

**ARLINGTON CITY COUNCIL
SPECIAL MEETING AGENDA
MAY 22, 2018 AT 7:00 PM
COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

1. Call meeting to order
2. Roll Call
3. Approve Special Meeting Agenda
4. 7:00 p.m. Discussion regarding EMT/Paramedic work duties

ADJOURNMENT

**ARLINGTON CITY COUNCIL
COUNCIL WORKSHOP MEETING MINUTES
MAY 22, 2018**

The Council Workshop meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m., Mayor Richard Nagel presiding.

Members present: Mayor Rich Nagel, Michelle Battcher, Adam Cowell, Tom Hatlestad, Ben Jaszewski and Jim Heiland

Also present: Ambulance Manager Kevin Sullivan, Ridgeview Ambulance Director Darel Radde, City Adm. Pat Melvin and the following staff from the Arlington Area Ambulance: Jamie Weckworth, Brent Doetkott, Kenny Gilman, Steven Noll, Jenni Droege, Ashley Carlson, Wendy Kube, Bob Lueth, Sue Morrisette, Lisa Roseland, Angelica Rose and Julio Alejandro.

Motion by Jaszewski, seconded by Battcher, and passed by unanimous vote to approve the agenda.

The purpose of the Council Workshop meeting was to have further discussion with EMTs and Paramedics regarding the requirement to work at the Community Center and in other departments as part of their job. This requirement which was put into effect in January and not implemented until April was put on hold at the last meeting of this group until further discussion between the two parties could occur and the issue could be resolved.

Administrator Melvin opened up the meeting reviewing that at the last meeting opinions were shared and the purpose of this meeting is to move towards resolution. He stated we know what we disagree on from the last meeting and now what do we agree on. He also asked that participants be careful in their choice of words and that individuals participate together in a respectful discussion to move us towards better understanding.

Administrator Melvin read through several statements inviting the EMT's and Paramedics as well as members of the Council to further discuss.

Some of the discussion focused on whether or not a resolution arrived at tonight would be satisfactory for some staff that were unable to be present because they have other jobs and commitments. The Ambulance Department needs the current EMT's and paramedics to keep operating and one resignation could impact the whole department. There were representatives from both EMT's and Paramedics and they felt they could express the views of those not present.

Ambulance staff also asked that Administration provide a breakdown of their paycheck by rates, on call, run time and holiday on call. Administration agreed to provide that information to employees with future paychecks

There was discussion about incentives that the City could pursue, similar to what has been done with the Fire Department, to increase the number of EMT and Paramedics from Arlington. Concern was also raised that businesses are less likely to afford employees time to respond to Ambulance calls which is different from the past. There was agreement that the group should meet again in three months to continue discussing efforts to increase EMT and Paramedic recruitment.

An article was distributed and the Council was questioned on a 2016 ambulance budget in which the budgeted expenses exceeded the budgeted revenues. The Council was unable to answer questions because of having a new Administrator not familiar with the specific rationale at that time.

Through discussion the Council and EMT's and Paramedics came to the consensus to continue through the end of the year with the current interim arrangement. This includes reverting back to the payment arrangement that was in place in 2017 with the exception that Paramedics will continue to earn an increased wage of \$25/hr and that the out of town EMT's when working the 6 a.m. – 6 p.m. shift will continue to be paid \$15/hr because of the challenge associated with retaining out of town EMTs. The remaining in town EMT's will be paid \$2 and be on call at the location of their choice as long as they respond within the allowed time and will be paid \$15.00 during run times.

Motion by Cowell, seconded by Hatlestad, and passed by unanimous vote of those present to adjourn the meeting at 9:00 pm.

City Administrator Patrick Melvin

Mayor Richard Nagel