



POLICE DEPARTMENT
Steve Taylor, Police Chief
(360) 354 - 2828

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

4:00 p.m. May 7, 2020
Remotely on Microsoft Teams

COMMITTEE

1. ROLL CALL

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

Staff present: City Administrator Mike Martin, Chief Mark Billmire, Chief Steve Taylor, Assistant Chief Tom Hatley, Support Services Manager Holly Vega, Support Services Manager Sarah Silvas

2. ACTION ITEMS:

A. Approve minutes from the February and March meetings.

The minutes from the February 12, 2020 and March 12, 2020 meetings were approved.

3. INFORMATION ITEMS:

A. Lynden WATCH update

Posts included information on social distancing and appropriate reporting of violations. A post on illegal burning is expected in the near future.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

1. ACTION ITEMS: None

2. INFORMATION ITEMS:

A. Monthly report

Chief Billmire overviewed the monthly report for April. Fire prevention, public education and business inspections are currently suspended. Assistant Chief Hatley continues to improve the training program. Overtime hours were down with volunteer hours being up in April.

B. 5th Medic Unit update

Discussions and meetings continue regarding the proposed 5th Medic Unit in Whatcom County. An analysis of 12 different scenarios was completed on the placement of the unit. There are conflicting objectives between reducing call volume, or reducing response times and coverage.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

1. **ACTION ITEMS:** None

2. **INFORMATION ITEMS:**

A. Staffing update

Three lateral officers have been hired recently. Officer Brown and Officer Pluschakov started in February and March, and have both completed their field training. Officer Holland recently started at the beginning of May.

B. Monthly report

Overtime hours were greatly reduced due to increased staffing. Call volume was down in April with the exception of public order maintenance calls in response to COVID-19 related complaints. A new patrol vehicle is now on the road and another vehicle should be here in the near future.

Meeting adjourned 4:30 p.m.

Next Meeting Date: June 4, 2020