slater and Councilwoman Roker, as well as Chief Noble on more than one occasion with regards to the specifically with regards to the mobile crisis unit. And so it's something that whether it's the mall crisis unit, per se, but dealing with this issue is something that is definitely on, it's something that we're looking at in White Plains, as well as other places. We'll be addressing it, in short order as we get through this final phase of the taskforce process it.

**Supervisor Matt Slater**

Does it help if I can just ask this and, and I apologize, but from your standpoint, when you're, when you're down in working with the county government, does it help when a municipality's report reflects something like restoration of the mobile crisis unit?

**WC Legislator Colin Smith**

Oh, of course, because, it goes to bolster the need, but also the idea that this is something that is not just specific to one area, one location, one municipality, and it gives the County Executive and the Board of Legislature more impetus to want to address the issue sooner, rather than later. And, again, like I said earlier, the County Executive has indicated a commitment to committing more resources to this issue, how that's going to ultimately look remains to be seen, but it's a conversation we can continue to have, between us as electives and UN officials, and also one that we can have with members of the community, because you can never have too many good ideas in my opinion. And there's some good ideas that have been discussed this evening, and the report has some really good ideas, and just, I don't want to speak out of Turn or take too much time. But I do want to say, because we've been addressing the same concerns at the County the report is the recommendations that consistent veteran in the report, our recommendations, the result of the deliberative process undertaken, since the Governor's Executive Order. That report itself is not prescriptive. It is not a legislative or policy document. It's not even necessarily an endorsement of anything contained there. And I'm talking strictly from what I perceived to be the legal standpoint of this process, but it most definitely, is the indication, strong indication of what the community feels are, the direction is the direction in which or that at least it should reflect the direction in which the community in collaboration with law enforcement, with elected officials with, you know, all the stakeholders that they should be moving in, with respect to this issue of police reform and reimagining. And so from that perspective, it's kind of like a roadmap and how that roadmap is utilized, ultimately is to be determined and what priority is placed on which of the recommendations is to be determined. But it's not the end of the of the conversation, and it doesn't lock us into anything, or prohibit you know, things being added down the line. I think it's already been said, it's good to just continue to have these conversations, you know, with the community. Because that's how we'll make progress in the long run. So, thank you for indulging me. I am sorry if I took too long.

**Supervisor Matt Slater**

Thank you.

**Councilwoman Alice Roker**

I am glad you did.

**Supervisor Matt Slater**

Absolutely.

**Rose Marie Panio, CCSE**

Could I ask the question of the Legislator? I just want to know have the other areas in your district, I believe Peekskill, Cortlandt and Yorktown have they discussed the mobile unit.

**WC Legislator Colin Smith**

So, the issue itself has been discussed. The mobile unit specifically, not that I've, I mean, I haven't had any conversations on that point specifically with the Peekskill City Officials, certainly it is one that the members of the Cortlandt Coalition Board, I have discussed with. So it is whether it's the mobile crisis unit, per se, or like I said, just the issue itself, it's one that I think clear. And especially as we're looking now, after a year of being under the pandemic, the mental health component, just in general is one we're all going to be struggling to deal with as officials but as a community, I should say, but as it pertains specifically to the interaction between law enforcement and mental health professionals, it is certainly one that I mean, I would just assume that practically every municipality is having this conversation and the County, certainly the Board of Legislators is ready and willing to have to further this conversation and find ways to partner with the municipalities to bolster these, these efforts and address these concerns.

**Rose Marie Panio, CCSE**

Thank you.

**Supervisor Matt Slater**

Thank you again, County Legislator Smith. It's great to have you on and great to have your insight on this, as I know that you've been working diligently on the same effort down County, so great again to have you here. Also I want to point out that we are now joined by Councilman Tom Diana. How are you?

**Councilman Tom Diana**

Very good. Thank you. I'm sorry. I'm late. I had a late service call. So I ran back.

**Supervisor Matt Slater**

No problem. Town Clerk Quast, you want to give us our next speaker?

**Town Clerk Diana Quast**

Jay Kopstein.

**Jay Kopstein**

Good evening,

**Supervisor Matt Slater**

Mr. Kopstein.

**Jay Kopstein**

Good evening, Mr. Supervisor, Chief Noble, how are you? I have five very quick comments. First, for everybody's edification. The Executive Order does not include all police law enforcement entities. The Governor intentionally left some out mainly the ones that he is responsible for. Secondly, for Yorktown, and Yorktown Police Department. What has been developed is basically a solution looking for a problem. Third, we're talking about cameras and equipment. Equipment

purchases do not need this type of an approach. Equipment purchases require an adequate and sustained funding stream. They don't pay for it, you're not going to get it. Utilization of a mobile crisis unit is a good idea. The issue becomes one of funding. I hope the Legislator is still listening, similar to other types of mental health responses. Let the state mandate that health insurance companies where Medicaid covers the cost of the personnel and the response. And finally, I communicated with the Supervisor on the rewording of the fourth bullet in the report.

**Supervisor Matt Slater**

Yes, you did.

**Jay Kopstein**

Thank you.

**Councilwoman Alice Roker**

Thanks, Jay.

**Supervisor Matt Slater**

Thank you, Mr. Kopstein. Comments from Board members or the Coalition. No. Okay. Town Clerk Quast go on to the next speaker please.

**Town Clerk Diana Quast**

Ilan Gilbert, how are you tonight?

**Ilan Gilbert**

Well, thank you, and I hope everyone else is well too. And I want to thank all the participants I've been watching all your meetings. This is the first one I'm sort of commenting on only because it's it is a public hearing and I wanted to see what was going to be the result of work product and for the most part, I am satisfied with the product itself. I want to thank you Supervisor Slater, Chief Noble, Ed, Alice, Tom. Diana Quast for all the effort made here. I bring a perspective as a former Town Supervisor, working with the police in that capacity. I also bring a perspective as a former Town Judge and making the comments I also want to thank you officers that are here, Officer Foley, Detective Nadoraski and one of the first key component that I would like to address is the mental health crisis unit. I think it would be wonderful. Again, I agree actually with what the speaker Jay Kopstein who just spoke about funding this is fundamental. As the Former Town Judge, I dealt with individuals for those years. And actually, I bring up perspective actually coming from having set up the Bronx Supreme Court, mental health court, I was keenly aware of the issues back years and years ago, this is not a new, this isn't a COVID related. I mean, COVID can certainly exacerbate the issue. But this has been going on for years and years and years. And unless we give proper funding to this, we're not going to solve anything. And what was very frustrating as the judge has the power as the police have the power, and I brought this to the attention at the time, to the police department, they were aware of it. But I think I helped, I hope I helped make it even more obvious that under mental health law, section 9.45, the judge or a police officer has the ability if they see someone in their presence, who appears to be a threat to themselves or others, they then can, the police officer can directly take someone off the street without judicial intervention and take them to a crisis unit in the hospital, if I did that law, and instances where I was arranging defendants, and I saw, I suspected an issue, I would then direct the police officers. Before I even continued with the arraignment to bring an individual down to the crisis center. The frustrating aspect of to all of that was there are many, many instances where I heard that basically, the person was brought to the crisis center was given equivalent to two aspirins observed for a couple of hours and then sent on his way or on her way, without the true analysis and observation

