

**PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE
CITY HALL CONFERENCE ROOM
300 W. CROWELL STREET
MONROE, NORTH CAROLINA 28112**

www.monroenc.org

February 17, 2020 – 4:00 PM

AGENDA

1. Approval of Minutes of November 18, 2019
2. LED Lighting Update
3. Federal Firefighter's Grant
4. Fire Station 6

**PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING
MINUTES
November 18, 2019**

The Public Safety Committee met on November 18, 2019, at 4:00 p.m. in the Duty Room of the Monroe Police Department.

Members Present: Chair Surluta Anthony, Council Member Marion Holloway, Council Member Franco McGee, Committee Member Celestine Alsbrooks, Committee Member Robert Jones, and Committee Member Todd Price.

Members Absent: Committee Member Vann Davis and Committee Member Iris Sanders.

Staff Present: City Manager Larry Faison, City Attorney Mujeeb Shah-Khan, Assistant City Attorney Ashley Britt, Police Chief Bryan Gilliard, Fire Chief Ron Fowler, Engineering Director Jim Loyd, Land Development and Infrastructure Engineer Sarah McAllister, Energy Services Director David Lucore, Police Captain Mark Coan, Police Lt. Bobby Manus, Police Lt. William Kilgo, Police Crime Analyst Peter Chryst, and Nancy Miller.

Chair Anthony called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

Item 1. Approval of Meeting Minutes of September 16, 2019

Council Member McGee made a motion to approve the minutes of the Public Safety Committee meeting of September 16, 2019. Council Member Holloway seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Item 2. Ordinance to Amend Traffic Code – Chapter 76 – Parking Schedule VI. Tow-Away Zones

Sarah McCallister requested the Public Safety Committee to consider designating the parking lot behind Old City Hall as a tow-away zone for unauthorized vehicles. She stated that complaints had been received concerning vehicles using the Old City Hall parking lot other than the tenants. The Assistant City Manager asked staff to move forward with designating the lot as a tow-away zone. Ms. McCallister said that there is an existing sign that states “Unauthorized Vehicles Towed at Owner’s Expense.” If adopted, a sign will be erected on the same post advising “Tow Away Zone” with the phone number 704-282-4700. Council Member Holloway made a motion to approve and forward to Council Ordinance (0-2019-49) amending Chapter 76- Parking Schedule VI. Tow-Away Zones of the City of Monroe Code of Ordinances. Council Member McGee seconded the motion, which passed with the following votes:

AYES: Chair Anthony, Council Member Holloway, Council Member McGee,
Committee Member Price, and Committee Member Alsbrooks
NAYS: Committee Member Jones

Item 3. LED Lighting

David Lucore stated that on September 16, 2019, Energy Services presented to the Public Safety Committee the proposed method to employ the services of a consulting engineering firm to provide answers to the questions raised about implementing an LED street lighting conversion project. Mr. Lucore provided the committee with an update on events that have occurred since that meeting. He stated that the staff had received a report from one consultant that recommended that the City replace the lights one for one; meaning wherever there is a street light currently, the light would be replaced with LED lights to provide better lighting coverage. He stated that he looked for crime rate statistics and the affects LED lighting had in other communities and could only find one case study and that was Los Angeles, CA. He stated that Los Angeles replaced 140,000 street lights with LED lights and the crime rates, which were non-violent crimes, was about a 10 percent reduction. The recommended light was 4,000K which is a white light. He indicated that he is expecting a report from another consultant at the end of November. He explained that these consultants are at no cost to the City. Mr. Lucore said that staff will continue to investigate the City's options and costs available for upgrading street lighting to LED lights and report any new developments to the Committee. He stated that Duke Energy and Union Power are in the process of changing to LED lights but stated that he is not sure what their schedule is or if they are just changing out lights on a fail basis.

Item 4. U.S. Department of Justice Grant

Captain David Morton stated that the Police Department was seeking to accept a grant in the amount \$14,518 from the United States Department of Justice. He indicated that this grant would be used for the K-9 Program and is a zero match. He explained that the Police Department will have five K-9s and an officer will partner with each dog. Chief Gilliard reported that the officers have already been selected and the dogs have been purchased. CMPD will train the dogs for free in a 12-week program. The dogs will be ready by the end of February or first of March. Council Member Holloway made a motion to approve the grant and forward to Council for approval. Council Member McGee seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Item 5. Community Policing and Monroe Night Out

Lt. Kilgo updated the Public Safety Committee on community policing initiatives and showed a PowerPoint presentation of the events of Monroe Night Out which was held on October 5, 2019. He said that the Community Shelter won the Monroe Night Out award this year that was given out at their banquet on October 17, 2019. Council Member McGee commended the Police Department on their partnership with the homeless shelter.

Item 6. Crime Statistics

Peter Chryst gave an overview of crime statistic reports which were included in the agenda packet. He went over the Part 1 Crimes Report Comparison for 2018 and 2019, the Performance Measures for 2010-2018, the Major Crime Comparisons by Zone for 2019, and showed major crime comparisons by day of the week for 2019. Chief Gilliard indicated that the focused patrols that have been conducted this year have shown a reduction in crime.

