

**HARRISBURG CITY COUNCIL
LEGISLATIVE SESSION MINUTES
Tuesday, November 10, 2020**

A G E N D A

CALL TO ORDER

- President Williams called the meeting to order at 6:00PM.

ROLL CALL

- The City Clerk called the roll and all 7 members were present during roll call, namely: Ben Allatt, Danielle Bowers, Shamaine Daniels, Ausha Green, Dave Madsen, Westburn Majors and Wanda R. D. Williams.

INVOCATION/MOMENT OF SILENCE

- The Moment of Silence was led by Mr. Madsen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

- The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Ms. Green.

COMMUNICATIONS

- Mayor Papenfuse introduced new employee Deborah Sibbering as the new Diversity Officer for the City of Harrisburg.
- Ms. Sibbering introduced herself to City Council, giving a brief overview of her background.

COURTESY OF THE FLOOR

- Rachel Goad submitted the following comment: Dear City Council, For months now, you have been engaging with the public in the development of Bill-8, to establish a Citizens Law Enforcement Advisory Committee that would serve as an intermediary between police and the public. You're voting on its adoption tonight. Many of us have provided regular feedback asking you to ensure that this body provides meaningful oversight to the City's police department, which has shown itself to otherwise lack transparency and accountability. This weekend, Harrisburg City officers disrupted a gathering of largely Black community members at Hurston Manor by unlawfully entering their property, and escalating a noise complaint to the point of pepper spraying and arresting the homeowner. The trauma caused by the City's officers who responded at the scene is completely unacceptable. These acts, backed up by multiple recordings, were egregious and abusive. Where is the oversight? How will these officers be held accountable? How will the City make things right for those who were abused? How do we ensure no other community members are treated this way? In the aftermath of George Floyd's murder, and among the many community meetings that were had, I learned that Harrisburg police are highly trained. They have accumulated hours and awards for all this training. According to the Mayor, they love training. Why did this extraordinarily well-trained police force escalate a noise complaint to the point of trauma and harm to multiple community members this weekend? How effectively are we using City funds if all this training results in an abusive police force? How many lawsuits has the City received as a result of such abuses? How much have we spent in legal fees? It seems clear that in these financially difficult times, police are an increasingly bad investment. Beyond better accountability and oversight of punitive tactics, police budgets should be redirected to programs and services that directly engage and materially support community members.

- Rachel Peacock submitted the following comment: I live in the City of Harrisburg. I've been writing to this City Counsel every week for the past few months asking them to help protect Black and Brown folks from police brutality. Yet this weekend I almost died at the hands of the Harrisburg Bureau of Police. I was terrified for my life, as well as the lives of my friends. Why hasn't the Mayor addressed a single concern of this city's residents over police conduct? A group of friends gathered at Dr. Kimeka Campbell's residence in Shipoke for an outside gathering. A little after 11:00, I saw a white light moving toward us from the end of her courtyard. I'm nosy, so I went to check it out, thinking it might be a friend. That's when I saw the uniform and realized there was a stranger in our midst. I walked up to him and asked him what is up? He never identified himself as police, never knocked or called over to us, and didn't go to the front door to ring the bell. Officer Hoover illegally entered my friend's Dr. Kimeka Campbell's property, claiming it was for a noise complaint. We had already turned the music off by the time he opened her gate without permission and walked on the property. So, I informed him that we already turned the music off, thanked him for coming, and asked him to step off the property. By this time, Dr. Campbell had come out and asked him why he thought he had the right to enter her property. Hoover refused to answer her at first. He asked for her name and if she was the property owner. She informed Hoover she was indeed the owner. Hoover's voice was extremely condescending and had an angry flare to it. He repeatedly lied and said he had a right to be on the property. Dr. Campbell informed him that he had the right to come to the property, but he didn't have the right to be on the property. He had entered the property without asking, without a warrant, and without identifying himself as a police officer. Dr. Campbell told him that she would be happy to speak to him once he got off the property, and that she would accept the citation for the noise complaint. When he still refused to leave the property, Dr. Campbell got loud, and told him repeatedly to get out of her yard. He didn't like that Dr. Campbell knew the law better than him and could quote it back to him and didn't like that she raised her voice. When she got loud, it was obvious he was mad, but he did back up to the gate. However, he wedged the gate open and refused to close it. I repeatedly asked Officer Hoover to go into the parking lot and allow me to close the gate. He refused and started threatening to cite Dr. Campbell for a public disturbance. At this point, a friend began recording Hoover, and I took pictures of his badge, name, and department. I repeatedly asked Officer Hoover to allow me to close the gate. I was calm, cool, and collected. Hoover was upset that we were recording him and called for backup. I continued to calmly ask him to move from the gate so that we could close it. Hoover then called for backup again. A short time later, Officer Cumming showed up and began blocking the gate as well but backed away when he realized I had a camera. Cumming knew that Hoover's actions weren't lawful and that's why he backed up. I was afraid for Dr. Campbell's life, because Hoover kept telling her if she moved toward him, he would mace her, but then reached around me and tried to grab her while she was on her property. I blocked the gate from inside the property, trying to protect her, even though I was terrified for my life. I know that cops are trigger happy. I have been to many protests for Police brutality. I've seen the videos. I've personally experienced police brutality before, and I'm sure I will experience it again. I just knew I had to try and deescalate the situation because Hoover was trying to instigate something. All his comments were about his authority and his rights to come on other people's property. He wasn't protecting and serving. He was using white supremacy to try and control the situation. Two more officers showed up. Hoover continued to escalate the situation by threatening to mace me and Dr. Campbell. He then stated he was going to mace us unless we backed up. I put down the phone and got in between Dr. Campbell and Hoover. I was so scared for Dr. Campbell's life. I knew I had to get in between them.