necessary to deal with those situations and that individual. So we have to, you know, what I'm trying to say very quickly is we need action rather than words in that in those instances. And as a result of that, what I'm saying one of the comments made earlier about I think part of the recommendations of your report should at the very end say that the coalition should not be disbanded from you. I'm not talking about an oversight of the police. But I'm talking about let's have regular meetings of the Coalition to make sure that there's follow up that we know that our recommendations and your expectations are met. And, by having these regular meetings, you can have input from the public at time to time, this shouldn't be a one stop or a one one-time analysis, I think it's important to consider this to be a continual process, not police oversight, necessarily. I don't want to say that but just so that you know, that your recommendations now are being followed up on. And lastly, I noticed that there was a recommendation and it's been actually being done by the police with diversity training. And one thing I would add again, when we set up the mental health court and the drug court in Bronx County, we had coalition meetings like this and stakeholder meetings, so to speak, where we brought in people with all different views and diverse views. And one of the things that is in terms of diversity, what was very important and I learned was that we should also be concerned with cultural diversity. When an officer, there are certain people from different cultures where for example, you look, you don't want to you can't look someone in the eye. It's deemed to be offensive, or speaking, they can't, they don't necessarily speak in a certain way, or be very quiet because that's their cultural way of reacting. That should be part, cultural diversity should be part of the diversity training. And if it isn't, it should be included. That's my recommendation. And that's basically, again, I want to thank all of you for your hard work. This isn't something you give up your time, you give up your energies, and we all do it for the good of the town. But I want to thank you all.

**Rose Marie Panio, CCSE**

Thank you.

**Councilwoman Alice Roker**

Thanks, Lanny.

**Supervisor Matt Slater**

Thank you, Mr. Gilbert. We'll definitely check the cultural diversity, to ensure that's included.

**Ilan Gilbert**

Thank you.

**James Poulin, CCSE**

Cultural Diversity, teaching it in schools, it was an actual full course I had to take in my graduate level. So it's because you're not just dealing, you can't possibly know every culture, but the best is to be able to learn some of the very least the basics. So when that person is not looking at you so that's certainly, definitely a good way to go.

**Councilwoman Alice Roker**

Yes, I like that. A good for everybody. Since we all live here.

**Supervisor Matt Slater**

Absolutely.

**Supervisor Matt Slater**

Go on to our next speaker.

**Town Clerk Diana Quast**

John Campobasso.

**Supervisor Matt Slater**

Okay, Mr. Campobasso. Good evening, if you can unmute yourself.

**John Campobasso**

Good evening, everybody. How are you. Good. I hope everybody's well, doing well. I'm John Campobasso. So, I don't know, really the forum, that you hold these meetings. So, lifelong resident of Yorktown. And I just, I just heard about this, this meeting recently. And, and I think these things are great. Maybe I was in the police department for the wrong reasons. I was definitely never accused of anything that I didn't do. But I just have to tell you, we actually owe our police, men and women a big thank you, we live in this, this great community, you keep us safe. raising my two children here, everybody I love lives in this community. You know, why I think that there has to be progression for sure. And mental health is huge. For those who don't know, I'm involved heavily with the youth of our community. I deal with approximately 1000 families 2000 kids, donate some of my time to a Parks and Rec commission. But it is kind of upsetting to be what we are trying to get better for the department that I believe has been probably flawless. And a person who stands up, I mean, meeting after meeting, and we thank you. I feel like you know, you're almost on trial here for lack of a better term. So just as a regular resident, I would like to thank you, your police officers, please stay safe. And I think as you know, we give you all this information and all these suggestions. I would say that as parents, we could probably do a lot of good and teach our kids when they get pulled over what to do. It should not fall all on the police. I'm sorry. It's ridiculous to say, you know that, you know, you have to train, I understand you have to have training for everything. It starts at home. So if our kids are running amuck and running wild, and then to tell the police, you're going to be on trial, you're going to be guilty for you know, you're going to be in the newspaper. These men and women leave their houses, not only in the city, and you know, all these areas, but a town like Yorktown, they're not 100% sure they're going home that night. So the respect that I have for the police, all the first responders, but the police here, I just I caution people that are speaking, you know, and again, I understand it, but you know, just understand they have a very difficult job. I'm not a police officer. But I've been listening here for a half an hour and again, progression is good. But we all you thank you as well. So that's all I really wanted to say. And I thank you for allowing me to speak.

**Councilwoman Alice Roker**

Thank you, John.

**Supervisor Matt Slater**

Thank you, Mr. Campobasso.

**John Campobasso**

Thank you.

**Police Chief Robert Noble**

Thank you, sir.

**John Campobasso**

Stay safe. Everybody.



**Supervisor Matt Slater**

For our next speaker.

**Town Clerk Diana Quast**

Our next speaker is Sarah Wilson.

**Supervisor Matt Slater**

Great. Good evening, Sarah.

**Sarah Wilson**

Hello.

**Supervisor Matt Slater**

I think it is our third night together.

**Sarah Wilson**

I know.

**Supervisor Matt Slater**

Last night on zoom, and now, we have got to stop meeting like this.

**Sarah Wilson**

Well, like John, I'm just a regular resident, who's interested. And I do appreciate the work done by the committee. And just in terms of my reaction, I'm going to echo what, Mike, and Rose Marie and several other members of the public mentioned, my initial reaction when I saw the report was, oh, my goodness, where's the rest of it and I understand, it's a summary. And there'll be all these other documents. But I have seen some of the other reports that have been issued by other communities. And they integrate it all into this one big document, which makes it easy to kind of search the document get to where a particular topic, you can get to it without having a half a dozen attachments. And that the title I think our Yorktown Police Department is great indeed. I don't have any interaction with them, one way or the other. But, you know, the title great to greatest kind of implies, as Mike said, to begin with that, this gets us to the end, we're there. It's ultimate. As several speakers have said, it's a continuous process, right, continuous improvement, we can always be better. And so that title, maybe think about changing, because it implies that we're the greatest now. I know that we're very proud of our accreditation, I believe that while it's a low percentage in New York State, I think it was 29%. Within Westchester. There are 43 municipalities. And I believe I heard that 50% of our community's police forces are accredited, here in Westchester, which is wonderful. We're happy to live in Westchester. But I think there's a lot of good information sharing that can be done with we've got all these great accredited police forces. Within our county, there are lots of opportunities for collaboration and best practice sharing between the forces and Chief Noble mentioned that he's provided input at the county level, which is great, it should be a two way street, in terms of both giving, and getting, the kind of best practice information with respect to the annual antivirus and de-escalation training. I think it's great to have that, but it's also important to have it be conducted maybe by somebody outside of the department, people that of course, there's a cost, and you have to have the funding for it. But there are benefits having somebody outside of the organization come in objectively, to make that presentation. And then, lastly, just to echo the comment that there be ongoing conversations and reviews about this, as follow up, as you know, and maybe it's not this particular Coalition, because as Rabbi Weiner said, you didn't sign up for that. But maybe there's another group that could be formed in some way to continue this conversation on a regular basis. And I think that was all I had as comments.

