

MINUTES

PUBLIC HEALTH & SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING

August 21, 2023

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 PM by Chairperson Councilmember Mary Ann Mastorakos.

2. Roll Call

Councilmember Mary Ann Mastorakos, Ward II, Chairperson, Councilmember Barb McGuinness, Ward I, Councilmember Michael Moore, Ward III, Councilmember Merrell Hansen, Ward IV, Councilmember Gary Budoor, and Mayor Bob Nation. Also, in attendance was Chief Ray Johnson, Captain Cheryl Funkhouser, Captain Dan Dunn, Captain Mark Bruegenhemke, and Mr. John Foster.

3. Approval of Minutes

Councilmember Moore motioned and Councilmember Hansen seconded to approve the minutes of the May 8, 2023 Public Health & Safety Committee meeting. The motion to carried 4-0.

4. Interview of Nominee to Police Personnel Board

The members of the Board welcomed Mr. John Foster who is a candidate for appointment to the Police Personnel Board due to a resignation on that Board effective September 3, 2023.

The Committee members noted Mr. Foster's background as a Police Officer and Police captain at the City of Florissant and as an Assessment Team Leader with the Commission On Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies. Mr. Foster has also served as a volunteer in many organizations.

After discussion, Councilmember Moore motioned and Councilmember McGuinness seconded to recommend Mr. Foster for appointment to the Police Personnel Board. The motion carried 4-0. This will be placed on the agenda for the next City Council meeting.

5. The Committee reviewed a suggested resolution to approve the installation by the City of Ballwin of a license plate recognition camera within the City of Chesterfield Municipal boundaries shared by the City of Ballwin at the intersection of Clayton/Henry/Schoettler Roads. The camera will be owned and maintained by the City of Ballwin but information from the camera will be shared with the City of Chesterfield. St. Louis County has requested a resolution from the City of Chesterfield before installation on a County roadway.

The Committee agreed that the installation of this camera will benefit the City of Chesterfield. Therefore, Councilmember Moore motioned and Councilmember Hansen seconded to recommend approval of the Resolution to City Council to install a license

plate recognition camera at the intersection of Clayton/Henry/Schoettler Roads. The motion carried 4-0. This item will be addressed at the next City Council meeting planned for September 5, 2023.

6. Thefts at/in the commercial/retail district in Chesterfield Valley were discussed. Mayor Nation noted that he had been contacted by a resident who was very concerned about thefts in the business district in Chesterfield Valley. Chief Johnson informed the Committee members that there are currently 8 officers assigned full time to the business district. To date for 2023, the officers have recovered \$129,000.00 in property. The department now tows shoplifters' vehicles when apprehended while holding the arrested shoplifters during warrant application. Chief Johnson did relate that delayed reporting makes it difficult to apprehend violators and that some businesses do not encourage calling police for each violation.

Chief Johnson also noted the success of the FLOCK cameras in the areas.

Committee members suggested that the Police Department schedule meetings with businesses in the area to encourage their participation in more aggressive action to prosecute the criminals involved.

The Committee directed that Chief Johnson report on this issue at the next meeting of the Public Health & Safety Committee.

7. Security glass at City Hall Front Desk

Chief Johnson reported that the City has not yet received a bid regarding security glass for the Front Desk at City Hall. He also noted that contractors seem reluctant to bid on this project.

There was discussion about the actual need for security glass at the front desk. Chief Johnson noted that when the building was being designed, this was discussed and it was not approved. The decision was that the front hall and desk area be a welcoming area to the citizens.

It was suggested that portable shields of some type be made available to staff at the front desk. Chief Johnson will check on the obtainability of shields.

Councilmember McGuinness motioned and Councilmember Hansen seconded to remove this item from the agenda for upcoming meetings until more information is available. This motion carried 4-0.

8. No new meeting date was set at this time.
9. Having no further business, Chairperson Mastorakos adjourned the meeting at 6:15 PM.