

From: Heather Kuhl
Sent: Wednesday, July 8, 2020 2:08 PM
To: Melanie Kollmansberger
Subject: Fw: statement regarding Officer Joseph Mensah

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
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Melanie,

Please include my email in the agenda packet for next weeks meeting.

Thank you.

To the members of the Wauwatosa Police and Fire Commission,

Last year, Wauwatosa acknowledged our racist history and our genuine desire as a Council and community to make Tosa a more inclusive and welcoming place with the formation of the Equity and Inclusion Committee. Last week we approved the formation of an ad hoc committee that will help break down the overwhelming task of addressing the systemic racism that exists in every aspect of our society.

These are fine first steps, but it feels a bit like we’re rearranging the furniture while our house is on fire. It is time that we acknowledge that, as long as Joseph Mensah is representing the city of Wauwatosa and our Police Department, we cannot purport to have any serious conversations about repairing the damage of our past and committing to building a community that is inclusive for all. The question before you is, do you as a Commission honestly believe that this officer’s actions have proven that he has the temperament, the mental fitness and the compassion that we should require of those that we entrust to serve and protect?

I strongly encourage the members of the Wauwatosa Police and Fire Commission to correct the mistakes of leadership that empowered this officer to fire six bullets into Jay Anderson, eight bullets into Antonio Gonzalez, and four bullets into Alvin Cole. Remove Officer Mensah from his position on the Wauwatosa Police Department and start rebuilding public trust in our PD and our elected officials.

(Clerk, please include this email in the agenda packet for the 7/15 PFC meeting)

Best,
Heather Kuhl
Wauwatosa District 5 Alderperson

Attachment: Written Communication received for PFC_7.15.20 (Opening Statements - PFC meeting 7.15.20)