Public Safety Committee Meeting June 16, 2020

The Public Safety Committee met Tuesday, June 16, 2020, at 6:00 pm via Zoom Conferencing in the Human Resources Office at City Hall, 17 S. 8th. Present were Committee Members Kathy Wilcox, Ken Gardner and Austin Lott. Also present were: Police Chief Doug Colombik, Mayor John Hollowell, Fire Chief Branden Stevens, Battalion Chief Johnny Hoskins, and Human Resources Officer/Recorder Linda Wilkins.

Chairperson Lott called the meeting to order.

1. Request of Citizens

None

2. Committee Member Comments

None

3. Review and recommendation on Discharge of Fireworks on July 4

The committee discussed options for the discharge of fireworks on July 4, after a brief discussion it was decided to allow the discharge of fireworks at the parks as listed in last year's resolution #4246, but limit the days to July 3 and 4 only. The committee recommend that a public service announcement be issued encouraging social distancing due to the active outbreak of COVID-19 in the community. They also thought it would be good to contact the county regarding use of the fairgrounds parking area for viewing of the fireworks display.

**Chairperson Lott moved to recommend Council the discharge of fireworks on July 3 and 4 in the places and times of day as outlined in last year's Resolution #4246, seconded by Committee Member Wilcox. By unanimous consent the motion passed 3-0.

4. Review and recommendation on City Building Inspector Contract language

The committee discussed that the building permit form should be changed so that both the building inspector and the flood plain administrator would need to sign off on the permit, this would ensure compliance with both building code and flood code. The committee discussed the language of the current contract. The committee thought the percentage of building fees billed by the building inspector should be lowered. The also wanted paragraph "b" of Section Two reinserted into the contract from the original contract regarding code enforcement, other than public nuisances. The committee discussed splitting the plan review fee with flood plan administration, public works, public utilities, fire and police. They wanted a comparison of the current contract with the original contract from several years back, with a review by the City Attorney.

**Committee Member Wilcox recommend the revisions, as presented, to the city building inspector contract language for the city attorney and have the contract come back to the committee for review., seconded by Committee Member Lott. By unanimous consent the motion passed 3-0.

5. Review and recommendation on paying out-of-town stipends to Part Paid Firefighters

Committee Chair Lott explained that this recommendation had been reviewed by the Finance Committee and approved, but required recommendation by the Public Safety Committee. A number of calls for out out-of-town transfers had not been accepted by the Fire Department. Chief Stevens explained that part paid firefighters are not currently receiving the stipend for taking the trip, that full time firefighters currently receive. The out-of-town transport are aiding in reducing the deficit in the ambulance fund and if the stipends were paid to part paid firefighters they would be willing to take more out-of-town transports.

**Committee Member Wilcox moved that out-of-town stipends be paid to part paid firefighters at the same rate as full time firefighters, seconded by Committee Member Gardner. By unanimous consent the motion passed 3-0.

6. Adjournment

Committee Member Gardner moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Committee Member Lott and **passed unanimously, 3-0.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:50 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Austin Lott, Chairperson

Linda Wilkins, Recorder