

Police Committee Minutes

Thursday, April 21, 2011

9:45 a.m. Town Hall

Members Present: J. Auxer, L. Robertson, and D. Springer.

Staff Present: Acting Chief Ransom

Absent: W. Smith

1. Meeting was called to order by Mayor Auxer at 9:42 AM and approval of agenda.

Motion made by D. Springer, Second by L. Robertson. Motion carried unanimously.

2. Approval March 17, 2011 Police Committee minutes as written.

Motion made by D. Springer, Second by L. Robertson to approve the minutes of March 17, 2011. Motion carried unanimously.

3. Visitors: None

4. Mayor's Report: We had a good revenue month, people are feeding the meters and with boot placement. The Mayor has ordered extras.

5. Acting Chief's Report:

a. Financial Reports/Budget

See above.

b. The Acting Chief and the Mayor stated that we would actively look for two officers and a Chief of Police. One officer will be already certified and the other may or may not. The Chief's position should be filled by the end of May. Acting Chief Ransom stated he would adjust the schedule with Officer Fleagle leaving. The Mayor stated that would like our top three recommendations of the Certified officer's applications by this Saturday so he could call and set up interviews. These interviews are to take place on April 26th. The Chief's applications are in Town Hall and can be reviewed there by the week of May 2nd.

6. New Business:

a. Review of Police Officer's training files

Acting Chief Ransom stated that a Sgt. And below has a training requirement of 16 hours per year, a Supervisor's training requirement is 24 hours with 8 of those hours in supervision. Shepherdstown Police Dept. will sponsor a class May 3rd at the Fire Dept. Our officer's training is current. He also mentioned that J. Cummings attended

a party by the Women's Club for Turk (police dog). J. Cummings is also active in implementing a Neighborhood Watch, and he has spoken to the Boy Scouts about gun safety. M. King has been through the bike safety training as well and is currently riding the police bike to patrol. The Mayor suggested we get a hold of the Women's Club to get publicity for the paper.

- b. Charging for "false alarm" calls (residential & commercial)
A.C. Ransom stated that his officers routinely have to respond to false alarms that are generally caused by glitches in the alarm systems. It can tie up his officers at night when they could be doing other productive duties.

Motion made by L. Robertson, Second by D. Springer to recommend to Town Council that after 3 (three) false alarms a month by the same home or business, the Police Dept. charge \$25 for each additional response to a false alarm call. Motion carried unanimously.

- c. Officer Fleagle's resignation-
Officer Fleagle's last day is 4/24 and A. C. Ransom has adjusted the schedule for police coverage.

L. Robertson noted that there has been a lot of vandalism recently and can we do something to stop that. It will be looked into.

- d. Review of Bike Patrol Standards of Procedure-
A. C. Ransom brought a copy of the Standards of Procedure and stated that he and M. King had gone over it and made some changes to it.

- e. Surveillance cameras-
A. C. Ransom stated that we had 3 quotes for cameras, however, he only had one at the meeting. D. Springer stated he would prefer to see the other two and we were able to get a hold of C. Hutzler to bring the other two quotes while the meeting was still in progress. Chris came and addressed the Committee. He stated that the cameras are powered by solar power and have a rechargeable battery. They have a vision capability of 50' and are infrared. They can be attached to a tree or pole. Of the three quotes, the least expensive was \$1,500 per camera, the most expensive was \$3,500. These cameras can go as high as \$30,000 depending on what kind of computer support we choose. D. Springer suggested the use of "dummy" cameras as well. A.C. Ransom stated the money was available in the equipment budget.

Motion made by D. Springer, Second by L. Robertson to purchase two cameras. Motion carried unanimously.

7. Old Business:

- a. Discussion of creating an Auxiliary or Reserve Program
A. C. Ransom has not heard back from Corporal Ben Williams with Jefferson County.

b. Auctioning unused cars, old radar units, old parking meters

A.C. Ransom stated that they are still working on it.

c. Photos of 250th anniversary badges

A.C. Ransom stated he is still checking on this too.

d. Fines-

A.C. Ransom stated that the fines are almost done.

e. Day Care stop sign-

A.C. ransom stated that he spoke to the DOH and it's ok to place a sign there.

f. Probationary period for new officers to be raised from the current 6 months to one year.

g. Amend the military coverage from the current 60 days to 30 days.

h. Discussion when hiring new officers to offer an incentive of them working for three years under contract if we pay for Police Certification.

**Motion made by L. Robertson, Second by D. Springer to adjourn at 10:59 AM.
Motion carried unanimously.**

Respectfully submitted by, Lori Robertson