Item 7. Animal Control Policies and Procedures

Chair Anthony stated that she had received questions about stray cats and wanted this topic put on the agenda for discussion. A copy of the current Monroe Code of Ordinances on Animals and a copy of the Monroe Police Department Animal Control Standard Operating Policies and Procedures were given to Committee members in their agenda packets. Captain Mark Coan explained that the City does not have any ordinances pertaining to cats. He stated that Captain Greene pulled some sample policies from other municipalities that do address cats. He explained that Animal Control officers do pick up stray cats and stated that our Animal Control officers do a good job with this. Chair Anthony asked that the Committee review the sample policies pertaining to cats from other cities to see if Monroe might benefit from such policies and asked that this be discussed at the next meeting. Captain Coan stated that the Animal Control officers do a lot of welfare checks on dogs, and they also do a lot of animal awareness education. He stated that the Police Department is proactive in dealing with animal issues and if anyone has questions about the ordinances to refer them to the Police Department. Chief Gilliard stated that last year the Police Department partnered with some of the animal rights groups, and Chief Gilliard and his brother donated straw so the dogs would have bedding. He said that the Police Department does a lot of work with animals outside of policies and procedures to help build good relationships in the community.

Item 8. Fire Department Annual Report

Chief Fowler gave an overview of the Fire Department 2018 Annual Report and highlighted some of the main areas. He pointed out that the Fire Department received 6,920 total calls for service in 2018. He said that the property rate saved was 92%. He also indicated that the total cardiac arrest events for 2018 was 52 and stated that the survival rate in Monroe was 20% which is higher than the national average of 10.10%.

Chair Anthony asked if the Fire Department participated in any mock disaster drills. Chief Fowler indicated that a drill was done at the airport where they had a simulated charter plane crash involving the Fire Department, Police Department, EMT, Airport, and County Emergency Management. He indicated that these types of drills are very beneficial in preparation for a mass casualty incident.

Chair Anthony also asked if the Fire Department provides information to households to have an exit plan in the event of a fire. He indicated that this is provided to individual residents upon request. When the Fire Department does presentations to the communities, they include this

information in the presentation. He indicated that the Fire Department will be glad to go out and do a courtesy safety inspection of the homes. Council Member McGee asked if there was a flyer that could be shared with citizens regarding this information. Chief Fowler stated that the Fire Department does several outreach things the Fire Department does in the community. He stated that they go into the schools and teach children fire safety. He stated that they have done utility bill inserts in the past and have run fire safety messages on the billboard located at Hwy. 74 and Walkup Ave. Banners with messages have also been put up at the different fire stations. Mr. Faison suggested that the Fire Department put a downloadable brochure with fire safety tips on the website. He stated that the Fire Department does have links on their website to the National Fire Protection Organization and they have resources. He stated he would look into adding this on the website. Committee Member Jones asked if the Safety House was still being used. Chief Fowler stated that they will be sharing one with the county and it is on order and should be here within the next month.

Chief Fowler stated that in a future meeting do a presentation on fire prevention efforts and a presentation on the medical responses. He stated that Fire Prevention Month is in October. Chair Anthony asked if they could do a PR campaign in conjunction with the schools and some civic organizations.

Adjournment

There being no further business, Council Member Holloway made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Council Member McGee seconded the motion which passed unanimously, and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Nancy Miller



STAFF REPORT

TO: Public Safety Committee
VIA: E.L. Faison, City Manager
DATE: February 17, 2020
FROM: David E. Lucore, Director of Energy Services
PREPARED BY: David E. Lucore, Director of Energy Services
SUBJECT: LED Lighting Initiative Update

SUMMARY STATEMENT

The Energy Services Department will present updated information on costs associated with converting existing street lighting to LED Street Lighting to the Public Safety Committee.

REVIEW

Energy Services provided an update at the previous meeting on November 18, 2019 that answered many of the questions the committee had asked. Staff will provide financial information about converting to LED street lighting.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff is not requesting any action at this meeting. Staff will present information to inform the committee of the anticipated costs.



STAFF REPORT

TO: Public Safety Committee

VIA: E.L. Faison, City Manager

DATE: February 17, 2020

FROM: Ronald D. Fowler, Fire Chief

PREPARED BY: Alice Williams, Administrative Assistant

SUBJECT: Federal Grant Application Opportunity

SUMMARY STATEMENT

City has an opportunity to apply for a Federal Assistance to a Firefighter's Grant

REVIEW

Staff will share with the Public Safety Committee information regarding an upcoming Federal Assistance to Firefighter's Grant opportunity. Staff will provide information and a recommendation on a potential grant application.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff will seek a recommendation from the Public Safety Committee to City Council to allow staff to apply for this grant.



STAFF REPORT

TO: Public Safety Committee
VIA: E.L. Faison, City Manager
DATE: February 17, 2020
FROM: Ronald D. Fowler, Fire Chief
PREPARED BY: Alice Williams, Administrative Assistant
SUBJECT: Fire Station 6 Update

SUMMARY STATEMENT

Committee update for Fire Station 6.

REVIEW

Staff will update Public Safety Committee on Fire Station 6 project.

RECOMMENDATION

For informational purposes and discussion.