



## CITIZENS-POLICE ADVISORY COMMISSION

612 Federal Avenue  
Police Department Lobby  
989.399.1311  
December 9, 2025  
MINUTES

### **Call to Order/Roll Call:**

Chair Milne called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m.

Present: Roberta Bidwell, Andrea Foster, Evelyn McGovern, Debbie Melkonian, John Milne,

Absent: Bishop Timothy Holden, Pastor Bob Davis

Also Present: Deputy Police Chief Matt Gerow, City Attorney Amy Lusk, Deputy City Clerk Breanna Crouch

### **Minutes:**

Moved by Commissioner Foster, seconded by Commissioner Melkonian to approve the October 7, 2025, minutes as submitted. 5 ayes, 0 nays, 2 absent. Motion approved.

### **Announcements:**

None.

### **Public Comments:**

None.

### **Chair Report:**

None.

### **Incident Review:**

None.

### **Recommendations: Police, Practices, and Compliance:**

Chief Ruth reported that the Police Department is now accredited, effective October 1, for a term of three years. He also stated that policies underwent updating during the accreditation process and any new policies will be brought to the commission for review as they have been previously.

### **Reports:**

Chief Ruth reported the following:

- There is a swearing in ceremony for the three most recent academy graduates December 17 at noon at the Police Department.
  - With the three new graduates, the Police Department is at full staff with 64 sworn officers.
  - Civilian staff is also full.
  - Homicides are down 43% from this time last year but shootings are up 25%.
  - Overall, Part 1 crime is down 11% from last year.
  - Stolen vehicles are up about 3% from last year and arsons are down 3%.
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**Community Relations:**

Commissioner Bidwell reported that she is a member on the Human Rights Commission, which recently met for the first time and is working through determining responsibilities.

Commissioner McGovern thanked the Police Department for its participation in the Women of Colors coat drive.

Commissioner Melkonian reported that the Adams Boulevard Holiday House Walk is Sunday, December 14.

Commissioner Foster reported that the Covenant and Northwest Neighborhood Associations are having joint meetings but have not fully merged.

**Miscellaneous:**

Moved by Commissioner Foster, seconded by Commissioner Melkonian to approve the 2026 regular meeting schedule. 5 ayes, 0 nays, 2 absent. Motion approved.

The next Citizens-Police Advisory Commission will be February 17, 2026, at 4:30 p.m. in the Police Department Lobby.

**Adjourn:**

Moved by Commissioner Foster, seconded by Commissioner Bidwell to adjourn the meeting at 5:08 p.m.

As recorded by,

Kristine Bolzman, City Clerk