



PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

City Hall - Large Conference Room
300 W. Crowell Street
Monroe, NC
August 5, 2024
4:15 PM

AGENDA

1. Minutes from June 3, 2024
2. Discussion on E Old Highway 74
3. Budget Amendment – Interlocal Agreement
4. Budget Amendment – Donation for Camp 1872

**PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
June 3, 2024**

The Public Safety Committee met on June 3, 2024, at 4:15 p.m. in the City Hall Large Conference Room.

Members Present: Chairman David Dotson, Council Member Julie Thompson, Council Member Gary Anderson, Committee Member Chip Wardwell, Committee Member David Beckwith

Absent:

Staff Present: City Manager Mark Watson, Assistant to City Manager, Lisa Hollowell, Fire Chief Ron Fowler, Deputy Fire Chief Bryan Kindley, Deputy Fire Chief Greg Collins, Fire Battalion Chief Johnny Blythe, Fire Administrative Assistant II Alice Withers, Police Chief Bryan Gilliard, City Attorney Richard Long, Senior Staff Attorney Terry Sholar, Police Assistant Chief Rhett Bolen, Engineering Director Sarah McAllister, Finance Director Lisa Strickland, Police Captain Steve Morton, Police Officer Lori Pierce,

Guests: Zach Gardner, John Springer (both with NCDOT)

Chairman David Dotson called the meeting to order at 4:17 p.m.

Item 1: Minutes from May 6, 2024 Meeting

Council Member Anderson made a motion to approve the minutes of the Public Safety Committee meeting of May 6, 2024. Council Member Thompson seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Item 2: Request for No Parking along the south side of Jefferson Street

Engineering Director McAllister presented to the Committee a problem with vehicles parking along the south side of Jefferson Street between the marked on-street parking spaces blocking the driveway serving 318 N Hayne Street. This area is not included in the two hour parking section of the ordinance. Director McAllister requests that an amendment to Chapter 76 Schedule I: Parking Prohibited at All Times to add the south side of Jefferson Street from 110 feet west of Beasley Street to 149 feet west of Beasley Street. Council Member Anderson made a motion to place this item on the June Consent Agenda for the June Council meeting. Committee member Wardwell seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Item 3: Discussion on E Old Highway 74

Complaints of tractor-trailers using the road as a cut-through have been received. With the plans of a large truck stop being constructed in the near future, there are concerns of trucks using Old Highway 74 as a cut-through to get to the truck stop. Discussions of closing the road, installing a residential cul-de-sac installed, so it is not used as a thoroughfare. There are signs currently posted stating no trucks allowed, however that is not a deterrent at this time. Engineer Director McAllister suggested a public hearing. By consensus, as a Public Safety Committee, it was decided that Engineering take these comments, provide a map, and bring it back for consideration at the next meeting. This matter was for discussion purposes only.

Item 4: Discussion on W Franklin Street Concerns

Engineering Director McAllister presented to the Committee concerns from Council Member Kerr about the intersection of W Franklin Street and Johnson Street. Director McAllister introduced Zach Garner, Division Traffic Engineer with NCDOT and John Springer with NCDOT to help with the discussion. Mr. Garner and Mr. Springer suggested putting a median in so as not to allow right/left turns onto Franklin Street. Mr. Garner stated that unfortunately a public road with the volume of traffic, such as W Franklin Street, there are limits to what can be done. A median would redirect some volume of traffic (left turns) causing “T-bone” crash patterns, thus reducing accident potential. This creates a “reduced conflict intersection”. Mr. Garner suggested that the median begin at the curved section of W Franklin and then continue. Mr. Watson asked for a drawing from NCDOT.

Item 5: CDBG Grant Acceptance and Budget Amendment

Fire Chief Ron Fowler presented to the Committee a \$153,052 grant opportunity for the Fire Department to purchase a ventilation fan for fire and hazardous materials response. This fan can be used to remove smoke and hazardous atmospheres in large industrial buildings, schools, and other buildings such as hospitals during and after fires and hazardous events. The fan will be mounted on an existing Monroe Fire Department truck and respond as needed by Fire Department personnel. After meeting the requirements of the grant, the City will be reimbursed from the grant. Council member Anderson made a motion to forward to Council for approval. Committee member Beckwith seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Item 6: Budget Amendment for Donations Received for Fire Camp 1872

Fire Chief Ron Fowler presented to the Committee donations from Council member Julie Thompson in the amount of \$250 from her discretionary funds and Council member Gary Anderson in the amount of \$500 from his discretionary funds to support the department’s Fire Camp 1872. Fire Chief Fowler asked that the Committee approve the budget amendment and to appropriate and designate these funds to Fire expenditure accounts and forward to full Council for approval. Council member Anderson made a motion to approve and forward to Council for full approval. Committee member Wardwell seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Item 7: Budget Amendment for Donation Received for Explorer Program

Police Chief Bryan Gilliard presented to the Committee a donation from Council member Julie Thompson in the amount of \$250 to be directed to the Monroe Police Explorer Program. Chief Gilliard requested approval from the Committee to accept this donation and appropriate and designate the funds to Police expenditure accounts and forward to Council for full approval. Committee member Wardwell made a motion to approve and forward to Council for full approval. Mayor Pro-Tem/Chair Dotson seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Other:

