

City of Washington Public Safety Committee Meeting November 20, 2017

Chairman Butler called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM.

Voting Members present:

Brian Butler-Chairman, Carol Moss-Alderman, Brett Adams-Alderman,

Other Officials present:

Jim Culotta-City Administrator, Mike McCoy-Chief of Police, Jeff Stevens-Master Sergeant, Roger Traver, Washington Fire Department, Lance Aarstadt, Washington Fire Department and Linda Storer-WPD Administrative Assistant

Residents:

Paul Spiezio, Liliya Stevens, Maribeth Kelley

1. **Aldermen wishing to be heard on a non-agenda item:** None
2. **Citizens wishing to be heard on non-agenda items:** Maribeth Kelley was concerned about the speeding issues on Jefferson Street. In her opinion, people use Jefferson Street to avoid the Square. She realizes that traffic calming techniques do not always seem to work. She is looking for suggestions on ways to fix the issue. Possibly adding a stop sign? She advised that once her vehicle was struck by a bicycle while she was stopped at Church and Jefferson. People speed and come over that rise and it makes it difficult to pull out safely into traffic. They pass in no passing zones and it just doesn't seem to matter.

Chairman Butler said adding a stop sign isn't a good solution as it would only make the speeders go faster in between stop signs to make up for lost time. Chief McCoy advised Mrs. Kelley that the police department would run some radar details and place the speed trailer along Jefferson Street to see if we can get the motoring public's attention. While it will not completely stop the problem it will serve as a deterrent. She will get the statistical results from the speed trailer when they become available through Alderman Adams.

3. **Approval of Minutes** – October 16, 2017 Regular Meeting Motion by Alderman Adams, 2nd by Alderman Moss.
4. **Business Items**
 - **Monthly Report** –The Committee members were given a copy of the report prior to the start of the meeting. Chief McCoy explained various items contained in the report. There were no questions from the Committee.
 - **Code Red** - is a notification system used by many other agencies. City Administrator, Jim Culotta led a brief discussion on the capabilities of this

system. Code Red offers a high level of flexibility and is reasonably priced. Msgt. Stevens and Chief McCoy along with Mr. Culotta attended a web demo and liked many of the features. You can pre-program message and notify specific targeted areas.

The Committee thought this sounded like a good system and was approved by Alderman Moss and 2nd by Alderman Adams. Motion carried and will be brought to full city council for their approval.

- CEW Replacement – (Tasers) MSgt. Stevens presented a cost layout for replacing the existing Tasers. The Committee thought the purchase of (32) Tasers made sense because in the long run (5yrs) it would actually save money. Alderman Moss made a motion to approve and Alderman Adams 2nd. Motion carried and will be brought to the full council for the purchase of (32) Tasers purchased all at the same time which also includes a maintenance agreement.
- Hand Held Radar Units – (4) of them are obsolete and the police department has one vendor willing to purchase them for \$125 each. Committee agreed to declare them obsolete. Motion made by Alderman Moss and 2nd by Alderman Adams. Motion carried and will be taken straight to the council for their approval.

5. Other Business

- Chief McCoy advised the Committee that addition to the dog ordinance are being completed and will soon be ready for presentation.
- (13) Police Officer candidates passed the written and physical test. The process continues and the department will have an eligibility list once all testing is complete. The Chief discussed the testing a couple of times during the year and blending existing candidates to the new ones in the future. Committee believes that this was done in the past and would like to see it happen again to give us the best possible candidates for employment.
- Chief McCoy advised the Committee of a water leak that occurred over the weekend in the dispatch center which leaked into the downstairs. After speaking with the insurance representative, it was decided that powerful fans would be brought in to dry up the areas. The unit leaking was repaired and no claim was filed with the insurance company. (Our deductible is \$2,500).
- Would like to recognize the Citizens Police Academy at the December 4th City Council Meeting. Committee members welcomed the idea. Certificates and letters will be given to the participants at the meeting.

- Chief McCoy would like to present a letter to Ray Torry who served on the Washington Police Commission for 15 years at the next City Council meeting on December 4th as well. Committee agreed it was a great idea.
- Msgt. Stevens advised the group of the results on a traffic study at 100 S. Church (primarily northbound). There were approximately 4500 cars, 53 exceeded the speed limit with the top speed of 34 mph. Almost 85% of the vehicles were at or below 20 mph. Msgt. Stevens emailed Mr. Dinkins (resident who came to last month's meeting about the speeding issue around Church Street near the playground) and advised him of the findings. Mr. Dinkins was appreciative to know the results and thanked the police department for their efforts.

"Children at Play" signs were also requested by Mr. & Mrs. Dinkins last month. We will see if we can have "Playground Nearby" Signs made.

Meeting adjourned at 6:07p.m. Motion made by Alderman Adams and 2nd by Alderman Moss.