

**Public Safety Committee Meeting
December 17, 2019**

The Public Safety Committee met Tuesday, December 17, 2019, at 6:00 pm in the City Hall Conference Room, 17 S. 8th. Present were Committee Members John Uden, Kathy Wilcox, Ken Gardner and Austin Lott. Also present were: Police Lt. Dan Baker and Human Resources Officer/Recorder Linda Wilkins.

Chairperson Uden called the meeting to order.

1. Request of Citizens

None

2. Committee Member Comments

None

3. Unfinished Business

- A. Address, from referral of November 19 meeting, the need for the City to provide funding of cell phones for 6 command staff of the Police Dept. and to advise Council as to our recommendation

Committee Chairperson Uden asked Lt. Baker to address the committee on the cost findings of providing 6 phones for command staff of the Police Dept.

Lt. Baker provided 2 options to the committee:

1. AT&T and 1st Net - 1st Net works in conjunction with AT&T. All smartphones are \$500/each. All calls made through this network are moved up to first in the que.
2. Verizon – The plan provided was simple, basic and easy to understand. Basic flip phones or smart phones are free. There is an additional charge of \$0.99 per phone for a ruggedized version of the smart phone. Data plans: flip phone \$22.99 per month/phone unlimited talk and text, smart phone \$39.99 per month/phone unlimited talk, text and data.

Phones would be provided to the Chief, Captain, Lieutenant/Detective and 3 Sergeants. Lt. Baker suggested going with the Verizon plan.

There was discussion on the benefits of having smart phones for officers. Committee Member Gardner emphasized the current situation with the City's budget and that there was a need to watch spending. Committee Member Wilcox commented that emergency services should be given priority when making decisions on what the Council should fund. Chairperson Uden expressed that keeping up with current technology is an important part of law enforcement. Committee Member Lott asked if Lt. Baker knew what the cost of replacing a cell phone would be should it have to be sent off for evidence in a case. Lt. Baker did not know but would find out.

***Committee Member Wilcox moved to recommend to Council the purchase of 6 ruggedized versions of the smart phone through Verizon at a cost of \$1,476 for six months beginning in January 2020, seconded by Committee Member Lott. The motion passed by unanimous consent 4-0.*

4. New Business

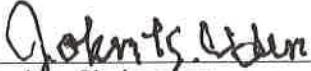
None

5. Adjournment

***Committee Member Wilcox moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Committee Member Gardner and passed unanimously, 4-0.*

The meeting was adjourned at 6:27 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:



John Udeh, Chairperson



Linda Wilkins, Recorder