Police Chief White Budget Committee of the Whole August 5, 2020 Opening Statement

Providing public safety to our community is a large, multi-faceted and complex duty that all of the dedicated men and women of the police department have sworn to provide.

Our personnel are called upon to handle a wide array of calls for service. Those calls for assistance from the public require our officers to sometimes respond to tense and uncertain events where they are placing their own safety on the line to peacefully resolve the event, protect innocent victims and help our community. Our officers carry out their duties under all of these conditions with the highest level of professionalism and compassion.

The ability of the police department to continue this level of service and find areas of opportunity for improvement and growth takes resources. I was asked to find these areas of opportunity. These areas of opportunity for improvement are reflected in the budget proposals we will discuss today. The proposals continue to move the department forward in our duty to provide professional public safety, community engagement, transparency and officer safety.