

ARLINGTON POLICE COMMITTEE - MEETING MINUTES - JULY 23, 2007

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m., Chairman Lensing presiding.

Members present: Chairman Lensing, Kloeckl, Scharping, Rose, Deputy Sheriff Nienaber, Police Chief Rovinsky, Councilmember Vrklan, Councilmember Wills, Mayor Kreft

Members absent: Swenson

Also present: Interim Administrator Schultz

It was the consensus of the Committee that the minutes from the May 29, 2007 meeting stood approved as presented.

Chief Rovinsky presented his monthly report. He stated that there were 80 calls for the month.

The Committee reviewed bids for a new squad car (\$24,572 - 2008 Ford Crown Victoria, \$25,778 - 2008 Dodge Charger, \$25,362 - 2008 Chevy Impala). Rovinsky explained that the 2007 Ford Crown Vic's are no longer available. He added that the Chevy Impala's have changed body style, therefore new cages and camera mounts would have to be purchased, which were reflected in the setup charges in the estimates.

Discussion was held on the condition of the 4 squads the department currently has in operation and which vehicle(s) should be gotten rid of. Rovinsky commented that the 1998 Ford Crown Victoria has been retired and is completely out of service, which leaves the 2001 & 2003 Chevy Impalas and the 1995 Ford Crown Victoria in service. He was proposing getting rid of the 1995 Ford Crown Victoria once the new squad was ready, keeping 3 vehicles in service. Wills suggested getting rid of the 2003 Chevy Impala and having only 2 vehicles within the department. He stated that one of the City's pickup trucks could be used as a third vehicle if one of the squads broke down; a portable light and siren could be put in it. No action was taken on which vehicle(s) to get rid of.

Motion by Vrklan, seconded by Scharping, and passed by unanimous vote to recommend to the City Council to purchase a Chevy Impala Squad Car from Brau Motors in the amount of \$19,701.10, plus setup costs in the amount of \$5,661 from Schrader's Supply.

Wills commented on the amount of overtime the officers are getting (example given: 20 hours for each full-time officer, plus several part-time officers all on duty at the same time during the Town & Country Days celebration). Lensing questioned if the Chamber reimburses the City for some of this. Rovinsky said they do not. Wills commented that the City may have to start billing the Chamber for Police coverage if the overtime continues to be an issue. Wills commented that he understands there is a need for officers during a celebration, but if there is a slower period during the celebration less officers should be working, split the shifts up and overlap them when the crowd is expected to be heavier.

Nienaber presented the May/June reports for the Sheriff's Department policing services. He stated that they responded to 10 calls in May and 15 in June.

Lensing read a letter from a concerned citizen/business owner (Hip Hop Shop) regarding not having an officer on duty during the day. A second letter was discussed and whether it was a complaint against the police department in general (to be addressed by the Police Committee) or a specific complaint about an officer (to be addressed by the Employee Relations Committee). Lensing expressed his feelings about what should or should not be addressed by the Police Committee. Discussion was held on the proper "chain of command". It was agreed that the letter from the Hip Hop Shop should go to the Council and the second letter should be addressed by the Employee Relations Committee.

Motion by Wills, seconded by Kloeckl, and passed by unanimous vote to adjourn the meeting.

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Chairman Bill Lensing

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Secretary Vicki L. Pomplun