**Supervisor Matt Slater**

Thank you, Sarah. Any questions or comments from the Board or from the Coalition? Thank you very much for your comments, Sarah.

**Sarah Wilson**

Thank you.

**Supervisor Matt Slater**

Actually, you know what I did want to state just in regards to the info sharing, I agree with you completely. But I do want to just point out that the Chief is an officer. You're an officer, correct. Obviously, you're an officer but an officer within the Chiefs of Police Association for Westchester County. And I do believe also that the Yorktown Police Department is part of the Affiliated Police Association of Westchester, which includes I think it's close to like what 50 other law enforcement agencies, Detective Nadoraski is that correct?

**Supervisor Matt Slater**

You're on mute.

**Detective Thomas Nadoraski**

Yes. Yes.

**Supervisor Matt Slater**

So do those provide information sharing with those organizations? Is that correct?

**Detective Thomas Nadoraski**

That's correct.

**Supervisor Matt Slater**

And are there any other organizations that either you or the police department are a part of regional or otherwise.

**Detective Thomas Nadoraski**

Yeah, we're part of national organizations, at least I am, that share information on a regular basis when it comes to training, updated laws and things like that. So we disseminate that out on a regular basis. We are constantly doing webinars now in the police department to address the anti-bias training and de-escalation we're constantly doing it's just not us doing that training to ourselves. We're getting it from other agencies and other sources.

**Supervisor Matt Slater**

Thank you. I just wanted to clarify that point.

**Detective Thomas Nadoraski**

Okay.

**Supervisor Matt Slater**

Okay, we'll go on to our next speaker.

**Town Clerk Diana Quast**

Sergio Esposito.

**Supervisor Matt Slater**

Sergio Esposito, Good evening.

**Sergio Esposito**

Hey, guys, how's everybody doing. I'm doing well. Thank you. I just want to make a couple of comments about my interactions, my relationship with Yorktown Police Department. But first, I want to thank all of the participants and the members it has been very important work. I mean, I don't think anybody would disagree with that. I also want to thank Chief Noble, and Yorktown PD for keeping us safe. I wanted to share a letter I received some time ago as a result of a baseball fundraiser. We do a baseball fundraiser where little kids from John Campobasso from Yorktown Athletic Club play the cops. And it's really cute, too. But the PD both organizes and participates in it. And today, over \$40,000, thanks to the efforts of the Yorktown Police Department has been raised. And the money goes to help children with life threatening diseases and their families. And we send them to a place called Camp Sunshine for counseling and try to make them feel normal. And I have to tell you, if I had to do it on my own, and I have the help and enthusiasm of the Yorktown Police Department, it wouldn't be over \$40,000. So I received this letter from one of the recipients because we sponsor and we send them up to this baseball Camp Sunshine in Maine and it goes like this. We would like to extend Special thanks to your organization as well as the members for sponsoring our family to camp sunshine. We thank you very much for your extraordinary generosity. The generosity is from the citizens of Yorktown because they're the ones that sponsored and donated and everything like that. But please keep up the fight. Our Angel and I redacted a name for privacy was born with a very rare genetic condition, which has confined to a wheelchair since she was born. Her situation was made even worse when she was diagnosed with kidney cancer a few months ago. Coming to an environment such as Camp Sunshine has not only rekindled our hopes, but also we re-energized our resolve to fight this battle up to its very bitter end. Through you, we can once again lift our beliefs that the world and, Chief I think they are speaking about you, still has people who possess good character. I think they're speaking about your department, that of caring and putting smiles on the face of the less privileged and crying faces of those in pain, emotionally and physically. But before we met, and all the staff and volunteers and Camp Sunshine, presented a full force of inspiration. I want to personally thank the entire Yorktown Police Department because your department has made all of that possible. And you guys never asked any questions you just will fall in. I also again want to thank the fine folks in this Coalition for a job well done. The report and this Coalition has made the community even better. I think we got a great community I think it's even better now. There's always room for improvement. And this Coalition and report shows we are all willing to evolve. Chief at the Chamber because we were talking about diversity equity and inclusivity right at the Chamber we use a great DEI consultant. Her name is April Francis, she is not expensive. And she's just absolutely wonderful. I'd be happy to forward you her information. And again, I want to thank everybody for her job well done.

**Supervisor Matt Slater**

Thank you, Sergio.

**Supervisor Matt Slater**

I just said thank you. Any questions from the Board. Any questions from the Coalition. No. over to our next speaker.

**Town Clerk Diana Quast**

Our next speaker is Marisa Ragonese.

**Supervisor Matt Slater**

Great. Hi, Marisa, How are you?

**Marisa Ragonese**

Sure. I just wanted to say really quickly, that I think that it's really clear that we have a lot of great people here in Yorktown who are dedicated and care about the town, and Chief Noble, I believe that you are one of them. And I just want to reiterate that police reform isn't personal. You know, it's about policy. And we just can't depend on, you know, the benevolence of the individuals in order to ensure that our institutions are functioning well, we really need policy measures in place. And I just wanted to say that.

**Rose Marie Panio, CCSE**

I agree with you.

**Supervisor Matt Slater**

Thank you, Marisa.

**Rose Marie Panio, CCSE**

Thank you, Marisa. So that's why I wanted to put them online. So that you can see them and you can see the important ones that are out there. So one will continue to try to, you know, we'll continue to try best policies and practices because not only do I want that, for my men and women who go out there and serve the public, but I want it for everybody out there in the community. That's how we're at our best. So I agree.

**Supervisor Matt Slater**

Okay, any questions from the Board. Any questions from the members of the Coalition. Okay, Marisa, Thank you. Diana, if you can give us our next speaker, please.

**Town Clerk Diana Quast**

The next one I have is Daks Armstrong.

**Supervisor Matt Slater**

Okay. Daks, Mr. Armstrong, how are we doing today.

**Daks Armstrong**

Hey, good evening, everyone. So forgive me and correct me if I'm wrong. I don't know if it was the report or the summary of the report. Is it just a summary of the report that was released or is that the full report?

