

**Public Safety Committee Meeting
February 1, 2022**

The Public Safety Committee met Tuesday, February 1, 2022, at 6:00 pm via live attendance and Zoom Conferencing in the City Hall Conference Room, 17 S. 8th. Present were Committee Members Roxanna Brush, Chris Grenz, Kathy Wilcox, and Ken Gardner. Also present were: Police Chief Doug Colombik, Mayor John Hollowell, Police Captain Dan Baker, Fire Chief Branden Stevens, Council Member Rick Huber and HR Officer/Recorder Linda Wilkins.

Recorder Wilkins called the meeting to order.

1. Elect Chairperson

Recorder Wilkins called for nominations:

***Committee Member Wilcox nominated Roxanna Brush, seconded by Committee Member Grenz.*

Nominations were closed.

Nomination passed, 3-0. Committee member Brush abstained from voting.

2. Request of Citizens

None

3. Staff Comments

Mayor Hollowell made the following comments:

- The senior citizens are interested in utilizing the back space of the Woolhouse for a Senior Citizen Center.
- Dispatch Supervisor Lyne Anderson has been doing a tremendous job. Dawson, Rosebud and Powder River Counties have approached her regarding coming on with Southeastern Montana Dispatch. Dispatch is wanting to use space at the police department to allow for expansion.
- Matt Webb of BNSF contacted him regarding the Rail Authority stepping in if the City is not wanting to take over the depot.

Chief Stevens had the following comments:

- Call volume is down a little from last January.
- One member is on extended leave.
- The department has applied for a FEMA SAFR grant.
- The hospital would like to meet with the City regarding ambulance transfers and come to an agreement. There have been a lot of cancellations.
- There will be a house burn on the 12th as joint training for Custer County Rural Fire Department and the City fire department.
- Looking at a FEMA AFG grant.
- An industrial hygienist will be visiting the department regard carbon monoxide (CO) exposure.
- Reviewing a rural development loan for the building. There needs to be an environmental assessment of the building.

4. Committee Member Comments

Committee Member Wilcox would like the committee to be kept up-to-date on what is going on at the fire station.

Committee Member Grenz commented it would be good to enter into a contract with the hospital. He asked Chief Stevens, why the need for a water tender. Chief Stevens explained that there are areas in the City where water pressure is inadequate for fighting fires and the need for a tender in fighting wildland fires when the County water tender is not available.

5. Discuss and recommend maintenance plan for police department building

Committee Member Gardner noted the necessity of creating a plan of what needs to be fixed and completed. A priority list for something the committee could work from and stay on top of and keep focus. Chairperson Brush commented there was a list from Captain Baker with the following items: 1) masonry issues, 2) parking lot, 3) landscaping and maintenance. Chief Colombik commented that there was a grant available from the Montana Historic Preservation that could possibly provide funding for the masonry issues. Captain Baker said the first phase of the building still has punch list items that require addressing. The building inspector will do a walk-through of the building so the committee can begin planning for the completion of the rest of the building and address existing issues.

6. Adjournment

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

The meeting was adjourned at 7:05 p.m.


Chairperson Roxanna Brush


Recorder Linda Wilkins