

**CITY OF BRENTWOOD, MISSOURI
PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING
MAY 19, 2016**

Alderman Plufka called the Public Safety Committee Meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Deputy Clerk Pittman called for attendance.

Alderman Plufka – Present
Alderman Kramer – Present
Alderman Lochmoeller – Present
Alderwoman Sims – Present

Also present were: City Clerk/Administrator Bola Akande, Police Chief Dan Fitzgerald, and Deputy City Clerk Pittman.

Alderman Plufka briefly announced the time constraints with the ARB immediately following and the potential need to postpone some of the items to another time. He also introduced, newly elected Alderwoman Sims to the committee.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Alderman Kramer made a motion to add to the agenda Item H2 Brentwood Forest/Police Presence. Motion seconded by Alderman Lochmoeller. **ROLL CALL:** Alderman Kramer – yes; Alderman Lochmoeller – yes; Alderwoman Sims – yes; Alderman Plufka – no; **MOTION PASSED.**

Motion was made by Alderman Lochmoeller to postpone Item G1 until the June meeting. Motion seconded by Alderman Kramer. **ROLL CALL:** Alderman Kramer – yes; Alderman Lochmoeller – yes; Alderwoman Sims – yes; Alderman Plufka – yes; **MOTION PASSED.**

Hearing no additional changes, the agenda was approved as amended by acclamation.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Meeting Minutes April 21, 2016

Hearing no changes, meeting minutes were approved, as submitted, by acclamation.

PRESENTATION

Department Efficiency Report

Chief Fitzgerald presented the Police Department Efficiency Report and provided an overview. The department priorities include training, currently the department has been utilizing some online training modules that have been successful and the department is also looking into crisis intervention training; equipment, research is still being conducted into body cameras but we await privacy legislation, the department is also researching firearm simulators; education, this is being reinforced with all officers and “college preferred” is included in job openings, there are currently two on staff working to complete their degrees; staffing, the department has reinstated the corporal rank and it was also mentioned that the department could use 3 additional officers – which includes 1 detective (an additional car should not be needed); fitness/health, efforts are being made to focus the department on being health conscience; and

relationships with the community, forums are being held to educate the public on safety issues, regular updates are also made on social media and officers are visiting local schools.

The department is also addressing other topics, including the aging Brentwood population, ways to Connect with youth, Assess the success of the move to ECDC, Improving the policy manual, streamlining the FTA arrest process, and streamlining the shoplifting arrest process.

After questions from Aldermen, it was announced that the average cost to replace an officer is about \$100,000 which includes benefits; the department has 4 - 12 hour shifts with 3-5 on duty at all times and extra patrol is helpful during retail areas between 1pm – 9pm daily. Discussions were also held regarding the department having 1 dash cam as historically it was not a priority, body cams need more privacy restrictions before moving forward, there is no concern with officer fatigue considering 12 hour shifts, additional radio channels may be needed from ECDC to keep up with the air traffic, conversations are being held with retailers regarding safety, resources and private security and some of their processes are being changed in assistance and future meetings are scheduled to be held, the goal is to have all officers CIT trained, the department's consideration of the reintroduction of bike patrol and the need for an officer during operating hours at city hall. It was also requested that the Chief begin including, within the department report, areas covered using the GPS systems installed in cars.

Lynn Morgan, 9156 Robin Court, stated her appreciation for the regular blog updates.

Debra Barent, 1616 Oriole, offered comments of the recent carjacking in Brentwood Forest and requested increased presence of police as a deterrent. She also offered suggestions of controlling pedestrian traffic from the Metrolink and collaborating with Richmond Heights and Bi-State in effort to deter overall crime.

Louise Charboneau, Madge, offered comments of appreciating the consideration of additional officers. She added that it would be a great idea to have an officer located in city hall as well as in the police station. She questioned the progress regarding the cameras and/or a call button at the police station and it was clarified that this project is budgeted for FY 2016 and camera installation is scheduled to begin next month.