**Supervisor Matt Slater**

The full report would have just included in the appendix, which is listed at the bottom. So the full report and I again, I do offer an apology. In hindsight, obviously, the data slide should have been included. And the meeting minutes are still being finalized. But the correspondence and Chief Noble's recommendations, which is included in the correspondence will all be included in the final report that's transmitted to the State of New York.

**Daks Armstrong**

Okay, so you'll, you'll forgive me if my memory is a bit fuzzy, because I read the report, right as it was made public. And so that was some time ago. So if I paraphrase if I'm incorrect, I would

definitely appreciate, you know, corrections or any of any of that sort. So definitely did read the report, as it came out. And I guess the only thing that I was questioning or wondering about was part of the summary at the end, which spoke to the camera, the body cameras and the recommendations of the Coalition. And there was some wording in there that said, that is something to the effect of and correct me if I'm wrong, although we'd like to implement the body cameras were concerned about funding due to COVID. And I would have liked to have heard more about what those concerns are, what the amount of money is that we're looking at or where we are with that beta testing. Because I guess what I was left with in reading that was we'd like to do body cameras, essentially, but we can't at this time. So you know if I'm wrong about that, please correct me.

**Councilwoman Alice Roker**

That doesn't speak for me.

**Supervisor Matt Slater**

I don't think anyone's saying we can't do it this time, but we're waiting for the report. Chief, do you want to update us on that body camera beta testing.

**Liz Rivera, CCSE**

Absolutely. That's why we wanted to get you the report by April 30. So that we can fund and plan next year's budget to get these body cameras, you know, as soon as possible. So with April 30 that'll give us plenty of time. You know, we want to identify the best product that we can use that my people can go out there and use what confidence and it also instills the confidence in the community. With that, you know, we got to figure out the cost as well. That's what part of the presentation is going to be to the Board. Once we're done with, with beta testing the cameras, we want to see what works for us. If there are two that are similar, and is a cost differential. These are the types of things that we want to bring to your attention as a Board, so that you can plan for it, budget. And then when we announced our budget for next year, I mean, I fully expect the cameras to be in there.

**Supervisor Matt Slater**

Right, and if I could, what it states regarding the funding. First off, it says that many of the policy related matters can and should be implemented upon approval by local and state officials in 2021. And then it goes on to say, however, the Coalition also recognize, that local governments are grappling with financial impacts of COVID19. Consequently, in order to properly implement recommendations, that would incur new costs, such as investing in body cameras or other technology, it says a strong and focused effort must be made for state and federal funding to be provided to assist with these costs. And my recollection is that the purpose of that statement was similar to what we've said earlier with Legislator Smith, which is, just by putting it in there, we are just signaling to our partners on other levels, that there is going to be a need, an order for local government, not just ours, but local governments across the State in order to implement these types of policies and invest in these technologies, they're going to need that additional funding source from either the State or the Federal government. I think that was the intent.

**Councilwoman Alice Roker**

One of the things Matthew that, if Colin is still here,

**Supervisor Matt Slater**

I think he had to drop off, unfortunately.

**Rose Marie Panio, CCSE**

All right, one of the things that I believe Chief you spoke about it is the cost of storing the film, what I believe that I read somewhere that the County is looking for someplace because of the expense of the storage. So we've had a partner there.

**Police Chief Robert Noble**

There is a serious conversation about a shared storage type of facility. And that would be to cloud storage, that usually comes with the axon product, hanging up on product is very, very expensive, but it is state of the art, body camera, Hey, you know what, we're almost all I would think by the end of the month, we're going to be done with getting feedback from our personnel as to, how it worked for them in the field, taking a look at the different vantage points in the body camera video that we've that we've had, and then, we'll get the cost and the price points and a different mechanism of storage. And then also from a personnel standpoint, at the police department, what it's going to cost as well to have somebody actually retrieve that data, have the supervisory authority, through that data, and to provide that data to the district attorney for the purposes that they need. So, you know, it's a very, lengthy and involved process, one that we want to try to get right. Like, I'll keep saying the men and women why agency deserve that. And the public deserves that. And we want it to be a win, win. So we're trying to get it right, trying to provide, you know, a report to the Board that, you know, we can kind of work through and figure out what the best product is, what it's going to cost. How do we get there, as far as you know, purchasing it. And any implementation. Once we figure out what we think we're going to use, then we have to get to work internally with the men and women in my agency to draft a policy, a collaborative policy with PBA. And let's get it out there in the field. And that's the goal.

**Councilwoman Alice Roker**

Is the DA still on the line with us?

**Supervisor Matt Slater**

Yes, Steve is still here. Steve Ronco.

**Councilwoman Alice Roker**

Have you worked with communities where you're getting that kind of footage?

**Steve Ronco, DA's Office**

The City of Peekskill and there's pros and cons to it the pros obviously are we see exactly what the police see. The con is the cost and the manpower it takes to upload, watch and transmit that footage for every case not just and for every investigation as well to our office, and it's on my end as well. We have to watch everything. So those are the pros and cons that Chief Noble, I'm sure would have to have more personnel dedicated to uploading booking video, 911's, radio transmissions, any dashboard camera LPR all the evidence that is listed Under CPL, 245, somebody has to view it, somebody has to upload it, and send it to my office. So it's very time consuming. But it's necessary.

**Supervisor Matt Slater**

I think that's why we wanted to, like we stated earlier with the mobile crisis unit, it's important for the people reading the report from the town to hear the fact that there's realities, financial realities. And I think that was the only point that was trying to be made there. But I think, you know, hearing from, you know, from the police, and from our board members and from others who participated in these conversations, I mean, I think the body cameras, obviously provide a great deal of benefit.

**Councilwoman Alice Roker**

I agree.

**Rose Marie Panio, CCSE**

I would want the Town Board to do with anything that they did, I would want them to examine the issue, see what the ramifications are, and figure out how we're going to pay for it, or who's going to pay for it. So you know, that's the way I hope my Town Board approaches every issue. And I think you're doing that. I'm happy to hear that.

**Supervisor Matt Slater**

And, Daks I know you have a comment. Just quickly, it also says that the Coalition encourages the Town Board to hold a special public meeting specifically to review the report and to accept public comments. And that's specifically regarding the body cameras.

**Daks Armstrong**

And I just wanted to say thank you so much for clarifying. And I totally understand that. Now, I understand the wording was geared towards kind of nudging the State along because, obviously, there are moving parts, and we would need support in the measure. So I completely appreciate that. Chief Noble, thanks for that information. And I totally understand where you're coming from. And Mr. Ronco, thank you all. So it definitely paints a picture of you know, it's not as simple as just getting the cameras, there are other, you know, parts to it. But I think that, anything worth doing is hard. Right. So I definitely think that it is something worth pursuing. I think that, you know, and, Chief, you mentioned earlier about, defund and I think that this is a way to get more funding so. So I am definitely in support of providing the funding, and, bolstering those partnerships, to get that support through other partners, to make this happen for the town. So thank you to everyone that's, working towards that, and I look forward to hearing the report. And I'm definitely sympathetic Chief to you wanting to have a product that is, efficient and state of the art and a good tool for the officers. I'm in support of that, as well.

