

Public Safety Committee Meeting

May 15, 2013

City Hall Council Chambers

In attendance

Committee Members:

Chair Eric Sitkiewitz
Vice Chair Tyler Martell
Dave Soeldner
Scott McMeans
Al Schema

Members of the public:

Leroy Olson, 4503 Broadway Street
Elaine Olson, 4503 Broadway Street
Jamie Zastrow, Mainly Manitowoc
Tony Fodden, Downtown Streetscape Committee
Mike Dorcas, Manitowoc Pharmacies

Staff:

Fire Chief Bill Manis
Deputy Fire Chief Todd Blaser
Deputy Police Chief Bridget Brennan
Engineering Team Leader Greg Minikel

Call meeting to order

Chairman Sitkiewitz called meeting to order at 6:30.

Approval of minutes from May 1, 2013 committee meeting

McMeans motioned, Schema seconded, carried 5-0.

Public Input

There was no public input.

Discussion and possible action on Communication (13-220) from LeRoy and Elaine Olson, 4503 Broadway Street, relative to testing of weather sirens.

Leroy and Elaine Olson, 4503 Broadway Street, were present and outlined their concerns to the City. They believe that they are having trouble selling their house because the emergency sirens are tested so often, and at such a high volume level. The Olsons understand that the sirens are necessary, but would like the City to look at some other testing policies.

Chief Manis explained that the City has a stated policy of replacing one siren every other year, and that the newer sirens have a way of testing that can be done remotely, and is much quieter. Due to funding limitations, these sirens are not being replaced as quickly as the policy states. Right now 3 of the 11 sirens in operation have the remote testing capability. Chief Manis will check into the cost of replacing the other 8 sirens, and will also check with the County to see if

their diagnostic tool can be used.

No Committee action taken.

Discussion and possible action on Hardship Discount Form (13-219) of Harold Meyer for ambulance call on December 11, 2012, call number 182-12-3560.

Deputy Chief Blaser indicated that the City typically follows a community provider's recommendation on hardship claims.

Soeldner motioned to approve the claim, Schema seconded. Motioned carried 5-0.

Discussion and possible action on request from Police Department for radio upgrade for cellular mobile data connection.

Deputy Chief Brennan indicated that the current radios will reach their end of life on 12/31/14, and that the vendor is no longer updating the software. The Department wants to upgrade to a software that will run only on cellular infrastructure (the Manitowoc LTE network). This is a joint project with the Two Rivers Police Department. The preferred system would include Calamp Fusion Modems and Netmotion XE.

The cost of the hardware for this system is for \$48,000, which would be underwritten by the Rahr Foundation. The cost of the software is \$15,343.75. The cellular access cost for the first year would be \$15,000, and the annual support and cellular access cost for subsequent years is \$16,968.75. These costs would be shared between Manitowoc and Two Rivers on a prorated basis; it is estimated that Manitowoc will use this system in 11 squads and Two Rivers will use it in 7 squads.

It was suggested that this purchase could be funded by the End of Life fund. A committee has been formed to examine these requests, and this item will be forwarded to that committee.

No committee action taken.

Discussion and possible action on changing downtown parking ordinances.

Greg Minikel presented maps that showed the parking rules that resulted from the last Public Safety Committee discussion. He also presented maps showing the Mayor's proposed changes to the parking rules. In summary, the Mayor wishes to eliminate some of the 2 hour parking on the periphery of downtown that the Public Safety Committee had recommended, and make those areas unlimited parking.

A discussion ensued and was joined by Jamie Zastrow and Tony Fodden. Some of the issues discussed included the merits of unlimited parking, tradeoffs involved between parking needs of employees and patrons, and parking near the Court House. Mike Dorcas from Manitowoc Pharmacies requested that the Committee create 15 or 30 minute parking on Jay Street east of S. 8th Street. The merits of 15 and 30-minute parking were discussed, which some Committee members believing that there should be some on each block.

Motion by Soeldner, second by McMeans, to direct City Attorney to draft parking ordinances to reflect Public Safety Committee recommendations, and to refer these ordinances to the Common Council. Motion carried 5-0.

Discussion and possible action on person to be minute secretary and alfresco support person for the Public Safety Committee.

Chairman Sitkewitz indicated that there is no designated secretary for the Committee. In the past, the Building Inspection Department provided the secretarial support, but they no longer answer to this committee. Chairman Sitkewitz contacted the Police and Fire Departments for their ideas.

Adjournment.

Schema made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Martell. Motion carried 5-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Dave Soeldner