

PUBLIC HEARING  
DOLGEVILLE VILLAGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
FEBRUARY 16, 2021

Topic: Public Hearing  
Time: Feb 16, 2021 05:45 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

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PRESENT:

MAYOR: Mary E. Puznowski-absent

TRUSTEES: Joshua Galletta-absent  
Amanda Jaquay-absent  
Amber Kraszewski  
William Reynolds

ATTORNEY: Mark Rose-absent

RECORDING SECRETARY:

Tammy L. Chmielewski

ATTENDED: Robert Thomas and David Kaminski.

Deputy Mayor William Reynolds at Village Hall called this Public Hearing of the Dolgeville Village Board of Trustees to order at 5:45 p.m. Pledge of Allegiance recited.

***Police Reform and  
Reinvention Collaborative  
Plan mandated by  
Governor Cuomo via  
Executive Order # 203  
Public Hearing***

Chief of Police Robert Thomas:

The program was implemented to help bring departments who have fallen behind and lagged in staying current with ethics and

policy. Every agency had to come with a plan to reinvent their police department. Steps included the villages goal and objectives as follows:

1. Review the needs of the community served by its police agency and evaluate the department's current policies and practices.
2. Continue to establish policies that allow the agency to effectively and safely perform their duties.
3. Involve the community in the discussion.
4. Develop policy recommendations resulting from this review.
5. Offer the plan for public comment – doing that today.
6. Present the plan to the Village Board to ratify or adopt.
7. Certify the adoption of the plan and submit to the State Budget Director.

The department was able to implement 105 of the 109 necessary policies in order for the department to receive accreditation since early 2020 and before this policy came to be.

The department came up with some ideas to improve effectiveness including interaction with the community and responsiveness. Training opportunities offered a long-term goal, posting statistics (monthly report) on the website, posting the use of force policy and now re-improved and follows the Governor's new guidelines. Police officer complaint form available on the website. Complaint form allows agency to be allowed and hold staff accountable for misconduct. Defensive tactics – choke holds taken out of curriculum. Next budget year looking to buy body cameras. Continuing to review use of force incidents and change policies. We have received public comment and worked with different sectors – youth, seniors and different segments of the community. The village doesn't have a giant diversity population like big cities other than an economic diversity. Chief will take any questions and new suggestions and work with them.

Comments:

Trustee Reynolds – thanks Chief.

Trustee Kraszewski – thank you for all your hard work throughout the year and for getting this together for us.

David Kaminski – great job Chief. I hear some great things and you're doing a great job from when I visited in 2014.

## **Adjournment**

By Trustee Kraszewski

Motion to adjourn public hearing at 5:55 p.m. Sec. Trustee Reynolds. Ayes all.

\_\_\_\_\_ Deputy Mayor

\_\_\_\_\_ Village Clerk

