

The Public Safety Committee for the City of Junction City met in regular session at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, September 18, 2018, in the Council Chambers of City Hall, 680 Greenwood Street, Junction City, Oregon.

**PRESENT WERE:** City Councilors, Rob Stott (Chair), Jack Sumner and Kara McDaniel, Chief Bob Morris, Sergeant Eric Markell

#### **1. CALL TO ORDER**

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

#### **2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The minutes were approved.

#### **3. PEDESTRIAN ORDINANCE REVIEW**

Chief Morris reported that the current city ordinance for crossing at a crosswalk is if someone is attempting to cross the street, they must use a crosswalk if one exists on the same block they are on. Chief Morris explained that this negatively impacts the elderly and citizens with disabilities and is in conflict with Oregon state law. ODOT handouts regarding the law were passed out to members in attendance.

Morris recommended the ordinance be repealed. Morris explained that the City Ordinance was last updated in 1972.

A motion was made to repeal ordinance 10.05.360 and forward to Council for review. The motion was approved.

#### **4. POLICE DEPARTMENT STATISTICS**

Chief Morris responded to request from Counselor Sumner during last council meeting regarding list of Police Department Activity. Quarterly reports of activity were suggested as a solution. The report would be Department activity which will include tickets, warnings, arrests, as well as community service projects.

Success of "Burgers with Bob" Community Day discussed. Morris expressed desire to continue with event annually as Junction City's version of National Night Out. Junction City is unable to participate in National Night Out due to close proximity to Scandinavian Festival Event.

#### **5. POLICE VEHICLE UPDATE**

Chief Morris explained that all new police vehicles are in operational condition and on line. Electronic ticketing equipment being installed. Morris stated that Department now has a total of 10 patrol vehicles issued at one vehicle for each officer. Morris further explained that this practice increases the likelihood of the officer assigned to that vehicle to take care of the vehicle. Morris also explained that this allows any damage to be tracked to an individual officer who may have caused the damage. A vehicle operational lifetime is increased by approximately 3-4 times due to usage of the vehicle being spread out as opposed to being utilized 24 – 7.

Chief Morris explained that 4 Vehicles are designated as back up vehicle to be used in the event of mechanical failure. These vehicles can also be used for part time officers and reserve officers once the reserve program is reestablished. The Ford Escape will be retained as well due to the discreetness of the vehicle as well as the 4-wheel drive capability.

Chief Morris explained that the Department having adequate vehicle numbers increases efficiency in the event of a major incident and it allows all officers to be out responding to emergencies.

## **6. RESERVE PROGRAM UPDATE**

Chief Morris advises that program was suspended to focus on repairing the Department Organizational Culture and to ensure all Reserve Officers have gone through same process. Morris also addressed the liability risk of Reserve Officers not being trained uniformly with regular paid officers.

Morris made recommendation that new Reserve Officers participate in same hiring process and screening as a regular paid officer. There are two candidates currently in background process. Pending the medical and psych passage, they will be attending fall Marion County Reserve Academy. The Department will also be starting a formal recruiting process for reserves.

Morris responded to question from Councilor McDaniel regarding why an individual would want to become a reserve officer. Morris explained that he started as a cadet and that it is a good way for someone to know if they or their families can tolerate the lifestyle that accompanies working in law enforcement. The goal of a reserve is to eventually have solo status where they could work by themselves. Reserve Officers explained as well as training program surrounding achieving solo status. Minimum number of duty hours for Reserve Officers to be detriment.

Chief Morris addressed questions regarding the possible reintroduction of past reserve officers. Chief Morris explained that nobody is exempt from applying and appointment would come on condition that they go through and meet all the same standards as normal paid officers. Chief Morris also explained there had been deficiencies and lack of standard hiring and training practices under previous administrations.

## **7. ADJOURNMENT**

As there was no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

---

Eric Markell