



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

Members present: Barbara Bitetto (Chair), Patrick Reed, and Pat Cole

Staff present: Chief Brad Moericke, Chief Jon Parkinson, Deputy Chief Bill Mack, City Administrator Jason Wilson, City Attorney Andrea Marquez

Others present: None.

All members and the committee commenced at 5:35 pm

I) Selection of Committee Chair -All

Councilmember Reed moved to nominate Barbra Bitetto as chair, seconded by Councilmember Cole, and accepted by Councilmember Bitetto.

II) Monthly Activity Reports & 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. The Omicron variant of Covid is having some staffing impacts. Support staff are performing remote work, while operational staff continue to report for duty. No service impacts are anticipated. Local hospitals are seeing the biggest impacts. East Pierce is recruiting a behavioral health specialist which is expected to fill April 1st. This position will focus on low acuity – high utilizers of the 911 system and will partner with our community resource paramedic Jenn Killion. All vehicles purchased with the bond funds have been received and placed in service. Fire station capital projects are still progressing.

III) Monthly Activity Reports & Updates – Police, Chief Moericke

Chief Moericke provided the committee with department statistics for the year of 2021 broken down by month. Over-all calls for service (CAD Events) were only slightly down from 2020. The largest most notable trend was a 2/3 decrease in traffic stops starting in July 2021 when new legislation took effect. Arrests were only roughly one-half of the annual average of prior years due to a combination of legislative reforms and the inability to arrest and book subjects due to covid. Under current conditions due to Covid both Puyallup & Enumclaw jails are currently not accepting any bookings and Pierce County Jail is only accepting mandatory arrests for booking. This has been off and on the case most of 2021. Chief Moericke gave a hiring and staffing update and also announced that the department will be launching the body worn camera program starting next Monday January 24th.

IV) Ordinances & Resolutions

City Administrator Wilson introduced a resolution to enter into an Interlocal Agreement with East Pierce Fire & Rescue to provide fire investigation services. Under the agreement EPFR would perform basic source and origin investigations for fires that occur in the Sumner city limits. If a fire were determined to intentionally set (arson) the investigation would be turned over to the Pierce

County Fire Marshal and Sumner PD to initiate a criminal investigation. The committee moved to give the resolution and agreement a “do pass” for the consent agenda on February 7th.

City Attorney Marquez introduced Resolution 1608 to approve an Interlocal Agreement with the City of Bonney Lake for Community Therapeutic Courts. The City of Bonney Lake applied to the state for the Therapeutic Courts grant on behalf of Sumner and Bonney Lake and was awarded the grant. The City of Bonney Lake will be the lead agency and administrator of the grant and provide all services covered under the grant award to defendants served by Sumner Municipal Court similar to our existing Court Interlocal agreement. The costs of these services are covered by the grant and no additional costs to the City of Sumner. The committee gave the resolution and agreement a “do pass” and asked that it be placed as a new business item for presentation and discussion before the full council on February 7th.

Chief Moericke presented Ordinance 2808 that would amend SMC 10.36 to include a prohibition on vehicular parking in marked bicycle lanes and add a prohibition on vehicles parking within 10 feet of a mailbox adjacent to any street or right of way between the hours of 8 am and 5 pm except on Sundays and holidays. Also included in the ordinance were additional definitions for “Mailbox” and “Bicycle Lane”. The committee gave the ordinance a “do pass” for council vote on February 7th.

V) Good of the order: None

VI) Adjourn – Meeting adjourned by the Chair at 6:37 pm.

Next meeting will be February 16, 2022, at 5:30 via Zoom.