Hoover's demeanor was full of malice, and then he maced me. I still didn't move, though, because I didn't want my friends to get hurt. I knew as long as I am standing at my post Dr. Campbell was safe. My friend Josh moved me out of the way, laid on me, and instructed me not to move. It was the bravest thing I ever saw. He refused to let me up. After I was maced, Hoover grabbed Dr. Campbell from her yard, dragged her out the gate, and illegally detained Dr. Campbell. All of this over a noise complaint. All of this even though Dr. Campbell had agreed to pay the citation but wanted him to respect her fourth amendment rights. All this because Officer Hoover wanted to save face after illegally entering a property without a warrant, without announcing himself, and without identifying himself as police. Some people are going to say that Dr. Campbell should have been calmer. But raising your voice is not a crime. Breaking and entering is, even if you're a policeman, and even if you have a warrant you must knock and announce yourself. He responded to a noise complaint. He should have rung the doorbell, informed Dr. Campbell about the complaint, then given her a citation or a warning, and walked away. He was clearly in the wrong. After he handcuffed Dr. Campbell, he should have done better. My objective was de-escalation, but even though I was talking as calmly and politely as I could, Officer Hoover maced me, on Dr. Campbell's property. I was no threat to him. I could have been a hashtag of another lost Black soul. Josh could have been a hashtag. Dr. Campbell could have been a hashtag. It's hard being a Black woman in this country, and now I don't feel safe in my city. This encounter with the police this weekend was one of the scariest moments of my life. I tried to deescalate the situation. Anyone who knows me knows I'm not the calmest person. I'm an angry, loud, Black Woman 99% of the time. But I was scared shitless for myself and my friends. I knew I had to be careful and that's why I was so calm. I demand Officer Hoover be fired and dishonorably discharged to ensure he never hurts another Black Woman. I demand Officer Cumming be reprimanded. I demand CPL Chatman, who was there as a supervisor and refused to intervene, also be reprimanded for allowing his Officers to behave in such a way. I demand that MAYOR AND CITY COUNSEL CREATE A REAL REVIEW BOARD WITH PUNITIVE POWER. Because the cops can't keep getting away with this. I don't want this to be the standard of conduct any more.

- Liam Hicklin submitted the following comment: I wish this were another letter about bill 8-2020, and in some ways, it is, but more particularly, this letter is about the need for police oversight and the need to defund the Harrisburg Police Department. The way that City Council and the Mayor respond to this incident will demonstrate your commitment to the ideals you've championed as you take steps to create a body of Harrisburg residents to oversee matters of police misconduct. Adopting a bill that creates an advisory committee will be toothless if this incident isn't resolved fairly, transparently, and if consequences aren't meted out in a timely manner. This past Saturday night, a police officer responded to a noise complaint at a private residence on the 300 block of Second Street. There, a gathering of mainly Black and Brown friends who were in a celebratory mood were talking together and listening to music. Instead of ringing the doorbell or announcing himself to the people gathered in the courtyard, the officer opened a private gate and entered private property. Everything that followed was a result of this act, and of the officer's refusal to step off the property before addressing the owner of the house. The officer tried to convince the owner, Dr. Kimeka Campbell, that he had a right to be on her property. She informed him that he had a right to come to the property and issue a citation, but no right to step foot in her enclosed yard without a warrant and without announcing his presence. Instead of admitting his transgression, the officer assumed an offensive posture, escalated a situation that should not have occurred in the first place, used Mace on civilians who posed no threat WHILE STANDING ON PRIVATE PROPERTY, and illegally detained Dr. Campbell, grabbing her and pulling her from her property, without citing any grounds for arrest.

