

CITY OF LYNDEN

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Steve Taylor, Police Chief

(360) 354-2828



Public Safety Committee Meeting - 04/04/2024 Minutes

Police Department - 203 19th Street

4:00 PM April 04, 2024

Call to Order:

Roll Call: 1600

Committee Members Present: Mark Wohlrab, Gary Vis

Committee Members Absent: Lee Beld

Others Present: City Administrator John Williams, Fire Chief Mark Billmire, Assistant Fire Chief Kristie Watson, Fire Support Services Manager Kinsey DeHaan, Police Chief Steve Taylor, Lt. Jeremy Bos, Police Support Services Manager Sharon Clark.

Approval of Minutes:

1. March 2024 Draft Minutes -Approved

Items from the Audience:

Scheduled – None Scheduled

Unscheduled (20 Minutes)

Audience members may address the Committee on any issue other than those scheduled for a public hearing or those on which the public hearing has been closed. Prior to commenting, please state your name, address, and topic. Please keep comments under 4 minutes.

Cynthia Ripke Kotsagowitz(sp): 7000 blk Guide Meridian- Had questions regarding transient camps outside of the city limits of Lynden and what limitations police have in general to responding to evicting transient camps off private property. Per Chief Taylor, in general if someone is trespassing and a property owner wants someone removed, we can remove them relatively quickly, if it is a landlord tenant issue it can be a longer process. Also had questions regarding civil disobedience, and who decides if it is civil disobedience vs criminal activity. Inquired about general infrastructure emergency management plan, was referred to office of Emergency Management for follow up.

Committee Items:

Fire Department Items:

2. LFD March 2024 Report – See Attached

Police Department Items:

3. Public Safety Stats - March 2024 – See Attached

4. Hiring Update-Records clerk position: Application period closed last Friday. Have 30 applicants and have been reviewing them over the last week. Will working with HR to set up interviews with the top 6-8 applicants.

Added Items:

LPD Created a flier to send out with the water bill leading up to 4th of July advising residents of the City of Lyden Fireworks Use & Discharge dates and times as well as the relevant municipal codes and RCW's.

The Community Development Committee requested review of large events (500 or more attendees) are occurring at the Fairgrounds or other event facilities not using city property or services where alcohol may be present, extra security/police presence might be necessary, or could impact traffic/parking etc. that the city be notified, or in certain situations a special events permit be issued, so different departments can plan accordingly. The City Administrator discussed with the committee the meeting held with the Fairgrounds staff and the arrangement where the Fairgrounds will send their monthly events list to city staff monthly. If follow-up is needed, city staff will contact the Fairgrounds office. Additional questions were discussed and will be reviewed when this comes forward to the City Council to set a public hearing for later adoption.

Would like to discuss incentives to bring lateral hires to LPD at the next public safety meeting in May.

Adjournment: 1646