

**Public Safety Committee Meeting  
February 15, 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, Dispatch Supervisor Lyne Anderson and HR Officer/Recorder Linda Wilkins.

Chairperson Brush called the meeting to order.

**1. Recommendation on Custer County Senior Citizens to utilize unused space on the main floor at the Police Department**

Marilynn Arnoldt, 804 Marilyn St and Deb Schmeling, 2119 Butler spoke to the committee regarding the need for space for Senior Citizen activities and the search for that space. They had approached Mayor Hollowell about using space at the Police Department. Committee Member Grenz expressed concern about the use of the stairs to get into the building. Ms. Arnoldt stated that if the area could be used the Senior Citizens would be looking at obtaining donations and grants to upgrade the facility. Supervisor Anderson expressed her concerns regarding have a non-law enforcement entity in the building, due to security issues within the law enforcement field. Chief Colombik empathized with the current lack of a home for Senior Citizen activities, but explained the risks of placing a non-law enforcement organization in a law enforcement facility are too high. He would fear for the safety of the individuals using the facility. As 911 moves to being a regional facility, this space would be well suited for this expansion. Mayor Hollowell asked all to think of another building option for the Senior Citizens. The City will relook at this issue and will assist in the pursuit of a space for the Senior Citizens

*\*\*Committee Member Wilcox moved to table, seconded by Committee Member Gardner, on roll call vote the motion passed, 4-0.*

**2. Update from Firehall Working Group**

Fire Chief Stevens updated the committee:

- The Public Safety Committee had suggested a budget of \$5 million for the building and had requested that other configurations of the planned fire station be looked at for possible reconfiguration of the plans presented in the Preliminary Architectural Report (PAR).
- JGA Architects, the original architects for PAR, have rearranged the plan, for fire station use only, to an I-shape configuration. This will allow for continued use of the new part of the current station during construction. No additional land will need to be purchased, the current area of land will allow for the turning radius of all fire vehicles, except one; which will not present a problem when moving vehicles. This revised PAR will be presented to City Council for approval.
- The Working Group has meet, through teleconference, with staff from Senator Tester, Senator Daines and the Governor's office to find money to be allocated to the project. USDA has a grant that would provide for 35% of the cost of the building (\$1.75 mil), the other 65% (\$3.25 mil) would require a mill levy to allow for the borrowing of funds.
- The following studies are required to be provided with the grant application:
  - Environmental assessment – the group has contacted Brownfields Program for possible funding of this assessment.

- Financial Feasibility Study – this will require budget reports through 2023 and the would be performed by an independent CPA. Chief Stevens has sent an e-mail to the Mayor to see if the City Clerk’s office can assist with the financial information.

When this information has been prepared and presented to USDA, it is implied the funding is easily acquired.

- The proposal will be presented to City Council for approval, should approval be given and the resolution prepared it will be presented to the Custer County Clerk and Recorder for a mill levy to cover the \$3.25 million that will be covered through a loan.

The process of obtaining the appropriate documentation will take approximately 5 months.

### 3. Police department maintenance plan

Items that the committee would like to see addressed in Phase 2:

- Lighting
- Signage on the front of the building

Captain Baker reported that most items of the punch list have been addressed.

There is approximately \$80,000 left in contingent funds from Phase 1. Items to be addressed with the remainder of these funds:

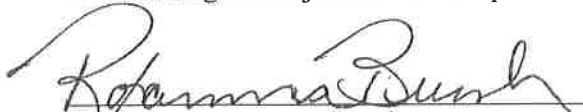
- Mortar work on the brick, estimate for this work is \$25,000. The Mayor will consult with the building inspector and architect on this item as it is believed this should have been addressed as part of the first phase.
- The Mayor will also contact the building inspector on any other deficiencies that could be covered as part of Phase 1.

The committee would like to take a close look at the roof as a priority item for next years budget.

### 4. Adjournment

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

The meeting was adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

  
Chairperson Roxanna Brush

  
Recorder Linda Wilkins