



**Sumner City Council
Public Safety Committee
Minutes of the October 19, 2022, Meeting**

Members present: Barbara Bitetto (Chair), Pat Cole, and Charla Neuman

Staff present: Chief Brad Moericke and Chief Jon Parkinson

Others present: None.

Meeting called to order at 5:31 pm

I) Monthly Activity Reports & Department Updates – Fire, Chief Parkinson

Chief Parkinson provided his monthly report to committee members to include calls for service by station, by apparatus, call response times by service area and year over year comparisons.

EPFR Firefighter Jeff Conover died unexpectedly while off-duty on 10/5/22. He leaves behind his wife, son, daughter, and a granddaughter. Jeff began his fire service career with Sumner in 1997 and was later hired full-time by the City in 2002. There will be a private memorial service this Friday (10-21 at 3 pm) at Calvary Community Church honoring Jeff's life and service to our community.

The open house returned on Saturday, October 1 - from 1 pm to 4 pm. This was the first open house since 2019. The weather was beautiful, and crowd turnout was estimated to be between 2,000 and 3,000 people.

Deputy Chief Mack coordinated East Pierce Fire efforts to coordinate volunteers to assist the Nick of Time Foundation medical screening at Sumner High School on Wednesday, October 5. The event had an excellent turnout.

The district's budget is progressing towards final adoption in November and includes a number of new firefighter positions to increase daily staffing. The current draft results in an average of a 2.65% year over year property tax increase.

II) Monthly Activity Reports & Department Updates – Police, Chief Moericke

Chief Moericke provided the committee with department statistics for September 2022. Overall activity levels were slightly down over the previous busier summer months.

Our newest officer Luke Devore started with us on October 17, he will start the basic law enforcement academy on November 15th. We currently have an entry level animal control officer in final background with the polygraph scheduled next Monday. One of our detectives had applied for an out of state police officer position but has since withdrawn his application and has decided to remain in Sumner to finish his career. Our Community Representative, Alicia Wheatly, gave notice of resignation as she and her family will be relocating soon to Arizona. We will be opening up a recruitment for a new Community Representative soon.

The police department off-site storage building near the golf course was recently broken into but the alarm was tripped and the suspect(s) fled. Nothing was taken, just damage to the building where they cut a hole in the wall to gain entry.

We had our first Toy Box planning committee meeting. We will have access to the Old Cannery warehouse starting November 14th and will start storing and sorting donations. The shopping date will be December 5th and families will be able to pick up their packages starting December 16th. Emmanuel Food Bank (St. Andrews Church) will be giving out holiday meal packages again this year!

III) Action Items:

Nisqually Jail Services Agreement – Resolution 1642 was presented for approval. As discussed at last months meeting Yakima County Jail will be discontinuing to provide jail services by the end of this year. This agreement will provide alternative jail space for both court commitments and new bookings. The committee gave a “do Pass” for the resolution and agreement to go before the entire council for approval at its November 7th regular meeting.

IV) Discussion Items:

None

V) Adjourn – Meeting adjourned by the Chair at 6:11 pm.

Next meeting will be November 16, 2022, at 5:30 in the First Floor Conference Room at City Hall or remotely via Zoom.