**Daks Armstrong**

Now that I've been upstaged.

**Councilman Tom Diana**

Can we send the mobile crisis unit?

**Daks Armstrong**

To that end, and Councilman Diana, thank you for that segue, because that's actually the other comment I wanted to make. As, as someone in the field of health care, and, working with the mental health of students, I'm going to say that, it's not an exaggeration to say that COVID has created a situation for us even here in the Town, like we've never seen before. I mean, we're definitely dealing with some serious mental health concerns. Just within, the Yorktown Central School District. I don't even know what's going on at Lakeland and honestly, I don't want to know. But I completely agree that the mobile crisis unit, it was a tool that I used as a mental health professional when I was in the city, it was a very useful tool. Westchester County should have one. We should be working towards that. And if there's anything on my end that I can do to be supportive of that process. Let me know. I definitely think we need a unit like that servicing our town and the other towns in Westchester. I think it's a great tool for the officers to use. I don't think that officers should be responsible for servicing every mental health need of our town. It's just an unfair ask of the officers. So I just want to throw my two cents in on that. And I wanted to thank the coalition, just a blanket. Thank you to everyone. Rabbi Robbie on a personal note, thanks for

your invitation, I hope that there are more to follow in the future. And I'm glad to have been a part of the process to continue to be a part of the process. I hope that as many have said earlier tonight, that we continue to do this work in some way, shape or form or fashion moving forward in the future.

**Supervisor Matt Slater**

Daks, Thank you. We appreciate your participation, your perspective that you brought to us, it really helped our dialogue and helped us learn. So thank you very much. The Board or any comments from the Coalition?

**Liz Rivera, CCSE**

I just wanted to say thank you to Daks. I've learned a lot in this process and hearing from you and from your organization was, you know, really, at least for me, really insightful. So I just wanted to thank you.

**James Poulin, CCSE**

Have a lot to value.

**Supervisor Matt Slater**

Absolutely. Excellent. Okay, Diana, who else do we have to speak?

**Town Clerk Diana Quast**

Next we have Tony Grasso.

**Supervisor Matt Slater**

Tony, if we can have you unmute. or maybe we can have Jenny unmute him.

**Town Clerk Diana Quast**

We're working on it. That was the video. There you go.

**Anthony Grasso**

Are we ready. The Chief's highlights that you chose were perfect. Having been with the Town for many, many years, and having served with the Town, as long as I have, I always had a great interest in the police department. And being responsible for the accreditation was the first thing we did back in the 80s. People are asking for detailed report on your highlights and to say, are they entitled to it, I don't know. I look at the police department as a paramilitary organization with civilian oversights, which is the Town Board. If you want to add another level to that with the Coalition, that's your choice, when I think it'd be just a platform for people to get engaged in that. Shouldn't I have known personally the last six or seven Chiefs of Police. We have had high quality people in those positions. I can't name one that was not. Chief Morgan was there when I got involved. And we implemented with the Town Board at that time, along with Nancy Elliott to upgrade the police department, we had specific things that we wanted done and they did it. This goes all the way up to Chief Noble. I have not been involved with the Chief there other than saying hello to him or how are you doing but I know most of the officers that came in on my time. In fact, one of your lieutenants at the last public meeting we had, came over to me and said, Tony, thank you. You took me on 38 years ago. And now I am a Lieutenant and I'm happy in the department. I think our department is the finest department in the County, if not the State when you consider all that it does, but I dislike having civilians involved that are not elected by the people and for the people. That's why we elected our Town Board. Now there are certain things that he achieved that yes, you probably should be implemented. To me there's no place for racism. If anyone has experience



with racism, you're looking at it, the color doesn't matter. They would discriminate against the Irish the Jewish people and it goes on and on. But What do these races do. They upgraded themselves. The problem, education. And we have teachers that don't want to teach what they want to teach. I just finished really 1776 there was nothing in that book that I wasn't taught. But am 94 years of age, thank God, I still have my senses, that I could speak out in the manor that I do. So please, let's start to look at this. What's good for the whole reports are necessary. But there are certain reports that are not for your eyes. When President Truman asked me to serve in the armed forces, I couldn't refuse, I would have liked to refuse. To give all of us the freedom we enjoy today. With freedom goes responsibility, and the responsibility falls on each parent, each grandparent to help our children with the truth, know what they would like to do with the truth. And with that, we can live another 250 years. So pleased. As far as the cameras are concerned, I'm in favor of it. But if this is a state recommendation, then let us come up with a money with the Feds. Were the ones that are going to pay for every time they say we need more taxes we pay for it, money is printed, or when you print money. It only is to inflation. Just look at gasoline. And I'm not picking on anybody politically, but gas prices went up 30 or 40 cents. Why, you know the answer why, but I'm not going to get into that. I have a great deal of respect for the police department, and the Town Board. And that's the only way to keep it separate from the average public. But the public has a right to know what's going on. Please, thank you for getting me on so late Diana. I'm sorry. I was just busy with my new friends, the doctors.

**Councilwoman Alice Roker**

Thank you, Tony.

**Tony Grasso**

You're welcome.

**Supervisor Matt Slater**

Thank you, Mr. Grasso. It's always good to see you.

**Tony Grasso**

Thank you.

**Supervisor Matt Slater**

And thank Jenny for us.

**Tony Grasso**

That's my tech representative.

**Supervisor Matt Slater**

Any questions from the Board for Mr. Grasso? Any questions from the coalition?

**Councilman Tom Diana**

I don't have any questions Supervisor. I'm going to have to jump off here with this silly winter business that I have.

**Supervisor Matt Slater**

Yes, sir.

**Councilman Tom Diana**

I just want to real quickly say thank you to the Coalition, and everybody that participated in this conversation. I want to give a big shout out to our police department, to our Chiefs, all of our officers there and keep up the good work. If the pandemic is going to cause a lot more mental health issues than I believe that we are aware of the training that is going to be needed to handle that is going to be number one expensive. But needed. I hearken back to the one story that was read at one of the meetings where the police department responded to a subject that had some mental health issues. And from what I can see, and what I've heard, what I've researched that particular case was handled textbook, with the discipline and the training that our police department has, and continues to have. So the cameras are going to be another tool in the toolbox. Unfortunately, all the tools cost money. And, you know, the state comes up with these mandates or suggestions. And as Tony just said before, maybe they should buck up a little bit here and provide some of that help to our police departments rather than individual saying, Let's defund them. Those are a couple words you'll never hear me say. And as far as I'm concerned, I think that we should give our police department more money for training and exercises. Absolutely. Okay, but I'm sorry, I'm going to have to jump here and sorry for jumping in like that, but no problem. I want to thank everybody once again, everybody's done a great job. The conversation has started I'm sure it's not going to end. And it's been a great civil experience. I want to thank you.

