

**CITY OF MONONA  
PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE  
Conference Room  
5211 Schluter Road  
Wednesday- May27, 2020**

**MINUTES**

**1. Call to Order:** Chair Thomas called the meeting to order at 6:09 pm

**2. Roll Call:**

**Committee Members Present:** Thomas, Moore (ZOOM), Hanson, Bisbee, Fontaine (ZOOM), Reed (ZOOM), Rehberg (ZOOM 6:23 pm), and Miley (ZOOM)

**Committee Members Absent:** Henderson

**Staff Present:** Police Chief Ostrenga and Assistant Fire Chief Eklof (ZOOM)

**Others Present:** none

**3. Minutes:** A motion was made by Fontaine, seconded by Reed, to approve the minutes of the February 26, 2020 meeting. Motion approved unanimously.

**4. Appearances:** none

**5. Unfinished Business:**

**a) Discussion/Action on Community Restorative Court – Grupe**

Chief Ostrenga reviewed the function of the Community Restorative Court and how it is reported on the monthly reports.

**b) Discussion/Action on Fitness Programs for Police and Fire**

Chief Ostrenga reviewed the history and purpose of the police department's fitness incentive program. Testing is done twice a year during the spring and fall. This program mirrors the entry level fitness requirements and offers an incentive for officers to stay in shape, which in turn reduces sick time and on the job injuries.

Chief Eklof reviewed the physical testing for entry level fire fighter hiring and how personnel frequently use the fitness equipment shared with the police department.

## **6. New Business:**

### **a) Discussion/Action on Fire Department Paid On Premise Program – Eklof**

Chief Eklof described the Paid On Premise Program and how it supplemented the staffing levels of the fire department. Aladtec scheduling software describe positions, etc.

Due to lack of funds, program was suspended. At times they had up to eight personnel available for Paid on Premise due to the pandemic.

Three per shift through the end of the year would be 642 shifts.

After discussion, there was a motion by Hanson, seconded by Moore, to transfer \$57,780 to fund the Paid On Premise program through the end of the year.

### **b) Discussion/Action on Fire and Police Response to COVID-19 Pandemic.**

Chief Ostrenga reviewed the police departments response to the pandemic. Not knowing the impact, the department went to a 12-hour 3 on / 9 off shift rotation starting on 4/8/20. This was done to safeguard our most valuable resources, which are our personnel. The thought being that if someone were to become sick, they would have more time off to heal. This also lessened the number of people in the station and reduced the amount of PPE and cleaning supplies being used. With the jail, District Attorney's office and the courts all shutting down, we also put restrictions on self-initiated field activity. On 5/14/20 we resumed the normal 8-hour schedule and loosened up on some of the restrictions. It was still stressed to wash hands, keep a safe social distance, and wear PPE when necessary. As of 5/18/20 everyone who is in the police station is required to wear a facemask unless they are alone in their private workspace.

Chief Eklof described the fire departments response to the pandemic. They currently have on volunteer in quarantine. They have been working on getting an adequate supply of PPE and have obtained a fogging device to disinfect equipment and quarters. They will be starting some small group training sessions in the near future.

### **c) Discussion/Action on 2021 Operations and Capital Budget Guidelines.**

Chief Ostrenga explained that the 2021 budgets are going to be greatly impacted by the pandemic. We expect more instructions next week, but we were initially told to prepare three Operations budgets. 0% with health/fuel extra; 0% with health/fuel part of the budget; and 2%. Negotiations with the Police and Fire unions will also have an impact. For the Capital budget, the new Public Safety Building is still on the horizon, so non-essential items that will require more personnel should be avoided.

**7. Review Monthly Financial Reports: Law Enforcement, Fire Protection, Emergency Communications and Ambulance.**

Chief Eklof indicated the fire department equipment repair account was over budget due to the PFAS disposal that was coordinated with the Waunakee Fire Department. Our cost was \$7,000.

Chief Ostrenga indicated that generally all budgets were within the annual percentages for this time of year. Due to the pandemic, revenues are down and will have an impact going into the 2021 budget cycle.

**8. Discussion of future agenda items.**

- Budgets will be the major topic for future discussion.

**9. Reports:**

**Fire:** Chief Eklof advised that as of 6/1/20, FF/Paramedic Karl Larson, who is a Master Sergeant in the Air Force reserves is being activated. He will be gone until 10/13/20. Another of the full time personnel is in the final stages of being hired by a department on the east side of the state. He will be meeting with the PFC to discuss a future hiring process.

**Police:** Chief Ostrenga reported that due to the pandemic the Ford plant where our new squad was being built has been shut down. With industry starting up again we hope to have that vehicle by July or August. Officer Vicki Peterson's last day will be on 5/31/20. Vicki is retiring after serving 23 years with the Monona police department, 2 years with the Janesville police department, and 4 years as an MP with the US Army. On 6/1/20, Matthew Winckler will be sworn in as a police officer. Matthew comes to us from the Town of Madison PD. And finally, after almost 45 years in law enforcement, Chief Ostrenga plans on retiring in January of 2021. He served 2 years as an MP in the US Army, 27 years with the Northbrook, Illinois police department and will have 16 years of service as the chief in Monona.

**Building Inspection:** No report.

**Police and Fire Commission:** Member Fontaine reported they have interviewed several candidates for the Fire Chief position, which they hope will be filled soon.

**10. Next meeting date: TBD**

**11. Adjournment:** Motion was made by Bisbee, seconded by Hanson, to adjourn. Motion approved unanimously at 7:28 pm.