

CITY OF LYNDEN

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Steve Taylor, Police Chief

(360) 354-2828



Public Safety Committee Meeting Minutes

Online (Microsoft Teams)

4:00 PM March 03, 2022

Call to Order

Roll Call

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

Members Absent: Mayor Scott Korthuis

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

Approval of Minutes

1. Approval of January 13, 2022 meeting minutes

The January 13, 2022 meeting minutes were approved.

2. Approval of February 3, 2022 meeting minutes

The February 3, 2022 meeting minutes were approved.

Items from the Audience

Scheduled/Unscheduled

None

Committee Items

3. Public Safety Overtime

Fire Department overtime dropped significantly to 271 hours in February. The decrease was attributed to less COVID sick leave and increased part-time and volunteer participation hours.

Police Department overtime also dropped in February to 360 hours, 20% was for the MLK holiday and 30% for quarterly range training. COVID sick leave has reduced greatly, and the department is almost back up to full staffing.

Fire Department Items

4. Staffing Update

Kerri Jenkins started as a new full-time firefighter as of March 1st, and 3 part-time firefighters are also getting onboard in March.

5. Fire Monthly Report – February

Chief Billmire presented the monthly report, noting a decrease in calls for February at 144 total, 89% EMS calls, 24% overlapping. Aid given 14 times and aid received 0 times. Average response time just over 5:00 min and 4 COVID watch responses.

Assistant Chief Yoshimoto spoke about an upcoming training with the Police Department on active shooter/assailant training, establishing protocols and teamwork with the PD.

Police Department Items

6. Police Monthly Report – February

Chief Taylor presented the monthly report for February with 587 total calls for service. Property crimes and thefts continue to be high as the jail is still unable to keep these arrestees in custody.

7. Year in Review – 2021

Highlights include the hiring of Officer Lipton, who brings 18 years of experience and will be able to participate in the county special event team. At Chief Taylor's request, Alicia Rule's office negotiated a state budget appropriation for \$82,000 to cover the cost and usage of body cameras for 5 years for our department. Equipment was purchased and installed to update the evidence system to operate electronically. Two new vehicles were added to the police fleet. Chief Knapp was honored at a ceremony in Washington D.C. and his name was formally added to the wall at the US Capital Grounds.

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m.