

**Public Safety Committee Meeting  
May 19, 2020**

The Public Safety Committee met Tuesday, May 19, 2020, at 6:00 pm in the 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, Police Captain Dan Baker, Mayor John Hollowell, Councilperson Dwayne Andrews, Councilperson Rick Huber, Fire Chief Branden Stevens, City Clerk Lorrie Pearce 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. Discuss and recommendation on options for housing the police department**

Chairperson Lott commented that Mayor Hollowell and he had meet with the County Commissioners regarding plans for the VA Hospital building, basically when the VA tells us to leave we will have to leave. Chief Colombik has considered some possible places to relocate the Police Department to, including the old Fish, Wildlife and Parks building, the Garberson Clinic building, obtaining man camp trailers similar to what the Fire department has set up for temporary housing for their staff and other locations. Committee Member asked where we are at with the Public Safety Building. Chief Stevens stated that the public meetings that were to be held were postponed due to the COVID virus. Councilperson Andrews thought there were 3 options: 1) the Public Safety building, 2) rent someplace (which would involve repairs, or 3) a separate building for the Police Department. Chairperson Lott asked what was the minimum square footage required. Captain Baker thought around 3,800 square feet for offices and evidence holding. Chairperson Lott asked about retrofitting City Hall. Captain Baker thought that would work. Other buildings suggested where a contractor's building on N. 7<sup>th</sup> St., the Woolhouse, the old wrestling complex on Bridge St and Rue 21.

*\*\*Chairperson Lott moved to recommend to opt to retrofit City Hall for the Police Department finding either, renting or buying a building for City Hall staff, buildings for consideration are the Contractor Building, the Woolhouse, Rue 21 or man camps for temporary housing, seconded by Committee Member Wilcox. By unanimous consent the motion passed 3-0.*

**4. Discuss and recommendation on Ordinance 1341 - An ordinance repealing Article III in Chapter 18, including sections 18-51, 18-52 and 18-53, of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Miles City, pertaining to Police Advisory Committees**

Chief Colombik stated that he thought it was inappropriate for junior officers to be making recommendations for hire of other staff. HR Officer Wilkins stated she thought it was a violation of fair labor standards.

*\*\*Committee Member Wilcox moved to repeal Article III in Chapter 18, including sections 18-51, 18-52 and 18-53, of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Miles City, pertaining to Police Advisory Committees, seconded by Committee Member Gardner. By unanimous consent the motion passed 3-0.*

**5. Adjournment**

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

The meeting was adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:



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Austin Lott, Chairperson



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Linda Wilkins, Recorder