Fire Chief Ron Fowler presented to the Committee the opportunity for the fire department to quickly purchase the Quint 2 apparatus that was approved in the budget. Chief Fowler explained the long wait time of up to 48 months. Chief Fowler explained that we have to act quickly and in order to do so, asked the Committee to allow City Manager Watson to act on the fire departments' behalf and allow him to sign a letter of intent to the manufacturer in the event another apparatus becomes available. Mayor Pro-Tem/Chair Dotson made a motion to allow City Manager Watson to sign the letter of intent for the manufacturer. Council member Thompson seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Police Chief Bryan Gilliard presented to the Committee a grant opportunity called COPS Grant Program and requested the Committee approve the police department applying for it. Mayor Pro-Tem/Chair Dotson made a motion to allow the police department to apply for the COPS Grant. Council member Anderson seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Adjournment

There being no further business, Council Member Anderson made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mayor Pro-Tem/Chair Dotson seconded the motion, which passed unanimously, and the meeting was adjourned at 5:19 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Alice Withers – Committee Secretary



STAFF REPORT

TO: Public Safety Committee

VIA: Mark Watson, City Manager

DATE: August 5, 2024

FROM: Sarah McAllister, P.E., Engineering Director

PREPARED BY: Sarah McAllister, P.E., Engineering Director

SUBJECT: Discussion on E Old Highway 74

SUMMARY STATEMENT

Staff will be prepared to discuss the possibility of closing E Old Highway 74.

REVIEW

A discussion was held at the June 3, 2024 Public Safety Committee meeting regarding the complaints about tractor-trailers traffic using E Old Highway 74 and the possibility of closing the roadway. Consensus of the committee was for staff to evaluate possibly installing a cul-de-sac prior to the intersection with Old Pageland Monroe Road between the church and assisted living facility.

Engineering Staff does not recommend installation of the cul-de-sac as it would create a single access road that is approximately 4,800 feet in length. This far exceeds the maximum permanent dead-end street length of 1200 feet allowed by the City's Standard Specifications and Detail Manual. The Fire Department is also not recommending this as it could greatly affect their response times. Staff will be prepared to discuss further at the meeting.

RECOMMENDATION

This item is for general discussion.

STAFF REPORT

TO: Public Safety Committee

VIA: Mark Watson, City Manager

DATE: August 5, 2024

FROM: Ronald D. Fowler, Fire Chief

PREPARED BY: Alice Withers, Administrative Assistant II - Fire

SUBJECT: Budget Amendment for Interlocal Agreement Funds

SUMMARY STATEMENT

The Fire Department seeks to accept funds from Union County per an interlocal agreement in the amount of \$75,000.

REVIEW

As per an Interlocal Agreement with Union County, the City has received \$75,000 to be allocated to the Fire Department as follows; \$20,000 for Swift Water Rescue mutual aid assistance, \$20,000 for Hazardous Material Response mutual aid assistance and \$35,000 for radio replacements.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff requests the Public Safety Committee to recommend that Council accept the \$75,000 Interlocal Agreement funds and approve Budget Amendment BA-2024-20 and to appropriate and designate these funds to Fire expenditure accounts.

Attachment: BA-2024-20

**CITY OF MONROE
BUDGET AMENDMENT
BA-2024-20**

1. Amendment necessary to designate and appropriate funds received from Union County.

General Fund:

Revenues:

Interlocal Agreement-Union County	\$75,000
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Expenditures

Fire Department	\$75,000
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TOTAL: \$75,000

Adopted this the 13th day of August, 2024.

Robert A. Burns, Mayor

Attest:

Bridgette H. Robinson, City Clerk



STAFF REPORT

TO: Public Safety Committee

VIA: Mark Watson, City Manager

DATE: August 5, 2024

FROM: Ronald D. Fowler, Fire Chief

PREPARED BY: Alice Williams, Administrative Assistant II - Fire

SUBJECT: Budget Amendment for Donations Received for Fire Camp 1872

SUMMARY STATEMENT

The Fire Department seeks to accept a donation in the amount of \$600 from Monroe Rotary Club to support the department's Fire Camp 1872 and approve a budget amendment allocating these funds to the Fire Department.

REVIEW

The Fire Department has received a \$600 donation from Monroe Rotary Club. These funds will be used for the Monroe Fire Camp 1872.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff requests approval from the Public Safety Committee to accept this donation and approve Budget Amendments BA-2024-18 and to appropriate and designate these funds to Fire expenditure accounts and forward to full Council for approval.

Attachment: BA-2024-18

**CITY OF MONROE
BUDGET AMENDMENT
BA-2024-18**

1. Amendment necessary to designate and appropriate funds received from Monroe Rotary Club for the Monroe Fire Camp 1872.

General Fund:

Revenues:

Miscellaneous – Fire	\$600
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Expenditures:

Fire Department	\$600
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Adopted this the 13th day of August of 2024.

Robert A. Burns, Mayor

Attest:

Bridgette H. Robinson, City Clerk