

# Pushed from the Agenda

CONTINUED FROM FRONT

evaluations for police currently on the job and weeds out cops who may not be good for the profession, providing as an example, a person bullied throughout life who becomes a cop and holds a superiority complex over the residents they serve.

James' brother Maqueal, from his standpoint as someone who witnessed the Rodney King riots in Los Angeles, said of Portland's police and community interactions, "We don't get any peaceful sleep because we know we have to wake up and deal with the same old mess on our plate."

Another issue that riled up the activist citizens was a proposed policy on body camera footage that would allow officers to review the video prior to writing incident reports. Hales accepted the terms in private negotiations with the union, going outside a pledge he made to allow the public to weigh in on the contract, the advocates said.

Talks between Hales and the activists broke down last week after the mayor suddenly moved a scheduled meeting between the groups from City Hall to the Vancouver Avenue First Baptist Church, a historically black congregation in north Portland.

The lack of enthusiasm for the contract continued the following Wednesday during a City Council meeting.

The mayor amended the body camera proposal to say "substantial public input will be required prior to finalization of the policy," but verbiage stating the police union still has the final decision on video viewing hadn't changed, drew widespread condemnation from the activists.

Many approached the podium with heated words for the mayor and city commissioners. Comments by David Kif Davis of Multnomah County Copwatch led to Hales storming out of the chambers, leaving the audience in the dark for around 20 minutes.

With much of the public's testimony being not having enough time to read and fully comprehend the contract, Hales finally decided to postpone the council's vote for at least until Oct. 13. He also agreed to open this week's agenda for more discussion on the issues.

"You're just pretending to listen to us," McKelvey said at the podium. "We all know what you're going to do once this meeting is over."

Nevertheless, the activists saw triumph in the delay.

"We view this as a victory for our movement, says McKelvey. "We have won the battle but the war is still to come."

Monday, Hales issued a statement saying there was understandable confusion about the collective bargaining agreement and offered to address the concerns.

He said the agreement was needed to fill officer vacancies and that it reinforces accountability and transparency in the Police Bureau. He also asked residents to read the contract on the City Auditor's website along with a draft proposal on police using body worn cameras.



A hands-on computer coding experiment is part of the fun when from the Boys and Girls Club visit Google of Portland.

# Computer Science Introduction

Kids from local Boys & Girls Clubs had an opportunity to dive into the world of computer science and spend the afternoon with those working in the field, during a special after-school visit to Google in Portland last week.

The kids took part in a hands-on computer coding activity, listened to a computer science career panel featuring Google employees who work on popular

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