



PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

City Hall - Large Conference Room
300 W. Crowell Street
Monroe, NC
April 7, 2025
4:15 PM

AGENDA

1. Minutes from March 3, 2025
2. Naming of Police Department Conference Room
3. Deputy Chief Greg Collins Award of Helmet
4. Resolution for Deputy Chief Greg Collins' Retirement
5. Paladin Drone Technology Partnership with Monroe Police Department
6. Monroe Police Department Armored Vehicle Purchase
7. Skateboard Amendment
8. Position Statement regarding Monroe Police Department cooperating with Federal Agencies

**PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
March 3, 2025**

The Public Safety Committee met on March 3, 2025, at 5:30p.m. in the City Hall Large Conference Room.

Members Present: Chairman David Dotson, Committee Member Chip Wardwell, Committee Member Daryle Anderson

Absent: Council Member Julie Thompson

Staff Present: City Manager Mark Watson, Assistant City Manager Lisa Hollowell, Assistant City Manager Jeff Wells, Fire Chief Ron Fowler, Fire Administrative Assistant II Alice Withers, Police Chief Bryan Gilliard, Police Lieutenant Steve Morton, Police Sergeant DC McAllister, City Attorney Richard Long, Senior Staff Attorney Terry Sholar, Finance Director Lisa Strickland, Engineering Director Sarah McAllister, Engineering Manager Will Auret, Grant Administrator Lisa Kerner

Guests: Brooks & Lauren Durham, Ken Deal, Michelle Ball

Chairman David Dotson called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

Item 1: Minutes from February 3, 2025 Meeting

Committee Member Wardwell made a motion to approve the minutes of the Public Safety Committee meeting of February 3, 2025. Committee Member Anderson seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Item 2: Position Statement on Law Enforcement Cooperation

Chairman Dotson presented to the Committee a Position Statement on Law Enforcement Cooperation. City Attorney Richard Long made a recommendation that the Committee allow Police Chief Bryan Gilliard an opportunity to add his input to the statement. Chairman Dotson made a motion to table the Statement pending Chief Gilliard's input. Committee Member Anderson seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Item 3: Autistic Person Signage Policy

Senior Staff Attorney Terry Sholar presented to the Committee a suggested policy the Special Needs and Disability Committee discussed referencing the danger that vehicular traffic on residential streets poses for individuals with autism or other developmental disabilities and proneness to elope into traffic. This policy would provide the City of Monroe to place warning signs on the streets where individuals with autism or developmental disabilities reside. Chairman Dotson made a motion to recommend that Council adopt the Autistic Person Signage Policy. Committee Member Anderson seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Item 4: Charles Street Sidewalk Improvements

At the recommendation from the Committee in February, Engineering Director Sarah McAllister presented two cost estimates for sidewalk improvements on Charles Street. This item was for discussion purposes only.

Item 5: LD Davis' Request for Guardrail Installation

Engineering Director Sara McAllister presented to the Committee NCDOT/s response to the request for guardrail on US 74. This item was for discussion purposes only.

Item 6: Hazard Mitigation Plan

Fire Chief Ron Fowler presented to the Committee a resolution to adopt an updated Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan with Cabarrus, Stanly and Union Counties. Chief Fowler stated that with this Plan the fire department would be eligible for Hazard Mitigation Grant Program Funds. Committee Member Wardwell made a motion to recommend Council adopt the Resolution. Chairman Dotson seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Item 7: SAFER Grant Opportunity

Fire Chief Ron Fowler presented to the Committee an opportunity to apply for Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergence Response (SAFER) grant to request six firefighter positions. Committee Member Anderson made a motion to recommend Council approve Staff to apply for the SAFER grant. Committee Member Wardwell seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Item 8: Discussion of Skateboarding Downtown and Review of Current Ordinance Regulating Same

At the request of Chairman Dotson, Staff discussed skateboarding downtown and review of the current ordinance regulating the same. This item was for discussion purposes only.

Adjournment

There being no further business, Chairman Dotson made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Committee Member Wardwell seconded the motion, which passed unanimously, and the meeting was adjourned at 6:24 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Alice Withers – Committee Secretary



STAFF REPORT

TO: Public Safety Committee

VIA: Mark Watson, City Manager

DATE: April 7, 2025

FROM: William “Rhett” Bolen, Assistant Chief of Police
P. Gabriel Broome, Police Lieutenant

PREPARED BY: Angie Rangolan, Administrative Services Supervisor

SUBJECT: Naming of Conference Room at Bobby G. Kilgore Law Enforcement Center as J. Bryan Gilliard Conference Room

SUMMARY STATEMENT

Staff seeks approval to name the conference room at the Bobby G. Kilgore Law Enforcement Center in honor of Chief Gilliard as the J. Bryan Gilliard Conference Room.

