



August 23, 2021

Chair Ann B. Wheeler  
Prince William Board of County Supervisors  
1 County Complex Court  
Prince William County, VA 22192

Mr. Christopher E. Martino  
County Executive, Prince William County  
1 County Complex Court  
Prince William County, VA 22192

Chair Wheeler & County Executive Martino,

We are writing to request that Chief Newsham be added to the Agencies portion of the Agenda for the next Regular Meeting of the Board of County Supervisors on September 7, 2021. Since its publication in Potomac Local on August 19, 2021, we have received numerous calls, emails, questions, and concerns regarding a police body cam video of an interaction with a private citizen who resides in the Potomac District.

The public record is clear that after the individual sent an email to the Board of County Supervisors where he was critical of certain members of the Board, the Police were sent to his house, even though it was determined that he had not done anything illegal. This has led to questions from many of our constituents about the potential politicization of our police department.

As you are aware, public safety and our police department are core functions of local government. It is imperative that the public has confidence in our police department and that they know our police are not a political enforcement arm of the Board of County Supervisors. In addition, the citizens of Prince William County must be assured that our police force are objective and enforce the law equally for the benefit of all citizens of Prince William County without special treatment for a select few.

The men and women who place themselves in harm's way to keep our community safe deserve to have the full support of the Board in seeking transparency on this matter. Even the appearance of impropriety in the use of our police force must be addressed to ensure our first responders are never again placed in the difficult position witnessed in the body cam video in question.

Therefore, we respectfully request that Chief Newsham be added to the Sept. 7<sup>th</sup> agenda for a full public disclosure of the events surrounding this incident. We look forward to working with you both in addressing the many constituent concerns we have received on this matter and hopefully dispelling the perception that precious County resources were employed to serve a political purpose.

Sincerely,



Pete Candland  
Supervisor  
Gainesville District



Jeanine Lawson  
Supervisor  
Brentsville District



Yesli Vega  
Supervisor  
Coles District