

**City of Washington  
Public Safety Committee Meeting  
December 13, 2021**

Chairperson Brett Adams called the meeting to order at 5:00 PM.

**Voting Members Present**

Chairperson Brett Adams, Alderperson Todd Yoder and Alderperson Aaron Boyles

**Other Officials Present**

Mayor Gary Manier, City Administrator, Jim Snider, WPD Chief Michael McCoy, WFD Chief Brett Brown, Attorney Derek Schryer, Alderperson Lili Stevens, and Administrative Assistant Linda Storer

**Citizens Present**

John & Sharon Amdall, John Riotell

**1. Non-Member Alderperson(s) wishing to be heard on a non-agenda item**

None

**2. Citizens wishing to be heard on a non-agenda item**

John Riotell spoke about the motorcycles used by WPD. He is very much in favor of them. They are a great community relations tool. Kids love to come up to the motorcycles that are at event or on the street. These motorcycles led the bike parade during Good Neighbor Days and saw those riders off to continue in that parade safely.

Sergeant Jacob Cernek came to meeting and stated that the motorcycles allow for a unique interaction with the public. People are more apt to come up to a motorcycle officer because they like the bike. It also provides for great community relations and allows the officers the ability to enforcement traffic effectively.

**3. Approval of Minutes – November 8, 2021**

Chairperson Adams asked for a motion to approve minutes; Alderperson Yoder-motioned, Alderperson Boyles 2nd.

**4. Business Items**

**A. Police Personnel Update**

Chief Michael McCoy gave a summary of where the current new officers are in their training. Officer James Minton finished the Southwest Academy in Decatur on December 3rd, 2021. Officer Ben Gregory will graduate from Champaign PTI on December 16, 2021. Officer Kelley Noetzol is in the 2nd half of Phase 3 of the FTO (field training program) at WPD. He has roughly 6 weeks until he enters into the shadow phase.

The Police Commission will be interviewing (2) police candidates on Friday, December 10th. If they pass these interviews, they will be given conditional offers. There is an academy in January, 2022 where both can attend.

WPD is conducting a background check on a person interested in the part-time PASS office with a pending conditional offer.

One officer on light duty due to off duty injury will return to full duty in January, 2022. School Resource Officer hurt on duty is currently on light duty at the school. Hopefully returning to full status soon.

#### **B. Police Motorcycle Purchase Update**

A memo included in the packet was discussed by Chief McCoy with members of the PSC. Several questions arose during this discussion. When asked how many miles are the motorcycles ridden out of town, the Chief advised about 900 miles to Memphis for St. Jude twice. The Chief wasn't sure of the insurance cost question.

Chief McCoy asked for the Committee support to purchase these motorcycles instead of leasing them. Cost per motorcycle is \$18,000. (2 bikes) for a total of \$36,000. Alderperson Yoder said he is not in favor of purchasing the motorcycles. Alderperson Boyles stated he is in favor of purchasing them. Chairperson Adams stated he saw both sides but wanted to take this to the Committee of the Whole for the full council to discuss.

After asking Attorney Schryer, it was decided it would be ok for this Committee to take this to the Committee of the Whole for a full discussion with the entire Council.

Motion to take this to Committee of the Whole made by Chairperson Adams and 2nd by Alderperson Yoder.

#### **C. DECO Grant for Equipment Purchases Discussion**

WPD & WFD will split a \$200,000 grant for equipment costs at both facilities. Finance Director Baxter will process the necessary grant paperwork.

#### **D. Evidence Building Discussion**

Included in the packet is a letter from Chamlin & Associates outlining the necessity to build a new evidence facility. They viewed the site and wrote their recommendations.

Chairperson Adams stated that the current facility is riddled with flaws for housing evidence according to the letter.

Chairperson Adams directed Chief McCoy to contact Chamlin & Associates and get designs so that we can get bids on the project. Chief McCoy asked if it is OK to email the

results so we aren't postponing this for another month. Email is fine with Chairperson Adams.

#### **E. Police Department Update**

4 new police vehicles from Enterprise have been delivered.

(3) are up and ready. (1) needs some equipment added to it. The Detective car that is inoperable will be replaced by Enterprise with one that has been located.

Last week, a stolen trailer and some equipment were recovered. The owner of the equipment hadn't had time to report it stolen before WPD recovered it.

Two search warrants were served with Peoria PD last week and (5) of (12) stolen guns were recovered.

Shop with the Men & Women in Blue is in full swing. The department has received many contributions from residents and businesses. WPD will be taking 100 children to shop at Walmart on December 18th. This is all possible due to the generosity of the people of Washington.

We are a drop off site for Toys 4 Tots. Anyone can stop by and drop off a toy.

#### **F. Fire Department Update**

- Chief Brown sent out the statistics for November. There were no questions from the Committee on them.
- Covid numbers are rising but there are extenuating circumstances with the person's health. The patients are testing positive but aren't calling primarily for Covid symptoms.
- Chef Brown said that the potential grant money will assist with equipment costs in 2022 budget.
- Santa will be riding in town again on December 23rd at 5:30. Route to be published on both WFD website and Facebook.

#### **5. Other Business**

None

#### **6. Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn made by Chairman Adams. Motion made by Alderperson Yoder and 2nd by Alderperson Boyles. Meeting adjourned at 5:30 PM.

