

## Public Safety Committee Public Meeting/Hearing

May 3, 2014

The meeting was called to order at 9:10 am by Chairman Councilman Daniel Wagner

1. Present were:

Councilman Daniel Wagner  
Councilman Larry Oberdorf  
Councilwoman Caroline Eckel  
Police Chief Glenn Goss  
Fire Chief Josh Drouard  
City Administrator Edward Ciecka

A. Police Chief Glenn Goss brought forward several items for discussion involving police operations.

1. A bid from Bender Communications was presented to the committee. The bid included pricing for three new portable radios. Purchase would allow each officer to have an assigned radio and one extra for emergencies or when others are in need of repair. Councilman Wagner addressed the issue of drafting Department policy which outlined liability of individual officers for loss and/or damage outside of the line of duty. Chief will check availability of Law Enforcement Trust Funds and Casino Funds for purchase.
2. Chief Goss brought forth a request to establish a Paypal account for payments of fines and fees online.
3. Chief Goss requested that a fourth Sergeant position be created for the Department. With the assignment of Sergeant Kitzler to the detective bureau, afternoon field operations has been left without a direct supervisor. Currently, the collective bargaining agreement assigns the patrol officer with highest seniority as "Senior Officer" when a supervisor is not available. That officer has

no supervisory duties. Councilman Wagner raised the issue of civil liability due to lack of supervision. Councilman Oberdorf and Ed Ciecka raised concerns of future costs of a sergeant as he/she progressed through the pay scale. Committee recommended the issue be brought up during the next rounds of negotiations.

4. The committee heard discussion on a replacement vehicle for the Detective Bureau. Currently the Detective uses a pickup truck that was seized through the forfeiture program. The Chief stressed the vehicle was not conducive to undercover work and lacked security for department assets as well as evidence transport. The Chief would sell the current vehicle through ABC Auto Auction with the funds being returned to the LETF. Committee authorized the Chief to requests estimates on a used or new vehicle. Committee would then authorize a set amount for purchase of a replacement vehicle.
  5. Chief Goss presented a bid for Cellebrite software. The software would allow the Department to collect forensic data from computers, cell phones and personal devices. The department currently has Perrysburg Police download the data for evidence collection. The Chief expressed concern on turnaround time for the evidence collection. Councilman Wagner informed the committee of the Toledo Police Department's Computer Crimes Division which performs the same collection. There is no cost for outside agencies. That division has two full time employees which allows for turnaround times from two to forty eight hours. Councilman Wagner agreed to establish an onsite visit in order to introduce Chief Goss and Detective Kitzler to the Toledo Computer Crimes Detectives.
- B. Fire Chief Joshua Drouard brought forth the following issues for discussion with the Committee:
1. The motor and electrical system that operates the aerial ladder failed on the Ladder truck during a response to a fire in the Crossroads. Vehicle was sent in for immediate repair. Cost estimates are around \$7400. Currently Northwood and Perrysburg are automatically dispatching their aerial trucks for any structure fire in Rossford under mutual aid. Hopefully, the vehicle will be repaired in two weeks.

2. The Chief requested that a mutual aid agreement be signed by the City with Perrysburg where a rescue squad would be automatically dispatched to any structure fire during the off shifts. Currently both operate with a voluntary call in. As soon as enough personnel arrive to the houses they leave with the engines. Typically there is not a rescue squad taken out which is typical protocol during fully staffed hours. The agreement would allow for immediate on scene treatment and transport of any citizen or firefighter injured at the scene.
3. The compressor utilized for refilling of oxygen tanks was recently serviced. The company servicing the compressor noted that 64 of the department cylinders were outdated and needed to be pressure tested for Federal compliance. A quote for \$1000 was presented to the committee. The quote was for testing and recertifying the bottles for the next 5 years.
4. The committee discussed a fire inspection fee similar to other municipalities. The committee felt it would just be another obstacle to economic development to charge for initial and annual fire inspections. The committee did agree to research a fee for a return visit when the business failed the initial inspection. Northwood is currently utilizing the ALERT software for fire inspections and looking at creating an APP for personal devices.
5. The committee discussed a false alarm ordinance for Police and Fire. There are a number of businesses that have frequent false burglar and fire alarms requiring responses from both departments. An ascending fine schedule which reset each year was discussed. The committee will research this issue further.
6. It was discovered that the monthly Fire and EMS reports that are mandated to be filed with the State Fire Marshall had not been completely transmitted. It was found that all of 2013 and 2014 EMS run reports had not transmitted. The department has nearly all of 2014 reports completed. They are working on 2013. Failure to report has an impact on grant funding.
7. Remount of the squad box to new chassis is on schedule and will be back in service shortly.

Adjournment: Motion made and seconded for adjournment. All members agreed.  
Meeting adjourned 10:15 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Daniel Wagner, Chairman