**Rose Marie Panio, CCSE**

Thank you.

**Councilwoman Alice Roker**

Thanks, Tommy.

**Tony Grasso**

Supervisor Slater. Can ask one other question?

**Supervisor Matt Slater**

Yes, sir.

**Tony Grasso**

The Chief mentioned tracking, I was under the impression we already had some sort of tracking. But if we don't, I think that's a very important point. And somehow we should get together with the representatives and our State Senators, to look at this thing and give us the proper funding, even though it'll come out of our pockets. And get that done, because it's got to be good for the town. It'll be good for the county and be good for the state and the nation. So let's get that tracking. And as soon as we can, and as I say, I thought we already had something like that.

**Supervisor Matt Slater**

Are you referring to the data tracking?

**Tony Grasso**

For the data tracking and the there are other tracking methods that we have. Thank you.

**Supervisor Matt Slater**

Thank you Mr. Grasso, do we even have another person who wants to speak tonight?

**Town Clerk Diana Quast**

That's all I have on my list. So is there anybody that I happened to miss. I think we do have a letter.

### **Supervisor Matt Slater**

We do have a piece of correspondence. A letter from Stephanie Ianaccio. I'm sorry, if I'm saying that wrong. To the members of the Yorktown Coalition and Community and Safety Engagement. Let me start by saying that I personally have had nothing but good experiences with YPD. As an active member of the Yorktown Relay for Life committee, I know that our police department has a strong bond with most of our community. But I also know that people in this town who have not had the same positive experiences as me, and I want to be part of the work that strengthens the bond with our police department and every member of our Yorktown community. I agree that we have a strong department but I believe that there's always an opportunity to learn, grow and get stronger at situations. One thing I would very much like to see from this reporter details is lacking details. If you bullets for all these months of work just doesn't suffice. It should be timelines built in expanded training spelled out and accountability measures built in. Without timing and accountability. That seems like lip service. My biggest urge is to increase the amount of data YPD collects. I found it almost insulting to see the bullet that reads acknowledged that racial profiling is prohibited, prohibited. Is that it? We're going to remind people and then move on. Does racial profiling happen in your town? I don't know if none of the reports that Chief Noble Rep. Chief Noble presented show that it doesn't. There was no data around routine traffic stops by our officers to show in black and white that it does not happen here. Data should be collected from all traffic stops. Do you have a clear picture of who the police are proactively interacting with gender, ethnicity and age should all be collected and reported out on a quarterly basis? Ideally, the statistics should be close to the makeup of your account. Without those reports, we cannot with 100% certainty say that profiling of any kind does not happen in our town. The chief takes great pride in his department as he should and was visibly upset when early in this process. Someone asked about racial profiling in Yorktown his statement was clear. Racial profiling is illegal and doesn't happen here. But simply saying something is illegal doesn't stop it from happening. And if it did, we wouldn't need police officers, everyone would simply act in accordance with the law. If it doesn't happen here, let's collect the data and present it to the community. As someone who works as a diversity, equity and inclusion professional for a large organization. I understand how data helps us to see the truth and will allow us to celebrate our wins and acknowledge and fix our weaknesses. I sincerely hope that the community discussion around policing and increasing inclusivity in your account does not end here. I would love to see events targeting those who don't normally attend coffee with a cop type events so that we can open up dialogue with the rest of our residents who deserve to feel safe in our great town. Thank you, Stephanie Ianaccio.

### **Police Chief Robert Noble**

I think Supervisor I addressed a lot of those issues. I think Amy brought it up early in the night. I think I spoke to a lot of these different issues. And like I said, as far as traffic stuff is pretty simple with the statewide data like tracks, if all they have to do is make the necessary adjustments where we can scan somebody's license, if all that information is on a state document, your driver's licenses, and we can just scan that into the self-populated forms, we're back. We're off and running. I mean, it's as simple as that. I've already articulated while we don't want to ask those type of questions on traffic stops or interactions. And like I said, I did address a lot of those issues earlier in the evening. Coffee with a cop, playing baseball with kids, pizza with the police, we were going to do national night out, quite honestly, that these are events that anybody can come to. I mean, it's, open to all and I mean, we want all different types of, different folks from different walks of life to come to these events. And that's what it's all about to meet us and speak with us and get to know your local police. So we try to do that. With the focus on the whole community, not just a one, one segment of it, so I'm not quite sure, at the end where that is getting at, early on in the process. It was one of the meetings that you didn't mention your supervisor was the first. I actually

was the second meeting that I had. I met with the interfaith group, shortly after, George Floyd. And then after that, we met with Yorktown for justice. And as Harrigan brought up the report about the, you know, acknowledgement of racial profiling, and, I wouldn't say I was visibly upset, I was incredulous, because I thought to myself, who the hell does that I mean, that's where I was coming from who, that's just, it's illegal, it's wrong. It's something you're going lose your job for your career, the thing we have somebody of that character on our force, but after that, I thought about it. And I actually exchanged emails with Miss Harrigan. And that was the impetus for adding that to our department manual. So I did listen, and make that adjustment and incorporate that into our manual where it hadn't been. And it's short and sweet, and to the point, and it addresses what you cannot do when you are given the badge and the responsibility of being a Yorktown police officer, as far as, you know, the racial profile. So, again, I think I touched upon just about all of those little points that that you brought up. And I think I met Stephanie in a relay for life I think I took her in. And you Jim, right. When I dropped off some dollars in your pocket down there back in May. That was Stephanie. Right? Yes. Yeah. All right. So well, again, I had a great conversation with her. But, and again, I think the incorporation of the data that I shared, in those hours long presentations, along with, the synopsis of the summary, is going to go a long way to see that we really, we really made the effort, and we're going to continue to, like we've discussed tonight,

**Rose Marie Panio, CCSE**

I think, for people who have who weren't with us when you made your presentations. Unfortunately, they missed out on a lot. Because I think everything that that you pointed to much of it was stuff I didn't even know. But I want to help you here. I would not like to be stopped by a cop and for him to say, well, well, how are you? I would not want that to happen. Exactly. That would just and maybe we can help you a little bit more, making sure your events get advertised on, in addition to your website, on the town's website or on TV, so we can we can help. That's something we can help you with.

**Police Chief Robert Noble**

Actually get more hits than you do on your site with our Facebook page.

**Supervisor Matt Slater**

Don't go there.

