

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MINUTES

February 8, 2016

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m.

Members Present: Tracy Richardson, Alan Seymour and Deb Groat

Others Present: Chief Golden, Terry Emery, Tim Aslaner, Taylor Evans

Approval of Minutes: The minutes for the meeting on December 14, 2015 were approved as presented.

Agenda:

Comments from Citizens:

Discuss Community Oriented Policing: Mr. Emery explained last year we had an interest in Community Oriented Policing, in which we were pursuing a grant opportunity. We thought we were successful with the grant, however, we later found out we were not successful. Today, we would like to introduce what our plans were for the Community Oriented Policing. Chief Golden is going to highlight for the Committee tonight what the next steps were to accomplish.

Mr. Seymour asked what the amount the grant was for. Chief Golden explained that it would have been around \$125,000. Which would have been 75% of the salary for three years. He said our salary would have been over that amount, so it would have been about 45% of the salary over three years.

Chief Golden said Community Oriented Policing is an organizational philosophy that promotes community, government and police partnerships, proactive problem solving, community engagement to address problems of crimes and fear of crimes. He also went over the attached and handout with the committee.

Mr. Emery asked Chief Golden to explain his budget because the thought of the position was pretty well established because they thought the City had received the grant. Chief Golden said that we had the funds in the 2016 budget for our portion of the new officer position and the money is still in the budget. He said the money would cover for us to promote an officer to sergeant. He said he would also like to use those funds in July to back fill a position of the officer who is promoted for the last half of the year.

Mrs. Richardson asked if we had the money to fund the COP position. Mr. Emery & Chief Golden explained only for half of the year. She then asked if they factored in the benefits into those numbers as well. They answered yes.

Mr. Emery asked if we are promoting an officer to sergeant what the difference in pay is. Chief Golden said it is approximately \$8,000.00 year. Mrs. Richardson asked if the person would become exempted with the promotion. Chief Golden answered no.

Mr. Seymour asked if they would propose this position in the 2017 budget. Chief Golden replied yes. Mrs. Richardson said it would need to be because we cannot promote someone in 2016 and then take it away in 2017.

Mrs. Richardson said when we look at the COP services, we could add the drug free coalition. She said maybe we could formalize it as part of the position to be a member of the drug free coalition.

Mr. Emery said they are looking for endorsement of the concept from the committee. He said this like anything else we can move on to the Finance Committee and brief them on the concept. He said we can continue to update the Council on the projects that the new bureau is working on. Chief Golden said the first step would be to get the sergeant in the position. Mrs. Groat said if she understands correctly, these sergeants are relatively stable and they are not doing any cross training. Mr. Emery answered no, we do not cross train. Chief Golden explained that this will be a job specific promotion. Mr. Seymour asked about the job vacancy this would create. Chief Golden explained that it would create a patrolman vacancy.

Mrs. Groat asked if we are budgetary safe in this concept. Chief Golden explained they are safe with the promotion and he understands the money is still in the budget but he would have to check with Mrs. Hutchinson to see what month we could hire the new officer. Mrs. Groat asked if we would have to shift funds to cover the new position the second half of the year.

Mrs. Groat asked what form of support they would like from the Committee. Mr. Emery said he would like it if the Safety committee would be interested in moving forward and for us to work with the Finance Committee to make sure we are comfortable in this year and moving forward in 2017.

Mrs. Groat moved to support the investigation of Community Services Bureau and the person to fill the position from that promotion.

Mr. Seymour asked what results we could expect from this position. Chief Golden said he could see a more proactive relationship between the police departments and the communities.

Mrs. Richardson said this would help with the neighborhood watches, they would have a person that the neighborhood watches could reach out to on the police department. Mr. Aslaner said it would be a proactive visibility for the police department.

Mrs. Richardson voiced her concern to the financial aspect of these positions. She said we could do this with Finance Committee or maybe with the Council as a whole.

Mrs. Richardson said she would like to go back to Mrs. Groats motion "Mrs. Groat moved to support the investigation of Community Services Bureau and the person to fill the position from that promotion." Mrs. Richardson voted YES; Mr. Seymour voted YES; and Mrs. Groat YES.

Mr. Emery said we will bring this in front of the finance committee meeting.

Mrs. Groat asked about re-nominating a chair. Mrs. Groat moved to confirm Mayor Rausch nomination of Mrs. Richardson as chair for the Public Safety committee. Everyone was in favor.

Adjournment: Mrs. Richardson adjourned the meeting at 5:31 pm.