After roughly cuffing her and forcing her into his car, he drove her to Dauphin County Prison, ostensibly for booking. She was held in a cell for two hours. She was subsequently released without charges, and the citations that the officer could have issued had he knocked on the door, reported the complaint, written on site, and left, were then issued.

Harrisburg Bureau of Police will try to spin this story. They are sure to create the narrative that a loud, angry Black woman verbally accosted a police officer who acted professionally and followed procedures. Too many times, when officers violate the laws they are sworn to uphold, they use distraction techniques to shift the blame to the victim. But let's be clear: this entire incident was incited and escalated by Officer Hoover, who could simply have issued a citation and left. A woman raising her voice because an intruder refuses to step off her property is not a crime, no matter who the intruder is. We're calling for Officer Brandon J. Hoover to be fired and discharged in such a way that he will not be hired at another police department in this nation. We're calling for administrative action against the policemen who responded to Officer Hoover's call for backup yet did nothing to deescalate the situation or to put him in check. And we're demanding that Corporal Chatman, who was the supervising officer, yet declined to intervene, be reprimanded for allowing Dr. Campbell to be detained without cause. More than that, we're asking that City Council Members publicly acknowledge this egregious act and make a commitment to holding HBP accountable. This incident is not isolated. It is a part of a greater pattern in this city, this county, this state, and this nation. We need assurances that police will no longer be allowed to break the law and terrorize people at will, and that when they do, they will be held to the same standards citizens are when they break the law. Finally, I would like to implore Harrisburg City residents to figure out ways to resolve nuisances without calling the police. I'm thankful that no one was killed at the hands of the police. This incident had all the markers for another hashtag involving the loss of Black lives at the hands of the police. Your annoyance should not be so great that you're willing to see someone murdered.

- Brandon Basom submitted the following comment: The citizens of Harrisburg have waited since Saturday night for a statement from the Mayor, Commissioner Carter, or anybody from the Harrisburg Bureau of Police regarding what is being done about Officer Hoover and how he cowardly brutalized black women and activists for no discernable reason at Hurston Manor last Saturday evening. So, silence has been deafening. We also demand to know why Officer Cumming and CPL Chatman failed to intervene and stop the illegal actions of Officer Hoover. If there is no police accountability to the community the social contract is broken. The police can't ask for the support of the community while refusing to
Any answers you may be able to provide would be appreciated.
- Dre Ceja submitted the following comment: I and many of my neighbors were completely disturbed, disappointed, and righteously angry after hearing the events that transpired in Shipoke on the night of Nov 7th. Officer Hoover and his colleagues abused their power as police officers by trespassing, failing to identify themselves, and escalating the situation by using unnecessary force and violence during a simple noise complaint. This was a clear misuse of power and a violation of the rights of the property owner and those present that day. The citizens of Harrisburg demand- A.) Mayor Papenfuse to immediately fire Officer Hoover from the HPD B.) City council to immediately adopt the amendments the Harrisburg Community Review Board Working Group has proposed to Bill 8.

- Debs Nafziger submitted the following comment: On Saturday, Nov. 7, there was an incident at Dr. Campbell's private property in which a Harrisburg police officer named Brandon Hoover illegally came onto her yard announced, maced a group of people, and arrested Dr. Campbell. You will be hearing about these events in full detail from others submitting comments. The key things to note are:

Officer Hoover stepped onto Dr. Campbell's private property unannounced. When confronted, he said he was there responding to a noise complaint. Someone had turned the music off shortly after Officer Hoover arrived. Several people tried to de-escalate the situation, and Dr. Campbell told the officer to leave her yard. He said he had a right to come to someone's private property in response to a noise complaint. Dr. Campbell said "yes, you have the right to come TO my property, not ON my property." Officer Hoover backed up outside of the gate and put his foot in the doorway so they could not shut the gate. He called for backup, and when backup arrived, Officer Hoover maced the people who were trying to de-escalate, even though they were complying with orders and not threatening him. Officer Hoover then re-entered the property, grabbed Dr. Campbell, and pulled her out of her yard to arrest her. He took her away, and the remaining officers, Clint Cummings and Cpl Chatman refused to answer her husband's or anyone else's questions about where they took Dr. Campbell or why. Eventually, Dr. Campbell was released, and she called her husband to pick her up.

