



**Sumner City Council
Public Safety Committee
Minutes of the January 18, 2023, Meeting**

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

Staff present: Chief Brad Moericke, Chief Jon Parkinson, City Attorney Andrea Marquez

Others present: None.

Meeting called to order at 5:34 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.

Chief Parkinson provided the committee with the following department updates:

- Annual Budget Approved in November
 - 2.1% year over year increase to taxpayers
- Fatality Fire on 1/7/23 @ Sumner Glen Apartments appears to be accidental.
- Station Construction
 - 118 (Edgewood) will be completed in March
 - 111 (Bonney Lake) is making good progress – will open in early 2024
 - 114 (Lake Tapps) bid closes on 1/23 – breaking ground in late February
 - 117 (Tehaleh) – Breaking ground late spring
 - 112 (Prairie Ridge) – Breaking ground in the fall
 - 2020/21 Financial Audit through the SAO complete - Clean audits of both years
- SAFER Grant class of 12 new employees
 - Will start academy on 2/6/23 and will hit the street in August
 - Federally funded for 3 years @ 100%
- 2023 Organizational Pushes
 - Standard of Cover – Community Risk Assessment (SOC-CRA)
 - Unit deployment and hazard/risk evaluation study
 - One-year project - Complete 1/17/23
 - Deployment Overhaul
 - Confirm 911 is dispatching the correct units based on the SOC-CRA
 - Staff Station 124 (Milton) full-time in the Fall of 2023
 - Medical Services Officer (MSO)
 - Field Supervisor deploys in February
 - Pierce County Fire Training Consortium (PCFTC)
 - Combined training divisions of Graham, Central Pierce, West Pierce, Orting, and East Pierce are now working as a single unit based out of Central Pierce Station 60. Will deliver training to 760 firefighters in total.

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

Chief Moericke discussed with the committee department statistics for November/December 2022. Overall activity levels were slightly down due to the holidays.

Chief Moericke briefed the committee on the annual department training and awards held on November 30th. The theme of the training was officer wellness, resiliency, and the need to handle “hard” better. Components for the additional body cameras for PD and ACO staff have begun to arrive.

Personnel: Today was ACO Debra Perry’s last day. She was awarded a department plaque and had a very moving “final sign off” the radio announcing her retirement. Her replacement, Eryn Hendrix started the first of December and seems to be doing very well. She will go to the ACO academy in March. Officer Devore was elected class President of his BLEA class.

Detective Nikolao will be retiring in Feb and Officer Sullivan in June. Currently the city only has entry applicants applying. Chief Moericke expressed his desire to increase the hiring incentives and marketing efforts to attract experienced officers. There is currently a 260+ backlog of new recruits to get into academy and are being pushed out as far as August/September start dates. That would make it so that a new recruit hired now, would not get into department field training until 2024!

III) Action Items:

City Attorney Marquez briefed the committee members on the background and process for seeking condemnation of 801 Cherry Street. The first initial step is authorization by the council by resolution. The city legal team would then handle the legal process to file. The committee gave a “do Pass” for the resolution to go before the entire council for approval at its February 6th regular council meeting.

IV) Discussion Items:

Councilmember Cole asked about current conditions/restrictions at the PC Jail. Chief Moericke stated that area Chiefs receive a regular monthly update regarding availability and any current restrictions as needed. Currently PC Jail is experiencing staffing shortages that impact the number of inmates that can be housed. There is currently a backlog of defendants in jail waiting competency evaluations and restorations. The Nisqually Jail contract is fully operational and an available option for us.

V) Adjourn – Meeting adjourned by the Chair at 6:14 pm.

Next meeting will be February 15, 2023, at 5:30 in the First Floor Conference Room at City Hall or remotely via Zoom.