REVIEW

On August 24, 2023, the Bobby G. Kilgore Law Enforcement Center celebrated its grand opening. Chief J. Bryan Gilliard worked tirelessly and provided significant contribution to the Bobby G. Kilgore Law Enforcement Center. Chief Gilliard was born and raised in Union County and began his career with the City in 1993 as a telecommunicator. He served in various capacities, rising to the rank of Captain in 2007, Assistant Chief in 2010, Interim Police Chief in 2013, and finally Police Chief in 2014.

Chief Gilliard has led the department through many challenges, changes, and accomplishments, including the following:

- Advancing the use of law enforcement technology and community engagement to improve public safety within the City
- Planning, construction, and opening of the Bobby G. Kilgore Law Enforcement Center

- Earning national accreditation and re-accreditation(s) from the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies Incorporated (CALEA) since 2007
- Provided opportunities for law enforcement skills and leadership training that prepared Monroe Police Officers to grow their careers and advance in rank
- Improved retention of experienced Police Officers by providing educational incentives, addressing competitive pay policies, and updating recruiting practices
- Advocated for improvements in officer protective equipment and a modernized vehicle fleet

Chief Gilliard takes pride and honor in his job. He proudly and humbly serves the community in all aspects of his life and has honorably worked to better serve the citizens of Monroe for 32 years.

Chief Gilliard maintains a positive and professional approach to any situation, and is an unrivaled example for others to follow. It is my honor and privilege to request that the conference room at the Bobby G. Kilgore Law Enforcement Center be named in honor of Chief Gilliard as the J. Bryan Gilliard Conference Room.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff requests that the Public Safety Committee recommend Council approval to name the conference room at the Bobby G. Kilgore Law Enforcement Center in honor of Chief Gilliard and his significant contributions to the City of Monroe and the Monroe Police Department, as the J. Bryan Gilliard Conference Room. If approved to move forward, this matter will be placed on the Regular section of the City Council Regular Meeting Agenda to allow any public comment to the naming request.



STAFF REPORT

TO: Public Safety Committee
VIA: Mark Watson, City Manager
DATE: April 7, 2025
FROM: Ronald D. Fowler, Fire Chief
PREPARED BY: Alice Withers, Administrative Assistant II
SUBJECT: Award of Fire Helmet for Deputy Chief Greg Collins

SUMMARY STATEMENT

The Public Safety Committee is requested to consider a recommendation for City Council to authorize awarding Deputy Chief Greg Collins his fire helmet on the occasion of his retirement.

REVIEW

Deputy Chief Greg Collins is retiring May 1, 2025, with 30 years of service to the City of Monroe. The General Assembly of North Carolina recognizes the importance and the symbolism of the Firefighter’s helmet. General Statute §160A-294.1 authorizes municipalities, at the discretion of the governing board, to honor retiring firefighters by awarding them their fire helmet. Recognizing the importance of the fire helmet to Chief Collins, Staff feels it is fitting and proper to honor him by awarding him with his fire helmet to cherish during retirement. In accordance with General Statute §160A-294.1, staff recommends that Council set the price of the helmet at \$0.01 (one cent), and award it to Chief Collins. Staff expresses appreciation to Chief Collins for his service to the Monroe Fire Department over the past 30 years and extend best wishes and God’s blessings on his retirement.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff requests that the Public Safety Committee recommend that City Council authorize awarding Chief Collins his fire helmet for one cent.



STAFF REPORT

TO: Public Safety Committee
VIA: Mark Watson, City Manager
DATE: April 7, 2025
FROM: Ronald D. Fowler, Fire Chief
PREPARED BY: Alice Withers, Administrative Assistant II - Fire
SUBJECT: Resolution Honoring Retiring Employee, Deputy Chief Greg Collins

SUMMARY STATEMENT

The Public Safety Committee is requested to consider a recommendation for City Council to adopt the attached Resolution honoring retiring employee, Deputy Chief Greg Collins.

REVIEW

Deputy Fire Chief Greg Collins is retiring effective May 1, 2025 with 30 years of service with the City of Monroe. Staff is requested to honor Chief Collins by adopting the attached resolution.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff requests the Public Safety Committee recommend that Council adopt the attached resolution honoring Deputy Fire Chief Greg Collins.