These actions on the part of Officer Hoover, Officer Cummings and Cpl Chatman are egregious and unacceptable. They continue to highlight that Black people are not safe in Harrisburg in their own private properties and homes. I am writing to demand that:

 1. Officer Hoover be fired without pay, without being transferred or re-hired. He should not be a police officer, because he blatantly disregarded the law when entering someone's private property unannounced and without a warrant, he escalated the situation rapidly and unwarrantedly, and endangered the lives of every person he was sworn to protect who were present that night.
 2. Harrisburg Police be held accountable to the law, policies and procedures, instead of acting however they want and disregarding the rights of Harrisburg residents.
 3. the amendments presented for Bill 8 to establish a Community Law Enforcement Review Board be immediately implemented, because this incident is the exact reason, we need oversight of police and real power in the hands of the community.
- Alex Gannett submitted the following comment: As a Harrisburg City community member, I am appalled by the actions of Officer Hoover against Dr. Kimeka Campbell and the other activists at Dr. Campbell's private residence, Hurston Manor, on 11/7. First, I demand that Mayor Papenfuse fire Officer Hoover immediately. This community will not stand for unlawful actions by our city police officers. This continued abuse of power against Black activists and Black women specifically is unacceptable and does nothing to repair the relationship between community members and police.

Secondly, I demand that the city council adopt all the amendments the Harrisburg Community Review Board Working Group has proposed to Bill 8 without delay. This action would go a long way to show the community that their safety when interacting with the police is a priority.
- Onah Ossai submitted the following comment: For weeks the Harrisburg Community Review Board Working Group, led by Dr. Kimeka Campbell, has been working tirelessly to amend the proposed Bill 8 to allow for a Citizen Review Board with actual teeth in the City of Harrisburg. We have heard every excuse imaginable as to why this is not possible in the City of Harrisburg. On Saturday night this same activist and my friend, Dr. Kimeka Campbell, was placed under arrest at her private residence in Shipoke after a neighbor

called in a noise complaint and an officer made a warrantless entry onto her property. My friends in attendance were maced by Officer Brandon Hoover and Kimeka was charged with disorderly conduct after she repeatedly asked the UNINVITED officer to remove himself from her property.

Nobody, even a police officer, has the right to enter someone's private property without an invitation or a warrant. This was a noise complaint and the officer had no reason to believe that harm would be done to himself or anyone else. If an officer enters someone's home without a warrant or belief that someone is in danger they should expect to be treated in the same manner as any citizen who breaks into someone's home. We all have a right to privacy and to protect our homes and loved ones.

The City of Harrisburg is predominantly people of color. We deserve to be safe from police aggression in this Capital City. We deserve to be treated with dignity and respect from all persons who hold any public office and/or jobs within the city.

We are calling on Papenfuse to use his EXECUTIVE POWERS and fire Officer Hoover for his egregious behavior on that night. He has proven that he views black people exercising their freedoms on private property as a reason to assault and bring physical harm upon them. Officer Hoover had no reason to fear for his safety or the safety of others. This time he was trigger happy with pepper spray. If he is allowed to remain on the force imagine what he could be trigger happy with next time.

It has never been more evident that the City Council MUST provide the City with a board that can hold the police force accountable because the Mayor is unable to execute his lawful duties in this regard.

- Lindsay Kirkwood submitted the following comment: Mayor Papenfuse must take this opportunity to take real action in support of our POC community members. Showing up at a protest or two is not action. The mayor has an opportunity to show a real commitment to change and a true understanding of the dangers that black people in our city face at the hands of Harrisburg PD. Mayor Papenfuse must move immediately to fire Officer Hoover for the blatant mishandling and abuse of power exercised over the weekend. Additionally, Harrisburg City Council must show that they are truly invested and listening to the community by adopting all amendments that the Harrisburg Community Review Board Working Group has proposed to Bill 8. Now is the time for action, not complacency or platitudes.
- Takeria Brown submitted the following comment: My name is Takeria Brown and my son's name is Rae'jay Terrell-Brown. I reside in Harrisburg. On Sept 4th, I was out of town at a cottage at Camp Hebron where I take my kids to get away from the city and that's also a place to reconnect with their father due to him passing In October of 2015. My son who was on juvenile probation was approved to also go to the campsite with us as a family as we have done. Mr. Kyle Houser a dauphin county parole officer had approved, my son who was a All A student after losing his father and me being shot and being paralyzed in 2016, my son had loss all hope. Judge Marsico had just commended my son on how good he was doing and took him of extensive probation. His parole officer was not happy and he had expressed that but judge Marsico seen that my son had been on probation since he was 14 for minor offenses and he expressed that to the parole officer also. I was just getting him back on track he was scheduled to start school and has a son, he also had been working for UPS and trying to get his life straight, with the help of me putting him in school and getting him counseling because no one could help provide the help he needed. That day, my oldest daughter didn't get off work till 5pm. We went to the grocery store and we were on our way to the Campsite around 8pm. Due to a car situation we had to make 2 trips. While up at the campsite Harrisburg police and juvenile probation entered my house without anyone's permission. My sons friend had a gun I was told that he told the police it was his. While up there my daughter called me and the police and parole officers refused to speak with me or tell me what was going on. They locked my mom up from a warrant and gave my son all his friends charges and

locked him up in abraxas without telling me anything. My daughter told me they choked my son in his room, and they went through my house and tore everything up and apart.

