

Public safety Committee Minutes

April 28, 2011

Present:

City Council: Wanda Doyle, Frank Schuman, Shirley Sessions

City Manager Diane Schleicher, Chief Bryson TIPD, Chief Sasser TIFD

Approval of March 24, 2011 minutes – Unanimous

New Business:

1- Don Cogdell – Delivery methods for Design/Construction Projects.

(How these methods relate to the New Public Safety Building)

Diane Schleicher presented a brief review of the newly proposed Public Safety Building.

Don Cogdell of Cogdell & Mendrala PC gave a presentation and Handout on Delivery Methods for Design / Construction Projects which are:

Design /Bid/Build

Design/Build

Construction Manager at Risk – Most Common

Shirley Sessions- We should have everyone involved working for one common goal so nothing gets overlooked.

Discussion Only – No Action Taken

Copy of the Handout is on file.

2 – Cops Grant – Chief Bryson – US Department of Justice Grant known as COPS Grant, for a Department our size according to the Grant Guideline One Officer is the maximum that can be received. The Federal Government pays the salary of the Officer for three years with a guarantee that the City would pay the fourth year. We may be able to use part timers (Beach Patrol) to increase the agency size.

Chief Bryson – I will put in for the maximum amount of officers (6-8) we could receive under the Grant, this will not hurt our chances of receiving at least one

Officer. According to statistics there should be Five Patrol Officers per shift for a City our size.

Wanda Doyle – Will going for the maximum amount hurt our chances of receiving at least one officer?

Chief Bryson – No

Shirley Sessions – The funding for the fourth year needs planning what would happen if there is no funding by the City for the fourth year?

Shirley Sessions - I would like to hear from Chief Sasser on this topic.

Chief Sasser- We are looking at hiring additional Police Officers (6-8) we should also be looking to hire additional Firefighters.

Chief Bryson – Cross Train new hires as both Police Officer and Firefighters.

Chief Bryson – If we receive the maximum numbers of officers under the Grant we could use the full time new officers for Beach Patrol, dispose of the part time positions we currently use or create a specialized DUI Unit within the Department.

Frank Schuman – Chief Sasser put in the budget what is needed.

Shirley Sessions – Why did second firefighter's position get cut?

Chief Sasser – Budget cuts

Shirley Session – Reapply

Frank Schuman – Recommend proceeding to Council with COPS Grant.

Shirley Sessions – Second

Wanda Doyle - Yes

3 – GIRMA Grant- Safety Equipment and Training Grant Application – Grant funds 100% no local match is required. The Police Department will apply for the grant and use the funds for body armor, reflective vests and other safety equipment.

Chief Bryson – Reviewed Grant Application with the Public Safety Committee.

Shirley Sessions – Recommend proceeding to City Council with GIRMA Grant.

Frank Schuman – Second

Wanda Doyle – Yes

4- Freddie Barber of Lazaretto Jet Ski Rentals – Jet Skis and Public Safety issues

Not Present

Frank Schuman – I have spoken with Mr. Barbers about this issues , he would like to see each jet ski rental agency have a guide and possible boundaries or zones for each rental agency.

Wanda Doyle – I have also received complaints on jet skis.

Frank Schuman – Can the City be liable if we do not require certain regulations apply to Jet Ski rentals?

Shirley Sessions – Ask Bubba Hughes

Wanda Doyle – Are there no guidelines in place?

Diane Schleicher – There are guidelines in place when it involves the transportation of people, water taxi, dolphin tour etc.

Chief Sasser – There are State laws in effect for some jet ski violations, more information and study is needed before we should place zones in effect for jet ski rentals.

Old Business

1 – Beach Signage:

Hunter Robinson – Presented a slide presentation on Beach Signage:

Wanda Doyle – Approximately Ten Thousand Dollars would be required for new Beach Signage. The present signs are not clear.

Diane Schleicher – Beach Signs can be very expensive

Diane Schleicher – Replace present Brown Signs using a different color scheme that is commonly used for "regulatory signs".

Shirley Sessions – Hilton Head signs are made in Savannah at a reasonable price.

Diane Schleicher – We should count Access points, review wording and get a quote.

Wanda Doyle – Get numbers together for Capital Improvement Plan in 2012 Budget.

Wanda Doyle – Use a red "NO" in naming Beach Rule violations.

Wanda Doyle – Have City Manager Diane Schleicher proceed forward with gathering cost etc for new Beach Rules signage.

Frank Schuman – Second

Shirley Session – Yes

Wanda Doyle – What is the Lifeguard schedule at the present time?

Chief Sasser – The lifeguards are not working week days at this time.

Wanda Doyle – I received word there was a large group of kids on the beach last week, no Lifeguards were present.

Diane Schleicher – We did receive some County money last year.

Chief Sasser – We should press the State for money, the people that use and enjoy the Beach are from all over the State.

Hunter Robinson- The majority of people rescued from the water are from outside Chatham County.

Wanda Doyle – Maybe we can request the Mayor to ask the State for Lifeguard funding.

Adjournment

JB 5-2-11