

## **PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MINUTES**

**June 13, 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, Chief Riley, Terry Emery, W. Jeff Darling

**Approval of Minutes:** The minutes for April 11, 2016 were approved as submitted.

### **Agenda:**

**Comments from Citizens:** Mr. Darling spoke to the committee regarding the 2 person crew bill that is being proposed to be passed. He would like Council to pass a resolution opposing the bill. The due date for such resolution is June 15, 2016 at midnight. Mr. Darling stated that they would like to keep the train crew to a four man crew, and would not like to have unmanned trains or even the two man trains.

Mr. Seymour asked if he is ok with the way City Council and Mayor Rausch has handled his concerns. Mr. Darling answered every time he has called Mayor Rausch, he has answered his phone, and he has never had any trouble getting a hold of him. He also mentioned he has spoken with Councilwoman Richardson about the situation and being heard at the meeting.

Mr. Seymour added that Mr. Darling when speaking to Council mentioned some train wrecks and with four people on board it did not prevent those accidents. He said we also know that there is a lot of technology in the works right now. Which would make it hard to voice an opinion on the topic.

Mr. Emery added at the last Council meeting, there was a presentation on autonomous vehicle in the 33 corridor, which discussed on pursuing grant funding to make that happen. He said on one side City Council is looking at autonomous vehicles and on the other side if you took a position on how many people it should take to conduct a train. He feels that this would almost be contradictory for the Council.

Mr. Seymour explained that the Railroad Federation and the Transportation Divisions are both experts, and they are both looking out for the safety of the workers as well as the communities. He said most companies look at cost second and safety first, but he knew that Mr. Darling wouldn't agree with that statement.

Mrs. Groat said no matter how each of the members are feeling about it, what they are saying is it would be very difficult to come to a Council consensus to draft a letter of support. She said after hearing the back story, she thinks that Mr. Darling is looking for is a concrete support letter from Council opposing the two man crews.

Mr. Darling explained that he understands the Council's position on the topic.

**Discuss Meeting Date Changes:** Mrs. Richardson stated that they need to decide when they would like to start meeting, that when the Council starts meeting the second and fourth Monday in July. Mrs. Richardson and Mrs. Groat discussed this topic prior to the meeting and one option would be to keep the meetings at 5:00pm on the second Monday and meet prior the Council meeting. She stated another option would be to meet the second Thursday at 5:00pm. Mr. Seymour was in favor of meeting Monday prior to Council at 5:00pm.

Mrs. Groat made a motion for the Public Safety meetings on the second Monday at 5:00pm. All were in favor of the meeting date.

Mrs. Groat explained that she would not be at the meeting on July 11<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Seymour explained he would not be there as well.

**Adjournment:** Mrs. Richardson adjourned the meeting at 5:25 pm.