When I came home, I went straight to the police department because, I don't sell drugs or anything I did not understand why they had to rip my house apart. I did not know where my son was or did not have any information on him. I tried to file a complaint and the officer said she will not file against the place that she works for. Last week I receive charges in the mail, now I'm being charged with drugs that I did have and or I wasn't even there. What kind of corrupt stuff is going on in Harrisburg? How can you charge me and I was not even there? My son was not even supposed to be home because of us leaving that night we had to make 2 trips. The PO who came to my house told my mom they were there for a curfew check, but my son was approved to not be home. Does this make sense? They literally almost pushed my mom down she said trying to go up the steps and she already walks with a limp. Not only that my son had already lost hope in the system so why and how am I being charge for something I didn't do or have and I was not even there, I have all proof of everything someone please get back to me I have to go to court over this in February this is ludicrous. I've lost hope in Harrisburg.

- Vishal Bajpai submitted the following comment: I was not originally planning on going over the facts of the incident that occurred late this past Saturday. However, it has become clear from the Mayor's comments on Facebook that Eric plans on making the facts an issue. A noise complaint was called on a gathering of predominantly black folk at Hurston Manor late Saturday evening. The responding officer, Officer Hoover, let himself into the backyard without asking and without any discernible reason. We noticed lights from outside the yard, presumably from the police car, and investigated. However, by then, Officer Hoover was already in the yard. Guests asked the officer to leave the yard, the officer told us he had come due to a noise complaint, we turned off the music and repeated ourselves, "leave our property."

Officer Hoover did not comply. Instead he continued to escalate the situation despite guests' repeated attempts to deescalate. Officer Hoover refused to leave the yard, refused to let us shut our gate, and took every opportunity he could to continue the confrontation. This culminated in Officer Hoover deploying mace on non-threatening guests and arresting Dr. Campbell. After kidnapping Dr. Campbell, the officers continued to be unhelpful. They would not tell us what department they were from or what jurisdiction they covered. I had to check their cars to find out. They would not tell us where Dr. Campbell was taken. They would not tell us how to file a complaint or gain access to body cam footage. With the facts out of the way, I want to turn to how poorly all of this reflects on HPD. An officer entered private property without permission. He couldn't have had a compelling reason to enter the property to save or protect anyone. The only sounds we made were celebratory and joyous. Even if the officer had tried and failed to summon us to the gate, the officer had several other options to get our attention instead of trespassing onto the property. The officer could have run his sirens, flickered his lights, or knocked on the gate loudly. Instead, the course the officer took ended up making MORE noise while responding to a noise complaint.

We are in the middle of a pandemic caused by a respiratory virus. Our outdoor and distanced gathering turned into us rushing around watery eyed and coughing when mace was deployed. Despite our best efforts, we were compelled into less than safe conditions. This is of course more true for Dr. Campbell who was abducted from her home and put into contact with many possible vectors. Councilmember Green, Majors, Madsen, Daniels, and Bowers, you have all expressed privately that you believe that policing in the US is informed by white supremacy. All of you have expressed that you want to increase accountability. All of you have expressed an interest in hearing of incidents where the police act out of turn. Here is your opportunity. We need neither the HPD's nor

Eric's permission to be mad. Unfortunately, because residents have no way to hold the police accountable, we need the City's permission to do anything about it. I see no way forward other than firing Officer Hoover and reprimanding the supervising officer, CPL Chatman.

Further, this incident underscores the importance of having a strong citizen's review board. Especially given Eric's musings on Facebook. It is improper for a city official, particularly the head executive, to be making final decisions regarding the facts and picking a side online in such a fashion. It reveals the government's sympathies and reinforces our point that citizens need control. This is our City, not just Eric's. Sorry Eric. On a related note, the City continues to not do its job and rely on citizen volunteers. Yesterday, resident activists with Greater Harrisburg Tenants United successfully stopped an eviction. It is mind boggling that the City does NOTHING while people are being evicted in winter during a pandemic. It is clear to me that the current makeup of City government is not at all concerned with the lived experiences of so many city residents. Thank you for considering all diverse perspectives in our little city. Many opinions arise in conversations around police, most of which are quite polarized. One thing that everyone can find in common is that we want to feel safe in our city. Whether you are a person who feels safe in the presence of police or whether you feel threatened depends on who you are and how you are viewed in our society.

