



## PUBLIC SAFETY COMMISSION

### MINUTES

Wednesday February 5, 2020

7:00 p.m.

Albany Fire Department

Approved: 6/03/2020

#### CALL TO ORDER

Vice Chair Fowler called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

#### ROLL CALL

Commissioners present: Nicholas Fowler, Erik Anderson, Evan Church, Adam Brenneman, Bryant Seton, Kevin Kreitman

Commissioners absent: Loyd Henion, Cynthia Greene

Staff present: Marcia Harnden, Police Chief; Shane Wooton, Fire Chief; Shelby Draper, Administrative Assistant I

#### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

August 7, 2019

MOTION: Church motioned to approve the minutes of October 2, 2019. Brenneman seconded the motion, which passed 6-0.

#### SCHEDULED BUSINESS

Business from the Public

None.

#### BUSINESS FROM THE COMMISSION

Fire Update – Chief Wooton

Chief Wooton handed out the 2019/20 fiscal year to date report for the Fire Department. He noted that the department had responded to 6,000 calls as of July 2019. The total amount of calls was reported at 10,438, which was a new record compared to 2015 with only 7,600. On average, that amounts to 36% more calls.

Wooton discussed the two new medic units that were purchased six months ago. The department also has a new water rescue boat that has been in service for a few months now. Chief Wooton said the Albany Rural Fire District came together and has helped purchase multiple vehicles for the department. They purchased half of the truck company years ago, also they recently purchased two rescue watercraft's (RWC).

Chief Wooton said personnel staffing is still an ongoing issue. The department had to freeze an additional Deputy Fire Marshal (DFM) position. Wooton said the department is also dealing with an increase in workers comp injuries and staff overtime. Chief Wooton said the council elected to keep the levy at the same rate of 1.15 per 1000. Currently, the levy funds eight positions as well as other costs.

Wooton mentioned the Albany Fire Fighters Community Assistance Fund (AFFCAF). This program is a nonprofit organization that raises money for fire or emergency loss victims, low income, bicycle helmets for all

ages, and lots more. Each emergency unit carries \$150 to use as they determine if needed. The program puts on an annual golf tournament every year to help raise funds. This year, AFFCAF is also holding a corn-hole tournament at The Barn at Hickory Station, in North Albany.

Chief Wooton said there will be a youth heart screening event on February 29, at South Albany High School. More athletes die from sudden cardiac arrest than any other cause, and most show no symptoms and have no history of heart problems. This screening will be for youth 11 years old and older.

Wooton discussed the budget shortfall with Public Safety being a big portion. Chief Wooton and Chief Harnden asked the committee to help assist both departments in the upcoming biannual budget process. Further discussion and information will follow when the time is closer for the next budget information meeting.

#### Police Update – Chief Harnden

Chief Harnden introduced herself with a brief background summary. She was previously employed with Bellevue Police Department and has 27 years of law enforcement experience.

Harnden discussed the department's crime report. She said the crime rate is seeing a downward trend. The violent crime rate is below the Oregon average, and the department is also close with the traffic crime rate. Chief Harnden said that vehicle break-ins are still an ongoing issue. Harnden mentioned that our detectives are continuing to investigate the recent homicide.

Chief Harnden said personnel staffing issues are continuing. The high priority is to keep patrol staffed. The department has lots of eligibility for retirements in the upcoming years.

Chief Harnden said that Youth Academy is coming up in April. Youth Academy is a chance to see how day to day operations in the Police Department work, get an inside look into how we solve investigations, learn to shoot a gun at range, watch our K-9 in action, and so much more.

#### NEXT MEETING DATE:

The next meeting is April 1, 2020, at the Albany Police Department.

#### ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 7:37 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

*Shelby Draper*  
Administrative Assistant I