

Citizens Police Advisory Board

Section 1. There is hereby established a Citizens Police Advisory Board of the Town.

A. Membership - The members of such board shall be appointed by the Town Board and shall consist of five (5) members, none of whom shall be an employee or officer of the Town of New Paltz, and none of whom shall be a member of the Town Board or of the town Police Commissioners. Appointment of members to such advisory board shall be by the affirmative vote of a majority plus one of the members of the Town Board.

B. Terms of Members - In the creation of a new Citizens Police Advisory Board, or the reestablishment of terms of an existing board, the appointment of members to the board shall be for terms so fixed that one member's term shall expire at the end of the calendar year in which such member was initially appointed. The remaining members' terms shall be so fixed that two (2) members' terms shall expire at the end of the next year thereafter and two (2) members' terms shall expire at the end of the second year next succeeding the end of the year in which such members were initially appointed. At the expiration of each original member's appointment, the replacement member shall be appointed for a term equal in years to the term of the member replaced.

C. Vacancies - If a vacancy shall occur otherwise than by expiration of a term, the Town Board shall appoint a new member for the unexpired term.

D. Removal of Members - The Town Board shall have the power to remove any member of the advisory board at any time, with or without cause.

E. Chairperson - The advisory board shall designate the Chairperson thereof, and, in the absence of a Chairperson, the advisory board may designate a member to serve as Acting Chairperson. In the event that the advisory board does not designate a Chairperson or Acting Chairperson, such Chairperson or Acting Chairperson, as the case may be, shall be designated by the Town Board.

F. Books and Records - The advisory board shall designate a member to serve as Recording Secretary who shall be in charge of its minutes, books and records. In the absence of a Recording Secretary, the Board may designate a member to serve as Acting Secretary. In the event that the advisory board does not designate a Secretary or Acting Secretary, such Secretary or Acting Secretary, as the case may be, shall be designated by the Town Board.

G. Legal Assistance - The Attorney for the Town shall provide such legal and advisory services to the advisory board as it may require in the performance of its duties.

Section 2. Scope and authority.

A. The purposes of the Citizens Police Advisory Board are:

(1) to represent the community at large;

- (2) to offer recommendations to the Police Commissioners with regard to police services;
- (3) to serve as liaisons to enhance community and police relations;
- (4) to provide to the Police Commissioners reasonable and responsible perspectives regarding potential community impacts of the policies and practices of the New Paltz Police Department;
- (5) to provide to the Police Commissioners objective input designed to ensure continued professional policing standards and the cultivation of Community partnerships;
- (6) to promote enhanced connection, cooperation, and communication between the police and the New Paltz Community; and
- (7) to provide such reports as are requested from time to time by the Police Commissioners regarding the activities of the advisory board.

B. The Citizens Police Advisory Board remains at all times subject to the authority of the Chief of Police, the Town Board and the Police Commissioners in the performance of its advisory role. Recommendations made by the advisory board are not binding on the Chief of Police, Police Commissioners or the Town Board.

C. The advisory board may be called upon by the Police Commissioners to review the status of investigations performed in accordance with the policies and procedures established by the department into the use by members of the police department of defensive action and provide advice and recommendations consistent with such review to the Police Commissioners. Any such review shall at all times be subject to and in accordance with applicable state and federal law, rules and regulations including, but not limited to Article 6 of the Public Officers Law (F.O.I.L.), Civil Rights Law and with all opinions and directives of the Office of the Ulster County District Attorney. The advisory board shall not initiate, receive or review complaints against or internal investigations regarding police personnel nor shall it have authority to investigate or otherwise participate in personnel matters involving specific police personnel. The advisory board will not play a role in civil or criminal litigation.

Section 3. Rights reserved to the Town Board.

The Citizens Police Advisory Board was created by resolution of the Town Board and not by the enactment of a local law. The Town Board reserves all rights with respect to the establishment and continuation of the advisory board, including periodic review to determine whether the purposes for which the advisory board was established are being fulfilled and the right to discontinue the advisory board by resolution duly adopted at any time by the Town Board.