- Andrew Hollinger submitted the following comment: On November 7th 2020, HBP Officer Brandon Hoover illegally entered the property of community activist Dr. Kimeka Campbell in response to a noise complaint. After the issue had been solved, with music turned off, Officer Hoover had been asked to leave and in refusing to do so, escalated the situation resulting in the deployment of pepper spray and the arrest of Dr. Campbell. This is shameful. This breach of privacy and excessive use of force over a noise complaint is the exact reason why Harrisburg needs to hold our public servants accountable for their actions. We can't trust our police. We can't trust our public servants. We need a Civilian Review Board with the adequate transparent oversight to make change and not just "suggestions." We need the amendments put forth by the Hbg Community Review Board Working Group. If we can't trust our public servants to protect us then we must be able to protect ourselves.
Our community demands the firing of Officer Brandon Hoover.
We demand Officer's Hoovers supervisor be reprimanded.
We demand the amended Bill 8 be adopted.
We demand transparency, accountability, and trust for our public servants.
- Chelsea Howard-Foley submitted the following comment: I'm a resident, property owner and taxpayer in the City of Harrisburg. As a citizen I am demanding that Officer Brandon Hoover of the Harrisburg Police Department be fired for abusing his powers as an officer and unlawfully retaining Dr. Campbell. Additionally, he needs to be stripped of all of his benefits and pension for his conduct.
- Jessie Pierce submitted the following comment: Late Saturday evening, Harrisburg PD officer Hoover entered the property of Dr. Kaye Campbell without warning, consent, or identification, indiscriminately used mace on the celebratory gathering of her colleagues, arrested her for no clear reason, and detained her until the early morning. The blatant and unnecessary use of force, initiated unlawfully and without a warrant, confirms what black and brown residents of Harrisburg already know: that they are never safe from police violence, even in their own homes. Furthermore, Dr. Campbell has been steadfast in calling for improvement in Harrisburg's public safety protocols. She and her colleagues in Harrisburg Young Professionals of Color have been working tirelessly to call on the City Council to provide concrete and enforceable avenues to hold the Harrisburg PD accountable. It fills me with fury and dismay to learn that she was abducted and brutalized by the very institution she is working so hard to improve. I would like to join

my fellow community members in calling for officer Hoover to be fired and his supervisor to receive a formal reprimand. There is absolutely no excuse for this behavior and in any other job position he would be sacked without question.

Should City Council shirk its opportunity to adopt the amendments to Bill 8 that have been repeatedly brought to their attention, it will be yet another act of disrespect to Dr. Campbell, her colleagues, and all of the people of color of Harrisburg who currently endure ongoing police violence with no recourse for holding them accountable.

By the time this comment is read, the Council will have made a decision on how to proceed regarding Bill 8. My question for you is this: if a police officer burst into YOUR backyard, with no warning or explanation, maced your friends, and kidnapped you from your own property for no discernable reason, would you feel confident that the current version of the Citizens Law Enforcement Advisory Council would provide you adequate recourse for holding them accountable? What if it happened to your spouse? Your parents? Your child? Who does this Council protect?

- Melissa Hunsberger submitted the following comment: Police Interaction continues to be an ongoing discussion within the City Council. Our unified efforts to further uplift citizen voices while passing policies and procedures that further mirror this desire has been the top, prioritized discussion piece. While we continue to fight towards these progressive changes, further incidents of police misconduct highlight the need to not only pass the proposed legislation with citizen input, but we must take pause at every incident of police misconduct to shed further light on its ongoing effect in our community.

November 7, 2020 marked another day where police overstep and an increased confidence in jaded rationale lead Harrisburg Bureau of Police onto the property of a prevalent community activist of color. It is no secret that Dr. Kimeka Campbell has been an ardent advocate in the amendments of Harrisburg City's Proposed Bill 8, a Citizen's Law Enforcement Advisory Committee. With this as her position and her reality, she has lived a reality of targeting known by far too many of black leadership pushing agendas that serve the specific needs of Black and Brown people of color in Harrisburg. The actions of the police, which include unlawful entering her property, refusal for self-identification, and unwarranted escalation which prompted making and subsequent arrests. The unaccounted and excessive use of force and baiting by police continues to provide spaces of fear, intimidation, and violence in the City of Harrisburg. In City Council's continued role to speak for and advocate for community members, we are asking that City Council adopt all amendments proposed without further delay. Eliminating every possible area where abuse of power can occur, we push once again, as a community, to urge members of City Council to consider how events, such as those on November 7, 2020 can be best managed had we already formulated and passed this long overdue Community oversight and accountability method. We can no longer wait or debate about it. The time to act is now.