**Rose Marie Panio, CCSE**

Our TV station gets a lot of hits.

**Police Chief Robert Noble**

But no, we do. Now, advertising, but there's always room for improvement.

**Councilwoman Alice Roker**

We can help you a little bit.

**Police Chief Robert Noble**

Absolutely. And I'll take the help, especially from you. And like I said after the presentation you call me the next day and I've met a lot, you were very complimentary as to what we put forth that night and that and that meant a lot, you know, coming from you. I know you know, your wheelhouse is media. So I'll definitely take any advice that you have, but Well, yeah, our social media presence with the Facebook page, we're, doing a really, really good job much better than a lot of other communities. You take a look at their pages there, may be one or two that matches or exceed us. And, part of what and often are things that are not incorporated into this plan but Paul,

our youth representative, Tom and our PBA president are looking to get into Instagram and on that they are going to have their own page separate from the police department. I think we tag team it in that way, and they provide the pictures and a little bit of, what we're doing with it. And certainly, in live time and on Instagram. We listened to you. And like I said, it's second to dorsky. Right there, he's on your screen. He's working on it with his team and the PBA. And we're hopeful to roll that out in 2021 as well, so that I incorporated that we can add it to this report. And part of it, I think, once you see the finished product of the recruitment video that we're currently getting out for Westchester County for the upcoming test, you can actually share it on your website as well. And your Facebook page wants to finish product has done great work, there are efforts that are being made, you know, this, report came out. And I think everybody says, yep, we want to see it, keep going. That's exactly what we're doing. That's what we're doing. And as far as timelines, well, heck we've done, we've gotten several of these done already. We're working for others. And we're going to keep on that path. So we are, we do have timelines and we are telling you, we're getting it done.

### **Rose Marie Panio, CCSE**

I just want to thank you, thank your fellow police officers and lieutenants and sergeants, I remember when we first talked about this need to upgrade. And I was really happy. Because what I said, was good. Now the world can see what I know that your department is among the best. And I think you've shot you've shined a light on it. And thank you for being who you are. Thank you for the leadership, and for the leadership of your men. You've all done a great job, I feel very comfortable in my community, and I just look forward to continuing conversations, not just necessarily only with the beliefs, but with the community as a whole.

### **Police Chief Robert Noble**

Thank you. Like I said, we always, have a great dialogue, and it's nice. It's nice to always achieve that. I can talk to each member to town board. And its two way, you listen. And, and I definitely listen. And that's important. That's what we need to do. We talked about this locally. Well, that's what we have to do nationally, I think we got it, we got to stop arguing and yelling at each other and just listen and try to find common ground. And that was, that was the goal here that's how you better yourself. I'd like to think that's how I've gotten to be where I am right now is just my ability to listen, try to compromise and, do the best for all involved. And I mean, that's, the goal and, and I'm lucky to have surrounded myself with good, great people at the police department, from the guys who went to the polls to the guys who helped me set policy and make decisions, the men and women in there are fantastic. And I've been fortunate enough to have town boards, including this one. I mean, you guys have been very, very supportive. And you've helped me with this process. So I thank you a lot, you know, and I'm not going to leave the coalition out. That's a thankless job who signed up for it. And, you know, it speaks to you that you wanted to get involved in your community and try to try to listen and try to, to work with us to make things better. And I think the final product really, really helps make Yorktown better and puts us It sets us on a good path. So again, like I said, it's been a good process, it really has for us, and I'll leave it at that for now.

### **Supervisor Matt Slater**

You know, one of the things listening to the comments tonight, that it reminded me of and it's always a lesson that I can never stop learning. And that's, this and Alice, you and I talked about this earlier today. Sometimes we are so we're in this in this vortex. And we think everyone knows all the things that we know, and they hear the things that we're saying and they're here and they read the things that we're reading. But that's not true. Sure. And it falls to us, as leaders of the community to take a minute pause and actually say it and not just assume that people already read it or heard it. And maybe they heard it the first time but they didn't remember it and it's not

Actually, I want to thank Mike Matome, because Mike with his comments, it just, it was like he slapped me across the face, quite frankly, because we talked, we spent so much time during this process. And Chief, you invested so much time in this process, creating your presentations and, and doing a great job presenting the data that you shared. But it doesn't mean everyone heard it. And it doesn't mean everyone saw it. And so it was an error. And I take full responsibility of not making sure it was included as this draft was published. But we have to take time, I think, to pause and take the time to make sure that we say, hey, these are the things that we've done. These are the things that we've accomplished. And I think by doing that, obviously, you're ahead of the curve, your agency is ahead of the curve in so many ways. I think that's one of the things that we've learned during this process. And we're so lucky and blessed to live in a community with a law enforcement agency like yours. But it doesn't mean we can't take a minute to articulate what it is that we did to the residents of our communities. I think as we've heard here, it helps them understand it. It also comforts them in knowing that we've got a police agency and a leader on our police agency, who's not one step ahead. More like four or 567 steps ahead. And I and it's a this is a thing that I think, frankly, I hate using the word government but government doesn't do well, we do not take the time to make sure that the people that we represent the people that we serve, we don't take the time to make sure they understand all the things that we're doing. And so based on the conversation I heard tonight, I do think that's something that we can do better, myself included, and in many aspects of town government. And from your standpoint, you do such a good job of communicating with the public and putting forward these, community outreach events and efforts. But there's other things that your agency does, that are really top notch. And it's not just pizza with the police or coffee with a cop. And I think it's important for us to take the time. And this is why I really enjoyed this process, to look at them and to hear them and to learn about them. And so that may be something I think moving forward, it makes sense for us to do more frequently, just to say here's whether it's data statistics, or, policies that I know that you've always published shared, you've never hid behind them, that the use of force policy, as you said, is right on the PD website, right there. Anyone can go look it up. But I think and it's not the fault of anyone. Sometimes we have to tell people to go and say, hey, it's right here. Here it is on a silver platter. And so maybe that's something as we continue to do this assessment and evolve and learn and listen, that's something that we can do better on a number of different levels, not just specifically for the police department, for Town Hall here as well. I want to be very clear on that. This is not a criticism whatsoever. But I that's one of the things that I heard tonight. The other thing that I heard tonight is obviously the New York State forms the tracks forms, right, and chief, maybe we can insert that into our recommendations to make sure that we encourage the states to modify to modify that process to your point. So it automates the data collection. And we're not putting it we're not doing it in an invasive way. We're not doing it in a dangerous way. We're not doing it in the theater setting. And so I would like to include that as part of our recommendations. And I think that was a great point that was raised, because that's going to help our data collection. And so I would like to see that included. Personally.

**Councilwoman Alice Roker**

Yes, I agree.

