

MINUTES

City Council Public Safety Committee

Monday, February 25, 2019 – 5:00 PM
Administrative Conference Room at City Hall

Members Present: Maurice Jones, Chair, Council Member
Charlie Landreth, Vice-Chair, Council Member
Jim Fatland, City Manager
Phil Harris, Police Chief
Booby Cooper, Fire Chief

Absent: None

Staff Present: Bradley Elmore, Assistant Fire Chief
Tom Whitlock, Deputy Finance Director
Denise Hodsdon, Executive Assistant

A. Welcome & Call to Order

Committee Chair Maurice Jones called the meeting to order at 5:05 PM.

B. Certification of Quorum

Executive Assistant Denise Hodsdon certified that a quorum was present.

C. Approval of Agenda

Motion by Mr. Landreth, seconded by Chief Harris to approve the agenda as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

D. Approval of Minutes from April 24, 2018 Meeting

Motion by Chief Cooper, seconded by Mr. Landreth to approve the minutes of the April 24, 2018 meeting as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

E. Fire Department

1. Organization Chart

Fire Chief Bobby Cooper presented a proposal for changes to the Fire Department's organizational structure (a copy of the proposed organization chart is attached as Exhibit A). Chief Cooper informed the Committee that Assistant Chief Jimmy Cassell resigned in December and instead of filling that

position, he is proposing creating a Deputy Chief position, eliminating an Assistant Chief position, and adding a Captain and a Lieutenant. He explained that these changes will broaden the Department's Span of Control and provide additional line officers for scene operations with minimal cost difference.

2. FY20 Proposed Budget

- a. Benefits – Chief Cooper is proposing elimination of the free water and trash for current members, but maintaining the benefit for retired members. He is requesting that the City begin paying NCSFA Pension Fund dues for all members. Currently members pay their own dues and he feels that adding this benefit would offer incentive for members to stay with the Department.
- b. FY20 Budget Requests – Chief Cooper informed the Committee that the Fire Department's FY20 budget request will include the following:
 - Pay scale changes – He is currently working with HR on proposed changes to correct some current pay inequities, and introduce a pay differential for certain certifications
 - Proposal for Night On Call Staff
 - Service Truck Replacement
 - Increased budget for Protective Gear and Uniforms
 - Furniture and Computer Replacement
 - Knox Key Secure System Replacement
 - Update Handheld Masimo CO Detectors
 - Installation of new Dry Hydrants

3. County Contract

Chief Cooper has met with Assistant County Manager David McNeill to review the current contract, which was signed in 1996. They are still working out the details of the proposed contract and Chief Cooper said the County wants to approve the new contract prior to discussing replacing the Service Truck and the proposed FY20 Budget. Review and discussion of the proposed new County Contract was postponed until the next meeting.

F. Police Department

1. New Hybrid Police Vehicle

Chief Harris reported that he has received his new hybrid vehicle. He said it is pursuit rated and fully equipped for use as a police vehicle, and gets an additional 40 to 50% in gas mileage. He suggested a media presentation of the vehicle to publicize it as one the City's "Green" efforts.

2. FY20 Proposed Budget

Chief Harris informed the Committee that the Police Department FY20 budget request will include the following:

- Radio Upgrade from Analog to Digital – Handheld and vehicle radios with associated additional antennas
- Equipment Upgrades – shotguns and body cameras

3. Community Clean-up Day

Chief Harris reported that the Brevard Cares Community Cleanup is scheduled for Saturday, March 30th from 8:00 am to noon. Sponsors and volunteers will assist those who need help to clean up around their homes with yardwork and spring cleaning.

4. Ordinance Amendment – “Open Carry” Guns on City Property

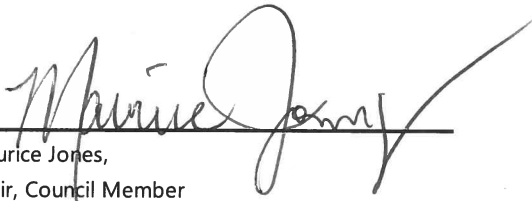
Chief Harris noted that the City’s current ordinance prohibits a person from carrying a concealed handgun inside City buildings. However, the ordinance does not prohibit “open carry” guns and we cannot prevent someone from attending meetings if they are openly carrying a gun. Chief Harris is recommending that we update the current ordinance to include prohibition of “open carry” guns, which is allowed by State law. It was the consensus of the Committee that we should move forward with amending the current ordinance. Chief Harris will meet with Planning Staff and City Attorney Michael Pratt to start the process.

G. Set Date for Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for March 12, 2019 at 5:30 PM.

H. Adjourn

Motion by Chief Cooper, seconded by Mr. Fatland to adjourn the meeting at 6:12 PM. The motion carried unanimously.

X 
Maurice Jones,
Chair, Council Member

Minutes Approved: March 12, 2019

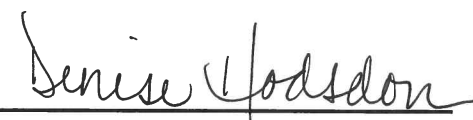
X 
Denise Hodsdon,
Executive Assitant

EXHIBIT A

