

CITY OF LYNDEN

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Steve Taylor, Police Chief

(360) 354-2828



Public Safety Committee Meeting Minutes

Police Department - 203 19th Street

4:00 PM July 01, 2021

Call to Order

Roll Call

Members Present: Mayor Scott Korthuis and Councilors Mark Wohlrab, Brent Lenssen and Gerald Kuiken

Staff Present: Chief Mark Billmire, Chief Steve Taylor, Support Services Manager Holly Vega
Absent: City Administrator Mike Martin

Approval of Minutes

1. Approval of June 10, 2021 meeting minutes

The minutes from the June 10, 2021 meeting were approved.

Items from the Audience

Scheduled/Unscheduled

None

Committee Items

2. Public Safety Overtime - June 2021

Police overtime for June was approximately 209 hours, down from last month. Hours included vacation and sick leave coverage, and training hours. Fire overtime report was not available yet, but probably down in June per Chief Billmire.

Fire Department Items

3. Fire Monthly Report - June 2021

Chief Billmire presented the monthly report for June. Fire prevention inspections continue, although hydrant testing was put on hold due to the heat and water conservation. Walk throughs were done at the Lynden cold storage unit and Americold. Average response time was back down, call volume average, 34 (23%) overlapping calls, 136 training hours.

4. Assistant Chief Recruitment Update

An offer letter has been sent to the candidate from Honolulu, now awaiting a signed acceptance, anticipated start date of October 1st.

5. Fire Station Renovation Update

Drywall is just about finished, still on schedule with projected completion in the first part of October.

6. Full Time Firefighter Testing

The process to establish an eligibility list will be started next week with testing and interviews anticipated in August. Per civil service rules, the list will be valid for 1 year.

7. 2021 Volunteer Recruitment

Interviews will be scheduled in the next few weeks for 3-4 candidates.

Police Department Items

8. Police Monthly Report - June 2021

Chief Taylor presented the monthly report for June, noting domestic violence calls remain slightly on the high end of normal, probably due to fatigue, stress, and the excessive heat may be a factor. Officers responded to a noise complaint and recognized 2 subjects that had felony warrants. Officers also identified another subject on scene that was the suspect in a recent theft, based on tattoo recognition. After some negotiating, the 2 subjects were taken into custody without incident, and a confession was obtained for the theft case.

9. SCORE 2022 Update

South Correctional Entity (SCORE), our backup jail facility is increasing rates by 3% in 2022 and implementing a booking fee. The amendment will be presented at the next city council meeting.

Added Items

10. Body Worn Cameras

Chief Taylor shared that during legislative discussions with Representative Alicia Rule's office he requested and was approved for State funding to purchase body worn cameras for all the patrol officers. The cost of approximately \$82,000 will cover the cameras, storage, and redaction software for 5 years.

11. Front Street Parking

The vehicle length limit for the angled parking is 21 feet.

12. Courtroom Security

Councilor Wohlrab would like to honor Judge Lewis' request to always have a police presence during Court sessions. Chief Taylor agreed and can put together a cost estimate to have an officer present at Court.

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 4:47 p.m.