

The Public Safety Committee for the City of Junction City met in regular session at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, April 21, 2020 in a virtual meeting format, via internet and phone.

PRESENT WERE: City Councilors, Rob Stott (Chair), Bill DiMarco, Chief Bob Morris and Deputy Chief Erik Markell

1. CALL TO ORDER

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

2. CHANGES TO THE AGENDA

No Changes to the Agenda

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes approved.

4. STAFFING UPDATE

Chief Morris states that the first item on the agenda is an adjustment of two positions descriptions within the police department. The first position is that of a Communications Supervisor in which Chief Morris has been looking at for quite some time and the conditions with the pandemic has heightened his awareness of needing this position filled. As of now Jeff Perkins is acting as the Communications Supervisor. Chief Morris explains that when the salaries were adjusted a few years ago, this position was not filled at the time and therefor the salary did not change, at this time he upped the salary range to 39.

Chief Morris goes on to explain the next position description is changing Eric Markell's title from Sargent to Deputy Chief, which is much more in line with what he does. This does not eliminate the Sargent position, but just retitles Markell's position. Chief Morris and Knope had a conversation about this meaning the Deputy Chief should jump to the next salary range as well, moving this from salary range 42 to salary range 44.

Chief Morris explains consequently internally promoting someone to Communications Supervisor in the long run does not affect the budget, in the way that the Communications Supervisor no longer can acquire overtime. As well as the amount of money that is increased by changing Markell's position is about \$4000 a year.

Stott would like Chief Morris to have those exact money figures for council.

DiMarco goes to say he thinks this is a good idea.

This will move to Council at the next Council meeting.

5. COVID-19 RESPONSE UPDATE

Chief Morris explains that the police department started very early on with activating their Emergency Operations center with closely tracking expenses and put into process a very solid operational plan. The police department closed the lobby and had a ring doorbell on the

front door which allows dispatch to see and talk to people who come to the door and secures the lobby. The Police Department has a service coming in twice a day sanitizing the department and the cars. The department has signs for the cars and surfaces that show if that area or vehicle has been used, sanitized or not sanitized.

The department has been handling all finances and working on 2 separate grants. Through FEMA we should acquire a 25/75 reimbursement where the city absorbs 25% of the cost of anything purchased and FEMA picks up 75%.

As far as out stockpiles of supplies we have secured a good supply of PPE. The police department has a good number of N95 masks and disinfectant as well as cleaning supplies.

The police department has also closed the Jail, not taking anyone because the risk it just too high.

The Chief explains that the police department is finding they are going through a high number of uniforms, due to officers having to change often due to people spitting on them and coming into close contact with people. There has also been a high number of overdoes and mental health issues. The overall call volume has decreased, but traffic has picked back up. There was a rash of Vehicle break-ins when this first started, 12 in one night, but the department has identified the victim and is currently looking for him.

Councilor DiMarco asks about being adequately set up for decontamination of the officers, wondering if there is a shape for officers to do this.

Chief Morris states that they have been doing it in the parking lot and goes on say that if there was a facility, walking into that facility would contaminate it. The Chief would like to find something like a small tent to put up where officers can change and decontaminate. No facility would really work for proper decontamination and the security of the back-parking lot and the jail shower has been working well for the officers.

Councilor DiMarco asks about the contamination of cars, if they are contaminated is the Police Department able to pull it out of duty and use a back up car? Chief Morris states the Department has 3-4 spare vehicles for this. Chief Morris also explains the department has another sign and procedure for contaminated cars, where the cleaning services cleans it and that car is out of service for 12- 24 hours. During this pandemic we have had 3-4 cars that have had to go through this process.

Stott talks about an email he received from Markell about a couple calls in the last few weeks, one being on 4/15/2020 that Chief Morris, Sargent Markell, and Officer Serrano went to with a cardiac arrest with a non-responsive subject receiving CPR, they were able to administer Narcan and the subject "came to" and was taken to the hospital. Then on 4/16/2020 Chief Morris and officer Seifried responded to a call about a prowler. The Officers located a man in some bushes, they gave commands and determined the man unconscious where they again saw an overdoes, administered Narcan and he was transported to the hospital. Stott goes on to say that last week Chief Morris and these officers saved two life's.

Chief Morris thanks Stott for the recognition.

6. ADJOURNMENT

As there was no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:55pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Janet Deckard