

Minutes of the Public Safety Committee Meeting – February 9, 2015

Members Present: Phil Wedekind, Tom Kolb, and Mike Plautz. **Others Present:** Administrator Geick, Mayor Palm, Chief Schauf, Chief Stieve, Engineer Pinion, Bob Koss, and Wade Peterson, Rob Uphoff, Ben Bromley, and Kris Jackson.

Call to Order - Committee Chairman Phil Wedekind called the meeting to order at 1:00 P.M. at the City Service Building, 450 Roundhouse Court, Baraboo, Wisconsin. Compliance with the Open Meeting Law was noted. It was moved by Kolb, seconded by Plautz to approve the agenda as posted and by voice vote, the motion carried. It was moved by Kolb, seconded by Plautz to approve the minutes of the January 9, 2015. By voice vote the motion carried.

New Business

- a. Review and recommendation regarding Public Works Department staffing and filling a current vacancy – Engineer Pinion stated that in May of 2014 it was recommended that the department add a second mechanic. He said that it was a good idea for awhile; however, since then one mechanic left in early November and since that time the current mechanic has been doing more than holding his own, so we would like to get back to 14 crewmen and one mechanic, but felt it should be brought before the Committee. It was moved by Plautz, seconded by Kolb to approve the recommendation of staff to fill the vacancy for a Public Works Crewman. Motion carried unanimously.
- b. Discussion and recommendation regarding the proximity of the existing alley right-of-way behind the Baraboo Public Library and its impact on their expansion plans – Pinion said that he and Administrator Geick attended the Library Board and Building Committee's meeting and one of the items that came up that there are no windows on the north side of the library. He said that a couple of members of the committee think that the parking lot off the north side of the library that a secondary, maybe even turn it in to the primary entrance, which he felt didn't have a lot of support. He said that what the architect is saying is because that building is built right tight to the alley right-of-way the building code precludes them from putting any openings in; therefore, thinking out loud they asked what if they removed that as the property line and theoretically vacate the alley and then just grant an easement to continue the alley's use. Pinion felt that it was a unique enough inquiry to at least get some feedback from the Committee. Pinion felt looking at it he feels that the City should just preserve the alley as public right-of-way, the way it is intended. He felt that if it is an alley it should be a right-of-way as opposed to an easement. It was consensus of the Committee to not go with an easement.
- c. Review and recommendation to award contract for the Mine Street Water Tower Repainting project – Peterson said that six qualifying bids for the project were received. Peterson said that they were short on estimating; however, they do have enough funds in the OM fund to proceed with the project. He said that this is a total complete rehab of the water tower, both inside and out. He said that there are some safety features that will be added, it will be made so it has some availability if an outside cell service or somebody would like to co-locate on the tower. Peterson said that he received good references on LC United Painting. He said that the number two bidder, MK Painting did not receive good references; therefore, between the price and that he would like to use LC Painting. Peterson said that at this time it is designed to look like the other water towers, it may either be solid like the other ones or a two-toned. He said that once the bid is awarded he will have them and the Country Club get together because the Country Club has shown some interest in some other paint designs, but they are well aware that they would have the additional cost and that it would be brought back to the Committee for final approval. It was moved by Kolb, seconded by Plautz to award the contract for the Mine Street Water Tower repainting project to L.C. Painting Company in the amount of \$348,500. Motion carried unanimously.
- d. Review and recommendation to approve the Joint Powers Agreement for the 911 System – Chief Schauf stated that this is a housekeeping item; with the joint powers it gives us the authority to have Sauk County dispatch for us. It was moved by Kolb, seconded by Plautz to recommend the approval of the Joint Powers Agreement for the 911 System. Motion carried unanimously.
- e. Discuss the prospective implementation of Rescue Task Force procedures in Baraboo – Schauf said that he asked this to be placed on the agenda is to introduce the concept as the committee that both he and Chief Stieve report to for Public Safety matters. He said that this is the direction that they are moving in Sauk County, which includes all of Sauk County law enforcement well as Sauk County Fire and EMS. He then explained the Rescue Task Force concept to the Committee.
- f. Discuss the Police Department's concerns about building security at City Hall – Schauf said that building security has become an increasing concern for him. He said that there were three incidences in the last three months where people became physically aggressive and assaulted police officers in the small room. He someone came in to the lobby with a weapon on something of that nature and a confrontation took place, City Hall would have to be shut down as a crime scene and no one would come in or out, which could be for days. This is something that needs to be thought about as far as the safety of employees and citizens and come up with a plan.
- g. Review response times report for Baraboo Fire Department – Chief Stieve said that the report talks about single-family dwellings, 2-story with no basements. He said that he includes all structure fires in the report because he feels that it is important for the Committee to know how the department is responding, and how long it takes them to get there. He then explained the report in detail to the Committee. He said that the department goes to the Health Career class at the high school, he is going to try to bundle some of the information in the short time period that they have with them to try to show them the importance of knowing and practicing fire safety. He is going to try and do the same thing other places they go and he will also type something up for the Spring Newsletter. He has taught about trying an "Open House" to invite people to go through it, but he doesn't know how many people would come.

Reports

- a. Utility Superintendent's Report – Peterson said that Well #8 was pulled and they did find what the issues were and it is hoped that it will back in service by the end of the week. He said that last month the Finance Committee approved for the Utility Department to start taking some of the collections for utility bills, therefore, some internal procedures have been updated. He said that instead of the Committee only seeing credits that are over \$500, the Committee will actually see every credit that was given throughout that quarter.

- b. Street Superintendent's Report – Koss said that they are working on patching and tree removal. He said that they will be doing stump grinding in March and then the Parks will do their planting. Koss said that when all the trees are down, the total is 120 street trees and approximately 200 in the parks. Kolb asked if most of them were Ash trees. Koss said that the ones in the parks are mostly Ash; otherwise they street trees are a little bit of everything.
- c. Police Chief's Report – Schauf said that he is four bodies short in the Department at this time. He said that the Sheriff has hired two of his officers and to answer the question as to why, it is because we are a young agency and they realize that there isn't the ability to grow as the Sheriff's office does. He said that the Sheriff's office is looking that approximately 75% of their supervisors will retire in the next five years, so obviously if someone gets hired here they have a faster way up. He said that there is one officer in field training at this time and then he will get the hiring process going to get some more hired.
- d. Fire Chief's Report – Stieve said that he has had one resign, which brings the department down to 43 and he does has a promotion since Captain Thompson's passing, the Lieutenant on the Aerial Company has been promoted to Captain.

ADJOURNMENT – Kolb moved, Plautz seconded to adjourn the meeting at 1:56 pm. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Phil Wedekind, Chairman