

MINUTES
City Council Public Safety Committee

Wednesday, October 16, 2019 – 5:00 PM
Administrative Conference Room at City Hall

Members Present: Charlie Landreth, Vice-Chair, Council Member
Jim Fatland, City Manager
Phil Harris, Police Chief
Bobby Cooper, Fire Chief

Absent: Maurice Jones, Chair, Council Member

Staff Present: Denise Hodsdon, Executive Assistant

A. Welcome & Call to Order

Committee Vice-Chair Charlie Landreth called the meeting to order at 5:02 PM.

B. Certification of Quorum

Executive Assistant Denise Hodsdon certified that a quorum was present.

C. Approval of Minutes from March 12, 2019 Meeting

Motion by Chief Cooper, seconded by Chief Harris to approve the minutes of the March 12, 2019 meeting as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

D. Fire Department

1. County Contract

Chief Cooper reported that after the City Council approved the proposed Brevard Fire Contract for Sylvan Valley 2 in March, it was submitted to the County for approval. The County Attorney reviewed the contract and has made some additional changes. Chief Cooper explained that most of the changes were related to standard contractual language clarification. However, he discussed that the Fire Department has concerns with three specific changes regarding requirements for manpower, pre-fire incident surveys and annual report. Chief Cooper and Mr. Fatland met with Assistant County Manager David McNeill to review and discuss these proposed changes and Mr. McNeill will take it back to the County Commissioners. Chief Cooper said it will not have to go back to City Council unless there are significant changes.

2. Flat Tax

Chief Cooper explained that the Transylvania Board of Commissioners is

currently considering a Flat Fire Tax and needs to know if the City would like to be included. He explained that if the City of Brevard opts to be included, then City residents would pay the Flat Tax in addition to the current City fire tax that is included in the City Ad Valorem tax rate. The Flat Tax revenue would be used to fund fire protection in all fire districts in the County, and would not remain within the Sylvan Valley 2 district. Mr. Fatland added that our taxpayers would be subsidizing the rest of the County so it is our recommendation to opt out of the Flat Fire Tax. Motion by Chief Harris, seconded by Chief Cooper to recommend to City Council that the City of Brevard opt out of the Flat Fire Tax. The motion carried unanimously.

E. Police Department Update

Chief Harris updated the Committee on the following:

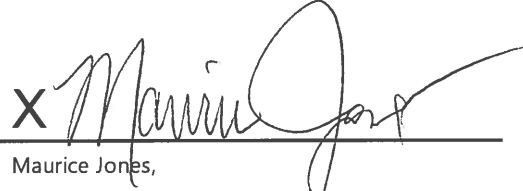
- Saul Ayala Trial is next month and he commended Deputy Chief Shawn Miller and the Detectives for their great work on this case.
- Re-entry Task Force – Chief Harris has been involved in this since the beginning and he believes that they are truly helping those who legitimately want it.
- UCR vs. NIBRS – The Police Department has transitioned to the National Incident-Based Reporting System and has about a year's worth of data that it can start building on. The information that the City Council is getting now is from the new system.
- Lifesaving Awards – Six employees will be receiving awards.
- Pigsaw Paws Cat Café – Chief Harris provided information on this case, which is now closed.

F. Set Date for Next Meeting

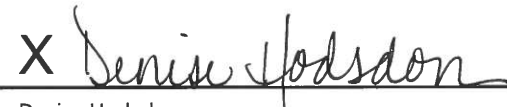
It was decided that the Committee would meet again when needed.

G. Adjourn

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:32 PM.

X 
Maurice Jones,
Chair, Council Member

Minutes Approved: June 16, 2020

X 
Denise Hodsdon,
Executive Assitant