



PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

December 18, 2019 – 4:00 P.M.

City Hall Conference Room

Attending: Councilman Jeff Henley, Chair; Councilman Ron Erb; Councilman Vondell Richmond; Councilman Travis Holleman

Others Present: Building & Codes Interim Director David Smith, Police Chief Alonzo Ansley, Fire Chief Freddie Montgomery, Deputy Fire Chief Steve Batten, Richard Stevens, April Barnes and Paula McWhirter

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m. by Chairman Henley and it was noted there was a quorum present.

Minutes from the October 16, 2019 meeting were approved by the committee after a motion was made by Councilman Richmond, seconded by Councilman Erb.

BUILDING & CODES DEPARTMENT:

- David Smith presented the department's monthly report and stated he would entertain any questions.
- Councilman Henley stated it is very impressive that the department's General Fund revenue has more than doubled each month which is influenced by the number of permits/inspections issued.
- Mr. Smith informed the committee he and Councilman Erb recently discussed a concern from a constituent regarding the lack of self-initiated complaints in Ward 3. Mr. Smith explained the Codes Enforcement report the committee/council receives each month does identify complaints called in versus self-initiated complaints and they are close to 50-50 based on the data. Mr. Smith also stated he is looking into including complaint based data by Ward and hopefully this will be available as part of the department report in the near future.
- Mr. Smith also advised the committee a budget amendment for the department will be presented soon through the Finance Committee for the purchase of tablets for the inspectors in the Construction Division to move towards a paperless inspection process.

POLICE DEPARTMENT:

- Chief Ansley presented the department's monthly report and advised he would answer any questions.
- Chief Ansley advised the committee he wanted to take the opportunity to talk about the department's Evidence Room and invited the members to take a tour when they have the opportunity. Accreditation started in 2007 and Chief Ansley is very proud of the progress that has been made within the facility since that

time. Presently there are 83,058 items stored within the facility with a monthly average of 1494 items received bringing the annual average to 17,925 items received. Chief Ansley also informed the Members regular reviews and audits are an important part of the ongoing process in maintaining the evidence room facility as well as proper disposal of property and evidence in a timely and legal manner. In 2017 the department destroyed 9,833 items and this year they are looking to destroy almost 18,000 items which is a huge indication of the progress that is and continues to be made.

- Councilman Henley asked about staffing goals for the department and Chief Ansley advised at the present the department is 20 down but they are at the highest level ever for female and minority officers but we are still not where we need to be.

FIRE DEPARTMENT:

- Chief Montgomery presented the department's monthly report advising the committee there were approximately 13,429 runs last month (4% fires) with an estimated \$420 million in property loss. Chief Montgomery continued with a breakdown report by Division and stated he would answer any questions.
- Chief Montgomery provided a follow up to a question regarding burn permits and clarified a burn permit is only required for commercial properties. Presently working on updating the phone menu to include an option specifically for burn information. Working on ways to better inform and educate the public.
- Clarksville Fire Rescue Maintenance Division is now fully staffed with the recent promotion of Captain Knickerbocker. The new maintenance building is in the design stage.
- Apparatus Committee has been created to design a new truck with the purchase being made soon.
- Chief Montgomery introduced Deputy Chief Steve Batten who will be replacing Deputy Fire Chief Ray Williams who is retiring at the end of the month.

CITY COUNCIL ACTION REQUIRED

ORDINANCE 49-2019-20: AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CITY CODE PERTAINING TO A PROHIBITION ON ELECTRIC MOTORIZED BICYCLES, SCOOTERS, AND SKATEBOARDS

The Members collectively expressed they felt they needed more time to review Ordinance 49-2019-20 and unanimously decided to postpone any discussion until the January 15, 2020 Public Safety meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further discussion motion to adjourn was made by Councilman Holleman, seconded by Councilman Erb and approved by the committee.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

April Barnes, RN, Director of Outreach at The Next Door Treatment Center, addressed the committee regarding the issues of addiction/substance abuse in our community and the common need to provide innovative treatment methods by partnering with local officials in an effort to provide quality care to those that struggle with substance abuse.

Submitted by:

Paula McWhirter, Building & Codes Department