



Planning & Public Safety Committee

March 8th, 2016

Summary and Motions

Chair Mossotti called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. Committee Members Kay, Akers, Gibbs, Lamb, Farmer, Bledsoe and Henson were in attendance. Committee Members Scutchfield and Stinnett were absent. Council Members F. Brown and Evans were in attendance as non-voting members.

I. Committee Summary

A motion was made by Farmer to approve the February 9, 2016 Planning & Public Safety Committee Summary, seconded by Kay. The motion passed without dissent.

II. H-1 Notification Process

At the request of Farmer, Jim Duncan, Director of Planning, stated their FY17 budget request will include funds for the mailing of notifications.

Mossotti inquired about H1-N1 boundaries and if the H-1 process includes those. Duncan stated they are not involved in determining the boundaries, but they can be adjusted at the time of the hearings, but initial notification goes to the boundaries presented to them. Mossotti inquired about people who may want to be included in the boundaries and Duncan replied the boundaries are initiated by neighborhoods and that they could request to be included. Bill Sallee, from Planning, noted that a BOAR can be used to adjust boundaries.

Bettie Kerr, Director of Historic Preservation, affirmed that the neighborhoods attach a map of the area to consider with their applications and that Planning or Historic Restoration staff may recommend the addition of properties. Kerr further noted that once the study has begun, boundaries cannot be increased, only decreased. She stated they recommend that applicants reach out to nearby neighbors to gauge their interest.

Henson inquired how many applications they receive per year. Duncan stated there is usually only one per year. Henson noted the cost for postage should be small, which Duncan affirmed.

A motion was made by Farmer to remove H-1 Notification Process from Committee, seconded by Henson. The motion passed without dissent.

III. Fire & EMS Vehicle Replacement Plan

F. Brown introduced the Fire & EMS Vehicle Replacement Plan. Public Safety Commissioner Bastin introduced Chief Hoskins. Hoskins presented the Fleet Replacement Plan.

Lamb inquired about the uses for heavy rescue trucks. Hoskins stated it is a truck with all of the equipment for firefighting, building shoring, diving equipment, auto excavation and other

uses. Lamb inquired about the requirements for using the ladder truck. Hoskins stated this is for buildings greater than 35 feet in height and stated the 105 foot ladders work well for Lexington. In response to Lamb, Hoskins stated they have 4 civilian mechanics and one sworn person on the same shift as the firefighters.

In response to Bledsoe, Hoskins stated HM1 is a large Haz-Mat truck. He further noted a brush truck is a truck with a water tank and gas filled pump and the FF50 truck is used to pull large trailers.

Henson thanked him for his work and inquired if new equipment comes with warranties. Hoskins stated the typical warranty is one year. Henson inquired if the estimated costs consider inflation and Hoskins replied they do not.

Akers inquired if they typically purchase longer warranties. Hoskins stated they have for the ladder trucks and will see if that has been of value. Akers noted that trucks at their life span have a small number of miles. Hoskins stated the trucks rarely make a long trip, but do idle for long periods of time while in service.

F. Brown inquired about the replacement schedule for the heavy fleet and the budget for FY16. Hoskins stated the budget for replacement in FY16 \$2.57M. F. Brown inquired if they are up to date on the replacement schedule. Hoskins replied that over the next 2 rounds of their purchasing plan they will still have some engines that are 17-18 years old that required heavy maintenance. He further stated the schedule does not reflect new stations.

In response to Henson, Hoskins stated they have 2 tower ladder trucks with buckets.

IV. Community Corrections Officer Turnover

Evans introduced the Community Corrections Officer Turnover item. Paul Schoninger, Council Research Analyst, gave a presentation.

In response to Gibbs, Rodney Ballard, Director of Community Corrections, clarified that BOP refers to several locations in the area and stands for Bureau of Prisons. Gibbs further inquired about the starting wage. Ballard stated the starting pay is around \$32,000 and at the end of the first year is \$36,000. He stated that starting pay is the BOP \$48,600.

Lamb noted her appreciation for the survey and stated her desire to see corrections officers have nice uniforms and higher profile swearing in ceremonies. Scott Colvin, Deputy Director, stated the ceremonies have evolved to include all of the officers and the Commissioners and Mayor's Offices.

In response to Bledsoe, Ballard gave a breakdown of the number supervisors including Captains, Sergeants, Lieutenants and Majors. He further stated that voluntarily resignations are individuals who were not asked to leave and dismissal involves discipline.

Akers inquired how the department determines an officer's reasons for leaving. Ballard stated they conduct exit interviews and he also sits down with officers before they leave to discuss their reasons. Akers inquired if they have considered allowing managers to fill in for Officers to relieve some of the overtime. Ballard stated they do not, noting the extra expense of overtime and potential confusion of roles. Akers stated her desire to see the results of the survey they are conducting brought back to the committee. Mossotti offered that Dr. Wells could present the relevant findings to the Committee.

F. Brown inquired about the Collective Bargaining policy and how this affects their recruiting. Ballard stated the union has been very beneficial to hiring. F. Brown also inquired about rehires and Ballard stated they have had some success with that.

Lamb noted her concerns about turn over. Ballard stated they have increased their training staff and they have increased the length of the training Academy, and it is now an 11 week program. At Lamb's request CAO Hamilton gave an overview of their recruiting plan for the Director's position.

In response to Henson, Ballard stated there is no age requirement aside from the entry level age of 21 years old. Henson noted her concern for family time for Officers.

In response to Mossotti, Ballard stated they have exceeded salaries for local jails but are beneath the pay at federal prisons. Commissioner Bastin stated that Police & Fire have higher starting salaries and noted some individuals go into Corrections to gain experience for Police and Fire.

In response to a question from Akers, Bastin stated Colonel Colvin will be the interim director.

Lamb inquired if the Academy includes diversity and multi-cultural training and Ballard stated they receive less than 4 hours, but he has been working with HR to include this as a yearly training. Lamb noted that Fire & Police have this training module.

A motion was made by Akers that Dr. Wells will present survey findings to Committee on June 14, 2016 following completion of report to corrections staff, seconded by Farmer. The motion passed without dissent.

V. Items Referred

A motion was made by Akers to adjourn, seconded by Lamb. The motion passed without dissent.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:42 p.m.

D.S. 3.9.2016