

Breezy Point City Council
September 24, 2024 – 6:00 pm
City Council Workshop Minutes

A workshop of the Breezy Point City Council began at 6:00 PM. Councilmembers present were Rebecca Ball, Steve Jensen, Brad Scott, and Mayor Angel Zierden. Michael Moroni was absent. Staff present included Deputy City Clerk Deb Runksmeier, Police Chief Brian Sandell, Public Works Supervisor Joe Zierden, Planning & Zoning Administrator Peter Gansen.

Animals at Large

Police Chief Brian Sandell and Michael O'Brien of Lakes Area Wildlife & Pest Control spoke about the current cat issues in the city and how calls are handled. Discussed the costs of fees for implementing a city cat ordinance. Costs could get as great as \$15,000 - \$17,000 per year and it is not budgeted for 2025. Explained how the animal control would operate if an ordinance was adopted. O'Brien spoke about experience with cats in the city of Brainerd.

Mayor Zierden doesn't like the idea of a cat ordinance in Breezy Point.

Camping on Public Property

Chief Sandell is in favor of creating an ordinance for no camping on public property. It needs to be adopted to follow along with the rules for undeveloped properties. Council Agreed with Chief Sandell. A new ordinance needs to have two readings a city council meetings. Have on the Agenda for October and November and to go into effect January 1, 2025.

Brush Pile

Chief Sandell spoke about the speed study that had been requested near the city's bush/compost site. Data collected on Percheron Drive was reviewed and discussed. Mayor Zierden would like to see a week long study done on Suffolk Drive.

Councilmember Scott would like to see the information again at the October Council Meeting.

Police Chief Job Description

Chief Brian Sandell spoke about his current job description and shared with the council the changes that he would like to see made. He wants to remove "reporting to the city administrator". He requested it to read as "This position reports to the City Administrator on those job elements relating to personnel policy and fiscal matters." Remove wording of "overall service levels provided". Sandell feels that his years of experience should over ride the authority of a new administrator coming in.

Councilmember Scott spoke about the Chief's responsibility of keeping the department correctly licensed and how he can manage it effectively without the city administrator.

Councilmember Ball questioned if Sandell has an issue with reporting to the administrator and if the duties were removed from a previous job description or then never given back.

The Police Chief does not have an employment contract like the City Administrator did.

Councilmember Scott would like the City's Organizational Chart discussed at a workshop. Looks at the Police Chief the same as the city administrator and wants to see how things works most efficiently.

The workshop was adjourned at 7:14 p.m.

Deb Runksmeier, Deputy City Clerk