

EMERGENCY SERVICE AND POLICE
COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
March 7, 2024

In Attendance:

Members: Councilman Bob Hyatt, Councilwoman Trudy Dils, Councilman Bill Farnham

Absent: Ed Conley,

City Staff: John Doyle, Jen Worth, Chief Cordova, Daniela Breedlove, Michele Brown, Karen Crismon

Guests: Chief Mike Shempert, Steve Lynch, Jordan Light

Media:

- **Call to Order and Citizen Comments:** Councilman Farnham called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m. No Citizen Comments.
- **Approval of minutes-** Councilman Hyatt made a motion to approve the February 1, 2024, meeting minutes. Councilwoman Dils seconded the motion. Motion passed.
- **Police Corporal Position Update-** John Doyle stated that this wasn't an easy pick. He was very pleased with the level of competition that applied for the position. There were 3 applicants that scored high during the application process. Joey Mendez scored the highest and was awarded the job. Councilman Farnham asked if we had an officer position opened. John Doyle stated that we are always seeking police officers.
- **Animal Shelter Update-** Daniela Breedlove stated that she is fully staffed now. She stated she has 2023 numbers, for Saint Robert they took in 223 dogs and for Waynesville they took in 165 dogs. And as of January 2024, they have taken in 24 dogs for Saint Robert and 25 dogs from Waynesville. Daniela Breedlove also stated that as of January 2024 it has costed \$33,785 in just medical cost for the dogs from Saint Robert and \$26,236 in medical for the dogs from Waynesville. We will be working through a new agreement with the City of Saint Robert. John Doyle stated our old agreement with them expires and a new agreement will need to be established.
- **Fire Department Update-** Chief Shempert stated last weekend they were officially in the new fire station 24/7. Chief Shempert stated that they wouldn't be able to compete with the response times they are making anywhere else. Next week the construction department will be repairing the aprons, due to the weight of the fire trucks, they need to be reinforced. They are continuing to do re-inspects and will start hydrant testing in late April. Chief Shempert stated he came across his old City badge while going through some of his things. He believes it was from the early '70's. Shempert would like to somehow incorporate it into the new station.
- **Central Dispatch Update-** Karen Crismon stated they hope to be in the new office by late next week if everything goes well with the phones and internet. They also gained 2 new experienced dispatchers.
- **Police Department Update-** Chief Cordova stated he received a call stating post was shutting down Polla Rd for an undetermined amount of time due to a sink hole and would let us know when they opened the road back up. Chief Cordova stated that on February 8th he attended the Pulaski County Leadership Committee and was able to do some recruiting while there. They had their CIT meeting on February 13th. That was put together to have alternative options for people in crisis. It does not cost anything for an additional follow up and they reach out to suspects and victims that are in crisis. Chief Cordova stated that they allocate resources for them. On February 20-21 Waynesville PD went to taser and recert training. Chief Cordova state that on March 1st, Officer George Cottrell signed his contract with Waynesville PD. He was a reserve Officer and is now full time. Chief Cordova stated that in February they submitted 2025 DWI grant and HMV grant. The request for the DWI grant was for \$10,150. The request for the HMV grant was \$10,450. Grants go into affect in October.
- **Other Business-** Bob Hyatt stated that he had people asking about more lighting down by the courthouse at the crosswalk. Trudy Dils stated that they are doing new construction in her

EMERGENCY SERVICE AND POLICE
COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
March 7, 2024

neighborhood and they park in front of the fire hydrant and with cars being parked on both sides of the road there isn't enough room for emergency vehicles to get through. Chief Cordova stated that they need to call Waynesville PD when that happens.

- **Special Events-**
 - Best Sapper Competition- April 19th
 - The Wall That Heals- May 16-19

Having no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

The next meeting date is April 4, 2024, at 3:30 p.m.