

The Procedural Justice Committee held a virtual meeting on Feb. 9, 2021. Committee Co-Chair Yvonne Flowers started the meeting by asking if any members had further comments about the preliminary draft of the city's Police Reform And Modernization Collaborative Plan that ultimately will be sent to the state as per Gov. Andrew Cuomo's Executive Order 203.

The city released its preliminary draft report on Feb. 2. The report touched on many of the issues addressed in the Procedural Justice Committee's earlier recommendations, including creating a civilian oversight board, fostering additional mental health partnerships, improving the police department's complaint form, ensuring more diversity in the ranks, increasing community policing and other matters.

The city has set a public hearing for Feb. 10 to gain more public input.

Procedural Justice Committee members said they did not have further suggestions about the report but wanted to know more about the Feb. 10 public meeting.

John Penney, the city's Community Engagement Director, said residents will each have up to three minutes to speak and that Mayor Rob Rolison and Police Chief Tom Pape, Captain Wilson and Yvonne Flowers would be there to listen. The city intends to finalize the report sometime after the public meeting and forwarded it to the Common Council meeting.

The committee also discussed whether they should change the dates of their meetings and whether members wanted to continue under this configuration now that their work with the city's Police Reform And Modernization Collaborative report is finished. Flowers said she would poll the committee members to get an answer to those questions.