



Public Safety Committee

December 8, 2020

Regular Scheduled Meeting

DRAFTED MINUTES

The meeting was called to order at 3:39 P.M.

Elected Officials:

Councilmember Terry Carter (Chair)
Councilmember J. Kelly McClimans
Councilmember Todd Dole

Anticipated Staff:

Police Chief, Bryan Jeter
Fire Chief Bud Backer
City Administrator, John Vodopich
Management Analyst/Executive Assistant, Leslie Harris
Administrative Assistant III, Debbie McDonald

I. ROLL CALL:

Councilmember Carter delivered roll call.

II. REPORTS/PRESENTATIONS:

East Pierce Fire and Rescue Monthly Report - Bud Backer, Fire Chief

Fire Chief Backer discussed his monthly report. The response time is off because of the Sumner Grade Fire. Last couple of weeks call volumes have really gone down and could be down 1,000 calls by the end of the year. Had 7 positive cases of COVID last month. Had to put 30 people in isolation until test results comeback, lost 25% of his personnel.

Future Leadership of East Pierce Fire & Rescue - Bud Backer, Fire Chief

Fire Chief Backer advised the Committee his plans to retire in June 2021. Deputy Fire Chief Jon Parkinson will be the next Fire Chief. They will work on filling the Deputy Fire Chief position.

Councilmember Carter congratulated the Chief on his retirement.

Public Safety Monthly Report - Bryan Jeter, Police Chief

Police Chief Jeter discussed his activity report, they had a DUI in front of the Hungry Dog Café. There has been a lot of unwanted people around the Safeway Fred Meyer area and back in the forest. Did a sweep of the forest, with three people given no trespass warnings. Did have 2 people take the offer for help.

View by Vintage has had many calls, not any huge problems but they are not the property's private Police Department they have the rest of the City to cover. Did talk with the managers about the calls and they are doing what they can to lower the call volume. Overall could be down about 3,000 calls from last year.

Councilmember Dole was surprised with the car thief numbers.

Police Chief Jeter responded the numbers have been going down in car thieves, but have recovered cars that are being left in our City.

Councilmember McClimans asked how staff was doing.

Police Chief Jeter responded they are tired and brought up the outbreak over at the Fire Department and how easy it can spread. Will be conducting Sargent testing, have not held testing in the last seven years. Assistant Police Chief Alfano will be leaving and moving in to be the Chief of Police for Buckley. This will be big shoes to fill, but we are very proud of him.

Councilmember Dole asked if there would be any candidates internal to fill the Assistant Police Chief's vacancy.

Police Chief Jeter responded there are a few that are interested in the position.

III. BUSINESS/ACTION ITEMS:

Approval of Meeting Notes: October 13, 2020 - Debbie McDonald Administrative Specialist III

MINUTES APPROVED

IV. OPEN COMMITTEE DISCUSSION:

Councilmember McClimans would like to look at putting together an analysis for a cost of a jail and understands it would be a huge endeavor to undertake.

Councilmember Carter asked City Administrator Vodopich what would be the first step in the process.

City Administrator Vodopich replied the City would need to do a feasibility study.

Police Chief Jeter responded he thinks the cost for a study would be about \$50,000.00. He would like to stay in the same location and add a jail. The City owns a lot of the parcels around the station, so they can expand the foot print.

Councilmember Dole asked if Police Chief Jeter was interested in getting a jail.

Police Chief Jeter commented it is easier to be a customer in the jail business then running one.

Councilmember Carter doesn't mind waiting on doing the study, but still should have one done so we have all the information we need to make a good decision. Would need money in the budget to do a jail analysis.

City Administrator Vodopich responded will need to start with seeing how much the cost would be to do a study to know how much to budget for. This could be something we have an estimate for the first quarter of 2021 sometime in March.

Chair Carter adjourned the meeting at 4:28


Debbie McDonald, Public Safety Clerk