

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE Minutes

Thursday, November 16th, 2023



The meeting was called to order by Councilor Ledin at 6:00 pm on November 16th, 2023, in Government Center Room 204.

Committee Members: Nick Ledin -Chair, Tylor Elm- Vice Chair, Mark Johnson, Mike Herrick

1. ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Nick Ledin-Chair, Tylor Elm-Vice Chair*, Mark Johnson, Mike Herrick

CITY STAFF PRESENT: Fire Chief Camron Vollbrecht, Police Chief Nick Alexander, Captain Winterscheidt, Nikki Kalan

OTHERS PRESENT: Maria Lockwood*, John Ramos

**Attended virtually*

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

2.1. Public Safety Committee (Meeting held October 19th, 2023)

MOTION by Mark Johnson, second by Mike Herrick, and carried to approve the minutes from the October 19th, 2023 meeting.

3. RECURRING

3.1. Police and Fire Department Updates

Chief Alexander states he will be retiring January/February 2024 and interviews for the next Police Chief will start the last week of November 2023. Pathways to Hope has been a very successful program and is often used as a model throughout the state of Wisconsin. The Police Department is receiving more grant funding for the Pathways to Hope program to expand.

Chief Vollbrecht states the Fire Department recently made a conditional job offer to one candidate from Cloquet Fire Department. Chief Vollbrecht briefly discussed recent and upcoming trainings the Fire Department is doing.

4. NEW BUSINESS

4.1. Approve Squad Car Camera License Plate Recognition

Chief Alexander and Captain Winterscheidt stated the Police Department was given a free trial of a squad car camera license plate recognition by Axon who is the provider of their body worn camera system. There has been much success during the trial period, and some of this data has been provided in the agenda packet. The license plate recognition feature costs around \$10,000 per year and the department has grant funding that would cover this feature for the next two years if approved.

MOTION by Mark Johnson, second by Herrick, and carried to approve the purchase of Axon Automatic License Plate Recognition. Will send to Council.

5. ADJOURNMENT at 6:32 by Councilor Ledin.

Submitted by Nikki Kalan