

**Public Safety Committee Meeting
November 4, 2021**

The Public Safety Committee met Thursday, November 4, 2021, at 6:00 pm via live attendance and Zoom Conferencing in the City Hall Conference Room, 17 S. 8th. Present were Committee Members Elizabeth Patten, Kathy Wilcox, and Ken Gardner. Absent was: Committee Member Roxanna Brush. Also present were: Police Chief Doug Colombik, Dispatch Supervisor Lyne Anderson, Fire Captain Jake Richards, Firefighter Erick Hartse, and HR Officer/Recorder Linda Wilkins.

Chairperson Patten called the meeting to order.

1. Request of Citizens for Public Comment

None

2. Staff Comments

None

3. Committee Member Comments

None

4. Discuss Police Department Building update and sign

Chairperson Patten stated the carpet is going in, interior and exterior painting has been completed. She helped with some outside painting. 406 Signs has been contacted and the current sign outside the building can be utilized a decal can be created with the police department patch design and placed on the sign costing approximately \$1,000, there is room in the budget for this expense. The Mayor had been contacted and was going to speak with Scott Gray regarding landscaping, tree removal and grounds care. Chief Colombik stated there is still an issue with the bats in the upper story of the building, this could cause health issues. The upper story needs to be sealed where the bats are entering, which appears to be the west side of the building. Chairperson Patten will contact SDI regarding the bat issue. He has not heard back from Mid-Rivers. The final walk-through has been scheduled on November 23 at 9:00 a.m. An exit walk-through at the VA will be scheduled the 2nd week of December.

5. Discuss Dispatch – updates, potential grants, updated state assessment, repeater project in Ismay area

Supervisor Anderson informed the committee that 911 grants have been opened by the State. The State is pushing next generation to meet a mobile cellular society. She is completing the following assessments: 12-page assessment of 911 services sent out by the State, a 21-page cyber-security assessment. She will be acquiring MDT's for Prairie County. New digital voice loggers have been purchased from grant funds from the State, in the amount \$17,900. She is pursuing funding through a Homeland Security grant and the possible donation of land to place a new repeater in the Ismay area where there is a dead spot in communication, which is an issue for officer safety, especially when fighting fires.

6. Discuss and Recommend Animal Ordinance

Chairperson Patten placed this item on the agenda as a reminder. She stated there has been e-mailing back and forth regarding updates to this ordinance, but recommendations for changes are not yet complete.

7. Discuss and Recommend Fire Department building situation

Chairperson Patten provided to the committee copy of the floorplan for the Fairview Fire Department and the Custer County Rural Fire Department for their review and as points of reference. Chief Stevens provided her with a copy of the PAR developed for the Miles City Fire Department. The Fire Department is probably a \$4 million project for the remodel and \$5 million for a new build. USDA has rural development grant loans for 55% or 60% of a public service project. It would be worth the drive to Fairview to view the Fire Department building, and see how the plans could be modified for the Miles City Fire Department. Captain Richards commented that a remodel project may be a good option, it could be a two-phase project starting with the oldest side of the building. This would allow the department to maintain operations out of the newer side of the building. Committee Member Gardner thought this would be something well worth reviewing. Committee Member Wilcox commented that SDI could a remodel drawing and save the best of the current building. There was discussion regarding the current plumbing problems to the living cabins, and that possible caps could be place on the current line to blowout or vacuum out the current sewer lines. Captain Richards stated he would be happy to help the department in any way. Chairperson Patten said she would be in touch with Captain Richards.

8. Adjournment

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

The meeting was adjourned at 6:56 p.m.

Chairperson Elizabeth Patten

Recorder Linda Wilkins