- Hanniel Sindelar submitted the following comment: I appreciate the work of this council, and while I've advocated for community proposed amendments to Bill 8 in the past, I feel the need tonight to specifically address the egregious actions of HBP officer Brandon Hoover this weekend. I have heard community concerns about the effectiveness of an "advisory council" be repeatedly dismissed; meanwhile, officers in our city continue to face no consequences for their unlawful and dangerous conduct. It is impossible to believe at this point that our police department has the ability to properly address community concerns on their own, or the willingness to use their own infrastructure to hold responsible officers accountable. And now, active community members are facing illegal actions at the hands of HBP officers, with seemingly no reports even filed and available for public viewing? It's abhorrent and anyone saying otherwise should be downright ashamed of themselves.

It is time for council to take action and move this conversation forward; all community proposed amendments, including Unobstructed Access and Independent Investigation

must be included, and the Community Review Board must be founded. Further, action must be taken to ensure that officer Hoover's dangerous and irresponsible behavior is not repeated; it is completely unacceptable and needs to be addressed immediately.

- Jen Hartman submitted the following comment: Police Interaction continues to be an ongoing discussion within the City Council. Our unified efforts to further uplift citizen voices while passing policies and procedures that further mirror this desire has been the top, prioritized discussion piece. While we continue to fight towards these progressive changes, further incidents of police misconduct highlight the need to not only pass the proposed legislation with citizen input, but we must take pause at every incident of police misconduct to shed further light on its ongoing effect in our community.
November 7, 2020 marked another day where police overstep and an increased confidence in jaded rationale lead Harrisburg Bureau of Police onto the property of a prevalent community activist of color. It is no secret that Dr. Kimeka Campbell has been an ardent advocate in the amendments of Harrisburg City's Proposed Bill 8, a Citizen's Law Enforcement Advisory Committee. With this as her position and her reality, she has lived a reality of targeting known by far too many of black leadership pushing agendas that serve the specific needs of Black and Brown people of color in Harrisburg. The actions of the police, which include unlawful entering her property, refusal for self-identification, and unwarranted escalation which prompted making and subsequent arrests. The unaccounted and excessive use of force and baiting by police continues to provide spaces of fear, intimidation, and violence in the City of Harrisburg.
In City Council's continued role to speak for and advocate for community members, we are asking that City Council adopt all amendments proposed without further delay. Eliminating every possible area where abuse of power can occur, we push once again, as a community, to urge members of City Council to consider how events, such as those on November 7, 2020 can be best managed had we already formulated and passed this long overdue Community oversight and accountability method. We can no longer wait or debate about it. The time to act is now.
- Dr. Kimeka Campbell submitted the following statement: I want you to know that no amount of blame-shifting or twisting the narrative of events that happened Saturday night, November 7th, is going to erase the trauma Officer Brandon J. Hoover inflicted on me. Thanks to his response to a noise complaint, I have been unable to concentrate, and have had bouts of emotional numbness and emotional distress. I understand that a gathering on my property, which started as a joyful event after nearly a week of nail-biting over this presidential election, elicited a complaint from a neighbor. Had the officer come to the front door and asked to speak to me, I would have accepted the citation, paid it, and been done with it. I never disputed the legitimacy of the complaint, though I hope that one of the outcomes of this event is that we, as neighbors, will not call the cops for nuisance complaints. The police are criminally unequipped to deal with simple citations, and evidently, when white cops respond to calls that involve gatherings of Black people, they feel threatened enough to use weapons to "defend" themselves. I can't imagine that a police officer responding to a majority white gathering in midtown would respond in the same manner or escalate the situation as quickly and forcefully as officer Hoover did. What I do take issue with is an officer entering my property for any reason without my express permission. Even if the officer had a warrant to enter the property, he is required by law to identify himself and speak to the owner before stepping on the grounds. The area of my courtyard that Officer Hoover entered is enclosed and secured by a gate. Officer Hoover took it upon himself to open a secured gate and to enter my property without identifying himself. Had he not been intercepted by a guest who asked if she could help him, he would have walked up to my back door without ever having identified himself. Officer Hoover was challenged on his right to enter my property. I felt, as a citizen, a resident of Harrisburg, and a property owner, that no

discussion with him should take place until he stepped off my property. I did not dispute his right to respond to the noise complaint, or to come to my property, but was incensed that he assumed my rights under the fourth amendment of the constitution were invalid.

