



POLICE DEPARTMENT
John M. Billester, Police Chief
(360) 354 - 2828

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

4:00 PM February 7, 2019
Police Department Training Room

COMMITTEE

1. ROLL CALL:

Members present: Councilors Brent Lenssen (chair), Gary Bode, Mark Wohlrab.
Absent: Mayor Scott Korthuis.

Staff present: Chief John Billester, Chief Mark Billmire, Lieutenant Jeremy Bos,
HR Manager Vanessa Bronsema, Support Services Manager Holly Vega.

2. ACTION ITEMS:

A. Approve minutes from November 5, 2018 and December 6, 2018 meetings.

The November 5, 2018 and December 6, 2018 minutes were approved.

3. INFORMATION ITEMS:

A. Discussion with Public Safety Committee concerning topics of interest for discussion/evaluation at Council retreat.

Topics of interest include:

- Long term relationships between Fire Districts 21, 14 and 1.
- Long term plan for our Fire station; what do we need, when and where? How does Northwood station fit into our plan?
- Fire personnel – The Asst Chief position in lieu of line position, keeping staffing levels up and ideas to retain firefighters.

4. ITEMS ADDED:

A. Future meeting date changes.

The following meeting dates have been amended.

March: 3/5/19

April: 4/11/19

July: 7/11/19

FIRE DEPARTMENT

1. ACTION ITEMS: None

2. INFORMATION ITEMS:

A. New hires – fulltime and temporary

Final steps of the hiring process completed for 2 positions, 1 fulltime and 1 fulltime temporary (3-5 months). Two well qualified candidates were selected.

B. Monthly report content – what information do Council members want to see?

A Fire Dept annual report for 2018 and a monthly report for January 2019 was presented. The Committee will provide feedback over the next few months regarding content.

C. Color scheme for the new ambulance

Chief Billmire recommended a red with black stripe color scheme for the new ambulance, and the Committee approved. Estimated delivery is in June-July.

D. New extrication equipment

The current budget allows for the purchase of a new 'jaws of life' tool. Personnel were able to test out various models, ultimately deciding on one that is battery operated, weighing 30lbs, for approximately \$34,000.

3. ITEMS ADDED: None.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

1. ACTION ITEMS: None

2. INFORMATION ITEMS:

A. Hiring status update

4 applications were received in response to the lateral officer job posting. 2 qualified candidates will move forward to oral boards on 2-21-19, followed by Civil Service certifying the candidate list at their next meeting.

B. Lynden Watch Program update

Another meeting was held with Councilor Wohlrab and 2 local citizens, who have a list of 15 people interested in participating so far. A tri-fold flyer is in the process of being created for distribution. Meetings with citizens should start in early March. Chief Billester emphasized the need to have a policy and procedure as a guideline to follow.

C. Longarm Stats (what is the Committee looking for?)

Items of interest include time of day, day of week, location/mapping; however, it needs to be efficient and accumulate meaningful data. Further training in Longarm and CAD may be helpful to records staff.

D. Year-end report, Case of the month

A Police Dept annual report for 2018 was presented. For monthly reports, the Committee is interested in incidents involving use of force, officer safety, and open/closed cases. The case of the month for January was a felony domestic assault and animal cruelty case in which the suspect was actively resisting arrest. Both the female victim and dog(s) suffered multiple stab wounds.

3. ITEMS ADDED:

A. Firearm Armorer and Detective positions.

Chief Billester requests that the Firearm Armorer position and Detective position be split between 2 officers each. There is too much responsibility in each position for 1 person. The Committee will review and respond next month.

Meeting adjourned at 5:25 p.m.

Next Meeting Date: March 5, 2019