BIDS

Request To Purchase A Speed Trailer

A request has been made for a speed trailer on city streets. Chief Fitzgerald stated that the city owns one speed trailer that was used 15 times in 2015 and twice in 2016. He added that the trailer is not getting much use and that there may not be a need for a second one. The approximate cost is \$8,000 - \$10,000 and would also require a radar which is approximately \$1,000. He offered comments that he has heard from citizens and it is believed that they don't have much faith in the trailer and suggested using the trailer the city has more often. If it is determined that an additional trailer is needed, he stated that he is unsure of where the funds would be extended as it is not budgeted and funds for asset forfeiture are tentatively allocated.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Sonora Avenue And McKnight Road – Enhanced Pedestrian Signage Pedestrian Crosswalk At Sonora Avenue And McKnight Road

Postponed until the June meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Request For Proposals To Select A Consultant To Assist With The Process To Obtain The CALEA Certification

Chief Fitzgerald and Maj. McIntyre attended the CALEA Conference in St Louis and discussed with many other police executives regarding the start of the CALEA program for our Department, including former St Louis County Police Chief Tim Fitch. One constant comment in all of these discussions was the amount of time the Accreditation Manager devotes to the project. The person is often times overwhelmed and his regular duties tend to suffer or the need arises to delegate those duties to others, thus diminishing their effectiveness in the department. Fitch is now the owner of The Fitch Group, a private consulting firm who specializes in assisting police departments with the CALEA accreditation process. He, and several of his employees, have worked on CALEA Assessment teams for many years. They know the program, and even better, they know what a department needs to accomplish to successfully be accredited. After meeting with Fitch and John Foster, a former Florissant police officer, to discuss how they could help our department, they detailed the process from beginning to end and stated that they would examine our current policies, procedures and facilities for compliance with CALEA guidelines. They would guide us through the accreditation process, including preparation for the final CALEA assessment. It is felt that this service would assure we are fully prepared during the accreditation process and it will enable us to complete the job in our desired goal of one to one and a half years. It is also believed that it will make the accreditation job easier for Maj. McIntyre, thus enabling him to devote time to his current duties. In the event there are other consulting firms who perform this service, we are issuing a Request for Proposals for CALEA Accreditation Consulting Services. The due date for proposals is May 31, 2016. As a guide, the fee charged by The Fitch Group for this service is \$50 per hour and the total cost will be approximately \$10,000.

A discussion was held to clarify the process as found on the CALEA website and changes the department would have to endure. Chief Fitzgerald stated his confidence that following the RFP process, the department would be able to complete compliance timely.

Brentwood Forest Police Presence

Alderman Kramer commented that Brentwood Forest has the largest concentration of residents and is the closest to the largest concentration of retail, this proximity causes them to be an easy target and/or innocent bystanders. Citizens of Brentwood Forest are requesting assistance in effort to deter future incidents and have made some suggestions of the need of private security or the use of off-duty Brentwood Police Officers.

Chief Fitzgerald commented that Brentwood Forest actually has the lowest amount of crime. He added that it would be easier to have Brentwood Officers patrol versus private security as they would have to call the police if something happened. Hiring more officers would not guarantee that every place in town would be safe. However, area police have been meeting to discuss different deterrents. What they have also found is that more crime is committed by those that can drive in and out of town, versus those on the Metrolink as commented earlier.

UPDATES FROM POLICE CHIEF FITZGERALD

General Police Department Update

Chief Fitzgerald provided an update regarding the **Madge Avenue Speed Trailer**. It was deployed for 9 days and reports 769 vehicles traveled with an average speed of 16 mph in a 20 mph zone (70% traveled >20 mph, 22% traveled 21-30 mph, 5 traveled <30 mph and 0 <35 mph).

UPDATES FROM INTERIM FIRE CHIEF KURTEN

Attendance At Recovery Summit

Representatives were not in attendance as they were attending a disaster preparedness seminar in Joplin. It was requested that a report is given at the next meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMENT

None

CHAIRMAN COMMENT

None

ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by Alderman Lochmoeller and seconded by Alderman Kramer to adjourn the meeting at 6:54pm. Unanimous vote in favor taken; **MOTION PASSED.**

Approved as submitted on the 16th day of June, 2016.

Attest:

Bola Akande, City Clerk/Administrator