



Des Peres Public Safety Department
1000 N Ballas Road
Des Peres, MO. 63131
March 21, 2022

The meeting of the Board of Public Safety Commission was held at 6:00 p.m. on the 21st day of March, 2022 in the Aldermanic Chambers for the transaction of such business that may come before the Commission.

Present: Commissioner Co-ChairRobert Ashcraft
Commissioner.....Matt McGrath
Commissioner.....Caitie Zimmerman
Alderman.....Sean Concagh
Chief.....Eric Hall
Captain.....Dale Fiala
Captain.....Vicki Severs
Administrative Assistant.....Mónica Llorián

Not Present: Commissioner ChairLarry Beermann
Support Lieutenant.....John Appelbaum

ROLL CALL

Commissioner Co-Chair Ashcraft opened the meeting. Administrative Asst. Llorián commenced with the roll call. There was a quorum with Commissioner Chair Beermann Support Lieutenant Appelbaum was absent with excuse.

TOUR OF PUBLIC SAFETY BUILDING

Chief Hall gave the commission a tour of the building due to the proposed building renovation plans of not only the public safety building, but also city hall and public works. The purpose of the tour was to illustrate concerns and needs the department has with the current building.

HEAR CITIZENS

None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner McGrath made a motion to approve the minutes of the January 25, 2022, meeting. Commissioner Zimmerman seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

AMENDMENT TO THE AGENDA

None

ALDERMANIC REPORT

Alderman Concagh stated that a medical marijuana facility wants to open in the former Paper Doll location on Manchester Road. He stated that there has been a lot of comments for and against the facility from residents. He added that the plans are still with Planning & Zoning.

Alderman Concagh stated that the city received plans for an apartment complex on Manchester Rd near Sam's and the project is in Planning and Zoning. Chief Hall stated that he and Captain Fiala attended the Planning and Zoning meeting regarding introduction of the new proposed Magnolia Ridge Apartment complex. He stated that during the meeting there was both support and opposition of the project from Des Peres residents and also opposition residents of Town & Country that live near the proposed site.

Chief Hall stated that the apartments are high-end apartments and the complex ranges between 3-5 stories. He concluded that the complex will have 180 units and that the cost of the project is around 60 million dollars.

BUDGET

Chief Hall stated that the budget is trending as normal. He stated that a big chunk of chemicals budget is from the purchase of ice melt. He added that the professional services budget is over because most dues are paid at the beginning of the year to the West County EMS & Fire Protection District for the annexed area off Barrett Station Rd. He stated that the department has been watching overtime closely and the majority of overtime is staffing a second paramedics on shift due currently having two (2) paramedics on leave.

Chief Hall concluded that the department continues to spend a lot on vehicle maintenance. He stated that the department is currently spending almost half the cost of some vehicle's worth on repairs and that some of the vehicles are four (4) years old and the department usually replaces them every three (3) years. During COVID, and the reduction of expenses, the department held off a year purchasing vehicles and we have now seen that the department should only keep a patrol vehicle three (3) years.

Chief Hall advised that we currently have three (3) Chevrolet Tahoe's on order and they are expected later this year. In addition, he stated that he may request an addition vehicle due to the ongoing repairs of the current fleet. Alderman Concagh asked if the department has thought about leasing vehicles. Chief Hall stated that no but that there's discussion about doing a two (2) year replacement program with Administrative vehicles that might help in replacing the cost and saving the city over time.

A further discussion was held regarding purchasing Tahoe's versus the Ford SUV and Chief Hall stated that he believes in the Chevrolet Tahoe due to overall safety, comfort, space, and resale value. In addition Chief Hall mentioned that accident involving an officer from 2020 where the Tahoe absorbed the collision or the injuries to our officer could be have been much worse. The commission agreed that the department should look at purchasing additional Tahoe's in the future.

NEW BUSINESS

None

OLD BUSINESS

Hiring Process Update & Part-time Paramedic Program

Chief Hall stated that the department is doing background checks and physicals on five (5) potential part-time paramedics. He stated that the department is hoping to hire 4-5 part-time paramedics who would cover long term absences and reduce the overtime that our employees have to work, and the cost of the overtime. In addition, the department also has received Public Safety Officer applicants and will review those in the near future.

Update on Vapor Wake K-9 Program

Chief Hall stated that he completed a follow up report to the City Administrator regarding questions from the work session with the Board of Alderman. He stated that he has secured \$20,000 in donations for the project at this point, with other donations pending the approval of the project. He added that he is working with the City of Manchester on donating their used K-9 vehicle equipment, including the transport cage and ventilation system that they are no longer using.

Update on Flock License Plate Reader System

Captain Severs presented the commission with a report showing how many alerts each FLOCK camera is getting per day for the last month. She also presented a list of what alerts the department is receiving. Captain Severs stated that the two (2) cameras at the mall have received 825 alerts where the two (2) cameras at the Lodge have only received six (6) alerts in the same month.

Chief Hall stated an additional camera will be added on the ramp off of northbound I-270 to West County Center in the near future.

Commissioner Ashcraft recommend that the City relocate one of the cameras at the Lodge to either West County Center or to Schnucks or Dierbergs. Chief Hall advised that he will speak with the City Administrator regarding this request.

Update on Ultra High Pressure Suppression System

Chief Hall stated that the ultra-high pressure suppression system (pick up) was in the budget in 2020 but was removed due to COVID. Captain Fiala stated the he wants to revisit the need for the suppression system in next year's Capital Improvement Budget, including any design and price increases.

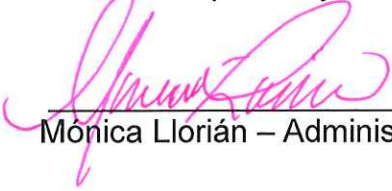
DISCUSSION

Commissioner McGrath stated that he called what he thought was the non-emergency number for Public Safety but instead received the administrative offices voicemail with a message to call 911 in the event of an emergency. He suggested if on the voicemail the non-emergency or dispatch number could be included on the message. Administrative Asst. Llorián stated she would look into that.

ADJOURNEMENT

Commissioner Zimmerman made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner McGrath seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

Minutes Prepared by:



Mónica Llorián – Administrative Asst.

ATTEST:



Matthew McGrath, Commissioner