

The Public Safety Committee for the City of Junction City met on Tuesday, December 15, 2015 at 6:30 p.m. in the City Council Chambers at City Hall, 680 Greenwood Street, Junction City, Oregon.

**PRESENT WERE:** City Councilors, Steve Hitchcock (Chair) Bill DiMarco and Randy Nelson; City Administrator Jason Knope, Chief of Police Mark Chase

**ABSENT:** NONE

**I. OPEN MEETING AND REVIEW AGENDA**

Chair Hitchcock called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

**II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Minutes for October and November 2015 approved.

**Consensus:** Reviewed and approved.

**III. OREGON STATE HOSPITAL**

A representative from Oregon State Hospital, Carrie Kelley spoke about 2 clients that walked away from the facility last month. She advised that part of treatment is for clients to go on community outings. One client ran away from the Junction City Library and within 45 minutes, with assistance from Junction City Police, he was found and returned to the hospital. The other client that walked away was returned within 20 minutes. She explained there is a ridged risk assessment performed before people are allowed out in the community.

Chair Steve Hitchcock asked if there is threat or danger to the community. Carrie Kelly answered that the danger is if someone is away from the hospital for an extended period of time and then are off of their meds. Walk away clients are entered into LEDS and local law enforcement is advised. High risk clients do not leave the hospital.

Better communication between the Oregon State Hospital and the community was requested. Carrie Kelly will be attending a full City Council meeting.

**Consensus:** Advisory only.

#### **IV. CHIEF WHETSTONE RECOGNITION**

Chief Chase spoke about Chief Whetstone who died in the line of duty while he was the Chief of Police for Junction City. A group is working on gathering information to have a memorial or formal recognition of him. The group is comprised of Chief Chase, Mayor Cahill, Jack Sumner and Chantelle Thomas. Currently, the group is looking into options for a fallen officer highway sign. Also, a mockup of a plaque has also been created, it is suggested to be hung in the lobby or outside of the police department. The Whetstone family has started a Facebook page to tell the story of Chief Whetstone's life and his sacrifice to our community.

**Consensus:** Advisory only. Committee suggests that this become more formal starting by involving the community service director.

#### **V. CAPITAL EXPENDITURE REVIEW**

Chief Chase spoke about the Capital Expenditure Plan.

1. Upgrade to the Justice program; the computer aided dispatch, records and officer report system. Part of the upgrade includes interfaces with system for iPad and apple products.
2. Replace stencil recording system, this system records phone calls and radio traffic. It is recommended to be replaced every five years we are over that but there are no indications of any issues at this time.
3. Replacement of Q-Hut which houses vehicle fleet, evidence and various other patrol supplies.
4. Replace the jail AFIS system, this is the electronic fingerprint system. This system runs on windows XP and it is no longer supported.
5. Vehicle replacement plan. Money to replace fleet vehicles as needed.
6. Remodel the jail kitchen and holding cell. Jail audits have consistently mentioned needing a sink back in the jail kitchen area. We can't house a felony crime individual in our jail but we could have them in a holding cell until an officer or reserve officer is able to have a transport done.
7. Purchase an automated phone system. This would allow dispatcher to focus on major emergencies and "park" non-emergency calls when needed.
8. Upgrade radio computer/dispatch systems. This is for the consoles in

dispatch.

Chief Chase expressed that retaining staff is more important than the items above. The money for the above items would need to be found they are not currently allocated with funds. Chief Chase was asked to provide more information on the fleet vehicle costs for replacement, repair and maintenance.

**Consensus:** Advisory only.

## **VI. AGENDA FORECASTER**

Chief Chase spoke about dispatch services and how funds have been calculated. The Fern Ridge Policing district idea was discussed. A Junction City Policing district is being looked into and specifics will be provided in the near future.

**Consensus:** Advisory only.

## **VII. OTHER BUSINESS**

Jack Sumner had further questions about the Oregon State Hospital he said he and other community members want to hear more about the patients and who is in the community and when they are in the community on field trips.

Jack Sumner also wanted to know why we wanted to new computer instead of just updating XP to Windows 7. It was explained to him that it is not always possible to do that.

Jack Sumner said that the automated phone tree for dispatch is the most irritating thing if the police department did that, he wants to talk to a live person.

Scandia Village, Linda Van Orden, wanted to extend a good job to the Chief. They appreciate that officers have been patrolling the area. Also, Chief visited with members of that community about the Volunteers in Policing program.

Chief Chase spoke about some positive things the police department staff has been doing. Specific examples were given. It was suggested that this type of information of service should be posted on social media so that the public can be aware. Chief advised that some employees do not want public recognition but, everyone wants to be appreciated and valued.

**Consensus:** Advisory and discussion only.

**VIII. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:06 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Brandy Smyth