

Procedural Justice Committee Meeting: Feb. 3, 2022

The Procedural Justice Committee held a meeting in the Community Room of the Public Safety Building on February 3. Attending were members Yvonne Flowers, Devon Zanin, John Zeltmann, Isis Benitez, John Penney, Jenna Salmonese, Cecilia McPeck. Also in attendance were Police Chief Tom Pape, Captains Rich Wilson and Steven Minard.

Pape, Wilson, Minard and Zeltman provided updates on the city's Police Reform & Reinvention Plan. They went over such issues as improvements to the civilian complaint form to the implementation of body-worn cameras. Per then-Gov. Andrew Cuomo's executive order, governments with police agencies had to adopt a plan by April 1, 2021, to be eligible for future state funding, and the city achieved that goal.

In 2020, Mayor Rolison forwarded the governor's order to the city's Procedural Justice Committee as part of the collaborative response. The committee held meetings, created a website to keep the public up to date and to obtain more public and made initial recommendations. In 2021, the city also entered into an intermunicipal agreement with Dutchess County to have the city's Police Department conduct Procedural Justice and Implicit Bias training to aid other municipalities in answering the governor's executive order.

The City police Department also has updated its policy manual and is aiming to become a fully recognized accredited police department through the New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services.

The Procedural Justice Committee's next meeting will be in March.