When he refused to leave, despite being asked repeatedly and calmly to leave my property, I raised my voice. I raised my voice because too often, Black people experience violence at the hands of the police, and I felt that it was crucial that my neighbors hear me and witness what was going on, and I especially wanted the person who filed the complaint to see the consequences of their actions. Only after I raised my voice did Officer Hoover retreat to the gate. For some reason, he felt like it was important to keep the gate open. At any point in this interaction, he could have written and issued a citation and left. He chose instead to take an offensive posture, to call for backup, and to threaten me and my friends with bodily harm. When his backup arrived, my friends and I were confronted with three hostile White officers, all of whom had their hands on their Mace or their weapons. Officer Hoover told me to step back or he would Mace me (I was inside my gate, on my property, and in no way threatening him). I complied immediately, yet when I stepped back, Officer Hoover reached around my friend, who had put her body between us in a protective and brave act, and grabbed my sweatshirt. I was genuinely confused: he told me to step back and then tried to pull me toward him. I stepped back and fell to the ground. At this point, he maced my friend Rachel, who was still asking him to step out of the gate and let her close it. After incapacitating her, he again entered my property, dragged me to his car, and handcuffed me. At no point did he say why he was arresting me, nor did he read my rights to me. He drove me to DCP, where I was dragged out of the car, and put me in a cell with a used blanket, putting me at risk of contracting COVID-19. Two hours later, I was released from the cell and told I was free to go. The officers at the desk spoke to me almost cheerfully, as if I had walked into the prison of my own will to ask them a question about a citation I'd been written.

I want to make it clear that Officer Hoover, from the time we walked into the prison, tried to spin the story to make it sound as if he'd been following procedure and I'd assaulted him. I expect now that these lies will be repeated by Eric Papenfuse, who believes he has the "real story," though he neither witnessed the events nor questioned any of the witnesses who were there. This cover-up is exactly why we need a civilian review board that is not connected to the police department or to the mayor's office, a board that insists on police accountability and transparency, at least until we can defund and abolish the police. I'm tired of hearing how the police are here to protect and serve us, I'm tired of hearing how stressed they are and how difficult their jobs are. We're tired, we're stressed, and we're fearful for our lives. City Councilmembers need to get it together and decide whether they are here to represent the people who elected them or to cater to the police so that we can decide who needs to be replaced next election cycle.

I want to see Officer Hoover fired. I want to be assured that he will never have the chance to terrorize another person with the protection of his uniform. I want the officers who responded and did nothing to de-escalate their colleague to be reprimanded. And I want Corporal Chatman disciplined for refusing to intervene, as a supervisor when he clearly saw that his officer was out of line and out of control. None of this will heal my emotional trauma. None of this will make up for what was taken from me. But I'm tired of police acting like thugs and getting away from it. It has to end now.

- Matthew Cossick submitted the following comment: Hey my name is Matthew Cossick. I think it is sickening how officer Hoover violated the sanctity of my friends' home, assaulted her, then kidnapped her. If that doesn't sound like a threat to our community then I don't know what is. Fix it or get out of the people's way. Either you have the power, or we must do it ourselves.

- Upon motion by President Williams, with no objections, the Legislative Session Minutes of October 27, 2020 were deemed approved.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

- There were none.

ORDINANCES FOR FIRST READING

- There were none.

ORDINANCES FOR AMENDMENT

- There were none.

ORDINANCES FOR FINAL PASSAGE

- **The City Clerk read Bill 8 2020 into record** - An Ordinance amending Part 5 of the Administrative Code under Chapter 2-500, adding thereto Chapter 2-515 to establish a Citizens Law Enforcement Advisory Committee.
- President Williams read a statement regarding her vote on Bill 8-2020.
- **President Williams called for the vote and this passed 6-1, with Ms. Williams voting in the negative.**

RESOLUTIONS

- **The City Clerk read Resolution 86-2020 into record** - A Resolution approving the Sixth Proposed 2020 Budget Reallocation.
- Mr. Allatt made a motion, seconded by Mr. Majors to suspend the rules to allow discussion of Resolution 86-2020.
- There was a discussion on Resolution 86-2020 to consider for passage.
- President Williams went back into session.
- Councilwoman Daniels made a motion, seconded by Mr. Madsen to remove appendix B.
- The motion failed 3-4, with Ms. Daniels, Mr. Madsen and Mr. Majors voting in the positive.
- **President Williams called for the vote and this passed 6-1, with Ms. Daniels voting in the negative.**
- **The City Clerk read Resolution 89-2020 into record** - A Resolution authorizing the City to negotiate and enter into a Master Certified Local Government Grant Agreement with the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission (PHMC) providing for eligibility to apply for grants through the Certified Local Government Grant Program for projects that support the City's historic preservation program.
- **President Williams placed this in the Building and Housing Committee.**

OLD BUSINESS

- Councilman Majors thanked Chair Green for her hard work on Bill 8.

NEW BUSINESS

- Councilman Majors said there is an increase in COVID cases across the Commonwealth encouraged everyone to practice safety measures to work to getting our city back up and running.
- President Williams announced the remaining City Council schedule for 2020. Public Hearing-November 23rd, Legislative Session-November 24th, Budget Hearing-December

8th, Budget Hearing-December 9th and final vote on the Budget is scheduled for December 10th.

ADJOURNMENT

- The meeting adjourned at 7:58PM.