**James Poulin, CCSE**

I just want to say this, but this has been an experience. And I am pleased that I've been able to be a part of this. And I mean, Keith, one thing that I've learned through every session, people think you do a good job. I don't think you're okay where that's concerned. You allowed me to make you feel incredulous with very tough question. It was for me to ask. So I appreciate that as well. I love the fact that we have a plan beyond the mobile crisis unit and it is not going to end there. You guys

know that that's extremely important to me. It seems to be for everybody. But I think the most important thing we learned tonight was that YPD social media is better than the town.

**Councilwoman Alice Roker**

That is so sad.

**Supervisor Matt Slater**

You had to go there. Jimmy.

**James Poulin, CCSE**

You put me on this coalition man. But I will say this, that if it is something that you want to continue, I'm certainly willing to serve coming to town in this regard. Again.

**Supervisor Matt Slater**

Thank you, Jimmy. And thank you to all the members of the coalition. Because this was a very, I think, educational experience on so many levels. But we learned a lot. We learned a lot about each other as neighbors, we learned a lot about our community, we learned a lot about how things work within the town of Yorktown. And we definitely had conversations that shed light, whether it's on police matters or societal matters. And it's important that we have those conversations, it's important that we don't shy away from them, and they could make people uncomfortable, and I get that. But it doesn't mean that you should not have the conversation. And I think it's very important for us to continue in that light. And I want to thank again, not just the members of the coalition, but the members of the public, who've been a constant presence throughout this process. And of course, I want to thank Steve Rocco from the DHS office who has been with us many times. I also really want to thank our chief of police because he did a great, great job through this entire process. And you to what Councilman Roker said, we had a lot of confidence coming in knowing the level that the police department operates on. And we saw that through your presentations and your and the way that you articulated so many policies that you've implemented, but also looking ahead to the future. And so to the chief of police to our chief, Robert noble, a big thank you for doing just a great, great job.

**Police Chief Robert Noble**

One last thing, I talked about policies, and I just want to show you. That I don't know if you can get a play book.

**Supervisor Matt Slater**

Oh, it's a big book. It's in my office too.

**Police Chief Robert Noble**

It is a big book and like I said, the commitment is there to training, the policies are very good. And as I will say, as many times as you let me I'm surrounded by great people, people who answer the calls for service out there in the community. Whether they're in their early 20s, and they're trending towards 50. They are high character, many of them are homegrown. And they have skin in the game in this community. And that's why your town is and will remain a special place to live work, raise your family and visit so much. Thank you, Dave, for your kind words and support. Thank you. And the nicest things was that, you know, even a lot of the comments or the suggestions will preface by our department. I know we have a good department or PR departments great. And you know that that didn't go unnoticed. And he was you know, it was very respectful. And thank you very much. Thanks for the support.

**Supervisor Matt Slater**

Any other things, Councilman Lachterman did you want to add anything.

**Jay Kopstein**

Matt, if I might.

**James Poulin, CCSE**

I think Jay was finishing.

**Supervisor Matt Slater**

I'm sorry, what was that, Jimmy.

**James Poulin, CCSE**

But I think Jay was finishing.

**Supervisor Matt Slater**

Jay, go ahead.

**Jay Kopstein**

Like to make one point because one of the speakers brought out data and data compared to your account population, or census tract data, which is the way we normally do it. First, remember Mark Twain, there are lies, damned lies and statistics. data without data analytics is useless. When you use census tract information, especially with policing, it's only valid and isolated communities. We have to remember loaded regional, the JV mall, it regional route six and route 202 our major routes that go through your town to Connecticut. There you cannot look at raw data without real data analytics. It will give you bad information. Thank you.

**Supervisor Matt Slater**

Thank you, Mr. Kopstein.

**Police Chief Robert Noble**

He's a 100%. Right.

**Rose Marie Panio, CCSE**

You know, I think COVID has taken us down some, some roads that we never thought we'd go down this last year and this year. Matt and I were talking earlier today. And I said, I had to think that when you were told that you had to shut down the town. What went through your brain? Yeah,

**Supervisor Matt Slater**

I couldn't even tell you right now. It was intense. It was definitely intense. But you know, I was lucky because I had great colleagues around me I had Chief Noble who I spoke with, I spoke with you Councilman Roker. But it was definitely a reminder, I was only on for two months. You got to declare a state of emergency and basically shut your community down in your second month. It was it was daunting, I think is the word. It was daunting.

**Councilman Ed Lachterman**

They told you it would only be a week or two.



**Supervisor Matt Slater**

Only a week, don't worry. But it was it was still daunting. And I think it was really once we got to like the end of April, and I was having this conversation with my wife the other night about COVID. And oh, because her birthday is in this middle of May. And we said Oh, it'll be fine by your birthday. And then a birthday came and went. And then we'll be fine by here. Then there came and went. And you know, things just got, you know, it was daunting.

**Rose Marie Panio, CCSE**

But through it all our officers were there. We're out here. And we appreciate that.

**Supervisor Matt Slater**

Well, is there any other comments from any of the Town Board members? Any comments from the Coalition? So from this point, the way that the process is supposed to work is that the Coalition is now handing the ball over to the Town Board to approve the report. And then we will transmit that report Once approved to the State of New York with a deadline of April 1, and so, again, to the members of the Coalition, a very grateful thank you for your efforts and for your time and for your energy and focus on this because without you and I mean that sincerely.

**Rose Marie Panio, CCSE**

Thank you.

**Liz Rivera, CCSE**

Thank you for the opportunity.

**James Poulin, CCSE**

Thank you.

**Rabbi Robbie Weiner, CCSE**

Thank you.

**Peter Lanza, CCSE**

Thank you.

**Paul Cirillo, CCSE**

Thank you.

**Toni Reynolds, CCSE**

Thank you.

**Councilwoman Alice Roker**

I hope this is not the last we see if the coalition.

**James Poulin, CCSE**

Sorry, I'm out.

**Supervisor Matt Slater**

We have a lot of dedicated community minded folk on this Coalition. I think you're going to see them again, one way or the other in some fashion. So I know they're not going anywhere. And we're very grateful for that.

**Rose Marie Panio, CCSE**

Thank you for all your work.

**Councilman Ed Lachterman**

And if anyone does want to see some of the members, you could join the lines to see Jimmy, you could join to see the rabbi. I'm sure he'd like to have his congregation a little larger. So there are definitely ways to get out there. Join Club Fit.

**James Poulin, CCSE**

And I can take it on the road.

**Councilman Ed Lachterman**

There you go.

**Councilwoman Alice Roker**

There you go. Motion to adjourn.

**Supervisor Matt Slater**

Motion, second.

**Councilman Ed Lachterman**

Second.

**Supervisor Matt Slater**

All in favor - Aye.

**Supervisor Matt Slater**

Good night to everyone.

**Police Chief Robert Noble**

Stay safe and healthy. Thank you.