



SALEM POLICE
EMPLOYEES UNION
STRENGTH THROUGH UNITY

To: Salem City Council and City Manager Steve Powers
From: Scotty Nowning, SPEU President
Date: June 24, 2020
Subject: SPEU Support for Body Worn Cameras for Salem Police

Greetings,

As President of the Salem Police Employees Union (SPEU), and on behalf of the SPEU and the employees represented by the SPEU, SPEU is urging the Salem City Council to consider the purchase of Body Worn Cameras (BWCs) to increase the transparency of the review of the actions that our Officer's take as guardians in our community.

SPEU believes these cameras, together with a thoughtful policy governing their use, will increase the public trust and demonstrate to the citizens of Salem what I and the members of SPEU already know; that Salem Police Officers are highly trained, dedicated, men and women who are guardians of this community who show up in service for the citizens of the City of Salem 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days a year and do so in a professional, unbiased manner.

As the President of SPEU, I have also heard the call for additional training of our officers. Although our officers are highly trained and are subject to continual training throughout their careers, many training requests from officers are denied due to lack of funding. Therefore, on behalf of SPEU, I am asking and proposing to the City Council and City Manager that there be a substantial increase of the current training budget of the Salem Police Department so we can become the model for all police agencies when it comes to training and implementation of best practices.

Thank you for your consideration and the SPEU executive team and I look forward to having a serious dialogue with all of you concerning these proposals and other challenging issues facing our officers and the community we serve.

Respectfully,


Scotty Nowning, SPEU President

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