



CITY OF ALBANY
PUBLIC SAFETY COMMISSION
Fire Station 13
Wednesday, April 3, 2013
7:00 p.m.

MINUTES

Commission members present: Larry Nelson, Terry Virnig, Nicholas Fowler, Cynthia Greene, Loyd Henion, Mike Martin, Rob Duncan, Ray Lusk

Public Visitor: John Greene

Staff present: John Bradner, Police Chief; Meaza Ridley, Administrative Assistant I

CALL TO ORDER

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Nick Fowler made a motion to approve the minutes of March 6, 2013, meeting; Mike Martin seconded the motion; and the minutes were approved.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Fire Update – Chief Bradner

Chief Bradner gave an update on retiring personnel. The fire department is losing two Lieutenants who are retiring. They are working back for four months. There will be a promotional process within the department which will create vacancies. He went over the SAFER grant funded positions and where they are stationed. Station 14 is now staffed by 4 personnel allowing for either a four-person Engine or two, two-person Medic units. The new staffing has allowed this station to cover all of its own calls. The SAFER grant has increased the level of fire protection for the city.

Chief Bradner announced for the first time in 4.5 years, he has placed a spending freeze in his department. He explained they are taking drastic measures to get back in line with the approved budget. EMS revenues are down as a result of lower call volume, requiring a freeze in spending. Calls are down by 165 which would make them 220 less than last year at the end of the fiscal year. That is equivalent to roughly \$220,000 in budgeted revenue. Purchase of necessary items is still allowed but postponing purchases that aren't deemed necessary.

Loyd Henion asked why EMS calls are down? Chief Bradner answered he's given up guessing. He said it was believed that the numbers would increase in Public Safety with the recession; however, across the board, they have decreased. Ray Lusk added that even Southern California where he was in Public Safety is experiencing the same trend.

Chief Bradner updated the commission on the grant that would have allowed the purchase of a new Brush Rig. They received notification that they did not receive a grant. Cynthia Greene asked if they give a reason when you are denied a grant. Chief Bradner said not usually but in this case they did provide some information. The Department has done a good job in the past of replacing vehicles as they age so the average age of department vehicles is not too bad compared to other fire departments who applied for the grant. The departments with higher average age received the grants. Cynthia asked if there were other revenue sources anticipated. Chief Bradner said yes, he would go over that in the budget update.

Chief Bradner distributed the budget fire is submitting to the Budget Committee. He explained that preparation begins in January and runs through March when he meets with Finance to submit the budget. Once Finance has accepted the budget, it is submitted to the Budget Committee in May. Fire submits five budgets; three general fund budgets, one ambulance fund, and one grant budget. Chief Bradner covered each budget and answered questions as they came up.

Cynthia Greene asked when the recognition event was going to happen and to be notified of the date please.

Terry Virnig asked about doing a ride-along. Chief Bradner said to let him know a block of time someone would like to go and he will arrange it. Terry and Cynthia expressed a desire to ride.

OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

Report on Chief Selection Process – Loyd Henion

Loyd reported they completed interviews with six candidates to narrow the field down to three candidates. The three remaining are from Meza, Arizona, Corvallis, Oregon, and Pocatella, Idaho. Everyone on the committee agreed these were the best candidates. Interviews will be April 29 and 30. There will be a meet and greet with the public and Loyd will let us know when that is. The final decision will be made by City Manager, Wes Hare.

GOOD OF ORDER

NEXT MEETING DATE/LOCATION

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, May 1, 2013, at Station 13.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Submitted by,

Meaza Ridley
Administrative Assistant I