

CITY OF LYNDEN

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Steve Taylor, Police Chief

(360) 354-2828



Public Safety Committee Meeting Minutes

Online (Microsoft Teams)

4:00 PM February 03, 2022

Call to Order

Roll Call

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

Members Absent: Gerald Kuiken

Staff Present: City Administrator John Williams, Chief Mark Billmire, Chief Steve Taylor, Assistant Chief Ryan Yoshimoto, Lieutenant Russ Martin, Lieutenant Jeremy Bos, Support Services Managers Holly Vega and Danielle Ingham

Approval of Minutes

Items from the Audience

Scheduled/Unscheduled

None.

Committee Items

1. Public Safety Overtime

Fire Department overtime was at 435.5 for January; 5 firefighters were out due to COVID. Police Department overtime was also up in January due to officers out on COVID leave.

Fire Department Items

2. Staffing Update

Chief Billmire welcomed Danielle Ingham, the new Support Services Manager. There is a current full-time firefighter opening, interviews scheduled for next week followed by Chief's interviews. An eligibility list should be ready to be certified at the next civil service meeting in February and hope to have someone onboard March 1st.

3. Ambulance Fee Resolution

Chief Billmire overviewed the proposed ambulance fee resolution, similar to the one in 2017. It establishes a means to stay consistent with ambulance mileage rates. Councilor Lenssen recommends moving forward to full council.

4. Fire Monthly Report – January

Chief Billmire presented the monthly report for January, another busy month with 204 calls, 78% EMS, 34% overlapping calls. Aid given 21 times, aid received 6 times, 1 of which no Lynden units available. There were 18 COVID watch calls, and average response time was 4:32. Significant accidents occurred on the Birch Bay Lynden Rd.

5. Fire 2021 Annual Report

Fire 2021 Annual Report was reviewed, topping over 2000 for the year. Annual stats and a pictorial of calls included in the packet. Chief Billmire also has a pictorial of the station renovation available in the station lobby.

Police Department Items

6. Police Monthly Report – January

Chief Taylor presented the monthly report for January noting a decrease in assaults and an increase in thefts. The jail has been unable to operate fully functionally due to COVID restrictions and infrastructure issues, which seems to be a direct correlation to the increase in property crimes, as there is no immediate consequence. Violent crime offenders are still able to be booked into jail.

Staffing has been a struggle the last month as almost every employee has been out with COVID at some point. Officer Lipton has completed FTO training and is on his own; Officer Ellis is well on his way to follow in about a month.

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 4:29 p.m.