



**APPROVED: OCTOBER 3, 2012**

CITY OF ALBANY  
PUBLIC SAFETY COMMISSION  
Fire Station 12  
Wednesday, September 5, 2012  
7:00 p.m.

MINUTES

Commission members present: Terry Virnig, Cynthia Greene, Ray Lusk, Nicholas Fowler, Mike Martin, Larry Nelson, Dan Conway

Commission members absent: Loyd Henion

Staff present: Ed Boyd, Police Chief; Lorri Headrick, Administrative Services Supervisor

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Virnig called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Cynthia Greene made a motion to approve the minutes of August 1, 2012, meeting; Mike Martin seconded the motion; and the minutes were approved.

DEPARTMENT REPORT

Police Update – Chief Boyd

Chief Boyd provided data on the top ten most stolen cars in the U.S. in response to a question from a previous meeting. The top stolen car is a 1994 Honda Accord; others included a variety of makes/models from the mid-1990s.

In response to a previous question concerning call volume for the Police Department and how we compare to other cities, Chief Boyd provided a handout with the 2011 call statistics for 37 Oregon cities, compiled by Grants Pass Dept. of Public Safety. Using the data to make direct comparisons to other cities may not be completely accurate since each agency may use different reporting criteria. However, the data for Albany accounts for sworn officers and shows a high call volume per citizen, per patrol officer, and per hour.

Nick Fowler expressed concern that the high number of calls per hour indicates that the majority of patrol officers' time is spent with enforcement, which is likely perceived negatively by the public. He would like to see the Commission promote that Council support having enough patrol officers so they can be patrolling neighborhoods, promoting more public outreach, and show the public a more positive view of the Police Department.

Chief Boyd was asked the number of officers per patrol shift. Their staffing allows for ten per shift, but they currently are operating with nine due to unfilled positions. The Department has candidates for officer positions in various steps of the hiring and training process. Fifty percent of the number of officers hired typically succeed, which is an industry standard.

Terry Virnig encouraged the other members to participate in a ride-along with a night patrol officer if they have not already done so. It provides a good firsthand view of what officers do and what they're dealing with on a regular basis.

Cynthia Greene also encouraged members to participate in the Police Department's Citizen Academy. She and her husband have both participated in the program and feel it was a valuable experience. Chief Boyd reported that the current academy has 30 participants, including several interested in a law enforcement career.

Chief Boyd referenced the reports he had previously provided: 2011 Crime Analysis Report, 2011 Pursuit Analysis Report, and 2011 Use of Force Report. He encouraged members to contact him if they have any questions concerning the information. No questions were raised during the meeting.

Chief Boyd reported that the cost for replacing the current radio system with one to meet the 700 MHz requirements is \$274,000. There is \$200,000 in the City's Equipment Replacement Fund for this purpose. The shortfall is due to a lack of funding to that account over the past three years. The remaining amount will need to be spent from the FY 2012-13 Police Department budget, requiring adjustments to other purchases and possibly a request to Council for contingency funds if the need arises. Not purchasing the equipment is not an option, as current radio equipment must be upgraded to meet the 700 MHz standards. Some tests have been conducted by APD officers of the proposed equipment, resulting in much improved radio communications. The change will be a huge improvement over current radio communications and drastically improve safety for officers on scene.

#### OLD BUSINESS

##### Bylaws

Terry Virnig asked members for their input on the Bylaws that were previously distributed. There were no recommendations for change. Members felt that the Bylaws as written were an accurate representation of their position and duties. Larry Nelson acknowledged that it was good to review and provide an opportunity for input by new members.

#### NEW BUSINESS

No new business.

#### GOOD OF ORDER

##### Member Resignation

At the start of the meeting Dan Conway addressed the membership by announcing that he has resigned from his position on the Public Safety Commission. He thanked everyone, including Mayor Sharon Konopa, for their support and assistance during his tenure. The members acknowledged Dan's value to the Commission and thanked him for his service.

##### Meeting Minutes

A request was made to provide the previous two months' meeting minutes along with each month's agenda. Because the format has changed to every other month for each department, having two months' minutes will provide the historical reference for each meeting.

NEXT MEETING DATE/LOCATION

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, October 3, 2012, at Fire Station 14.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Submitted by,

Lorri J. Headrick  
Administrative Services Supervisor - Fire Department