Attachment: R-2025-18

**RESOLUTION
HONORING DEPUTY FIRE CHIEF GREGORY COLLINS
ON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT
R-2025-18**

WHEREAS, on the occasion of his retirement on May 1, 2025, City Council finds it is fitting and proper to express its appreciation to Deputy Fire Chief Greg Collins for his loyal and dedicated service to Monroe Public Safety Department and Monroe Fire Department over the last 30 years; and

WHEREAS, Greg Collins joined Monroe Public Safety Department as a Public Safety Officer on February 13, 1995 and following the reorganization of Monroe Fire Department in 1999 continued to serve with the fire department advancing through the ranks serving in key positions as Lieutenant, Captain, Battalion Chief, Division Chief of Training, Deputy Chief of Administration and Deputy Fire Chief of Operations; and

WHEREAS, Greg Collins achieved various professional certifications and accomplishments including an Associates Degree in Fire Protection Technology and a Bachelors Degree in Fire and Emergency Services Administration; and is a graduate of the UNC School of Government Municipal Administration Program, UNCC Fire and Rescue Management Program, NC Association of Fire Chiefs Executive Development Program and multiple other State and National Fire Academy courses; and

WHEREAS, Greg Collins' experience, skills and commitment to excellence positively influenced other members of the fire department, from Firefighter to Fire Chief, and Chief Collins contributed greatly to developing Monroe Fire Department into the modern day, professional, internationally accredited, fire department it is today; and

WHEREAS, Greg Collins played vital roles in advancement of Monroe Fire Department including; organization and growth of the fire department, leadership and development of personnel, modernization of the fire apparatus fleet, planning and opening of Fire Station 6 and lowering of the City's Fire Insurance Rating to an ISO Class 1; and

WHEREAS, Greg Collins has selflessly and faithfully served the citizens of Monroe and Union County where his personal integrity, professionalism and devotion to duty has been a tremendous example of public service; and

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Monroe and members of Monroe Fire Department are most grateful and wish to express their sincere appreciation to Chief Collins for his professional and personal contributions and for his years of distinguished service to the citizens of Monroe, noting that he will be greatly missed both professionally and as a friend.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and City Council publicly express their appreciation to Deputy Chief Greg Collins for his outstanding performance of duty to Monroe Fire Department over the past 30 years and wish him God's blessings for a long and happy retirement.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Resolution be entered upon the permanent minutes of the Monroe City Council.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Monroe to be affixed this the 8th day of April, 2025.

Robert A. Burns, Mayor

Attest:

Bridgette H. Robinson, City Clerk



STAFF REPORT

TO: Public Safety Committee

VIA: Mark Watson, City Manager

DATE: April 7, 2025

FROM: William “Rhett” Bolen, Assistant Chief of Police

PREPARED BY: Angie Rangolan, Administrative Services Supervisor

SUBJECTS: Paladin Drones Inc. Partnership and Placement of Box Drone at the Bobby G. Kilgore Law Enforcement Center

SUMMARY STATEMENT

The Monroe Police Department Lieutenant Chad Shoultes will discuss the zero cost partnership with Paladin Drones, Inc. and the technology that this will provide.

REVIEW

The Monroe Police Department is being provided a zero cost technology partnership with Paladin Drones, Inc. This technology partnership will allow for Paladin Drones to place a box drone on the exterior façade roof area of the Bobby G. Kilgore Law Enforcement Center that will be operated by licensed police department employees. Lieutenant Shoultes, Assistant Chief Rhett Bolen and a Paladin Drone, Inc. employee will present to provide additional information and answer questions.



STAFF REPORT

TO: Public Safety Committee
VIA: Mark Watson, City Manager
DATE: April 7, 2025
FROM: J. Bryan Gilliard, Police Chief
PREPARED BY: William E. Bolen, Assistant Police Chief
SUBJECT: Budget Amendment and Purchase Approval of Armored Vehicle

SUMMARY STATEMENT

The Police Department is requesting approval of a budget amendment to appropriate funds and approval of the purchase of a BATT-X armored vehicle from The Armored Group.

REVIEW

The police department is recommending the purchase of a BATT-X armored vehicle using federal forfeiture money. This vehicle meets all the needs and specifications for the Police Department through the U.S. General Services Administration (GSA). GSA is a long-term federal contract that allows commercial companies to sell products and services at fair and reasonable prices. The purpose and advantage to utilizing this contract is that it streamlines the procurement process by offering a pre-negotiated contract with established pricing and terms. This saves time and expense of City staff to competitively solicit and award bids.

The vendor, The Armored Group and GSA have entered into contract GS-07F-9375S for the solicitation of the BATT-X armored vehicle. Staff recommends purchase of this vehicle through the GSA contract in the amount of \$330,150.

In accordance with North Carolina General Statute 143-129(a), City Council is required to authorize all equipment purchases exceeding \$90,000. A budget amendment is recommended to appropriate funding from federal forfeiture seizure money for this purchase in the amount of \$335,000 to cover the vehicle purchase and tag.

RECOMMENDATION

Public Safety Committee is requested to recommend approval to City Council of a budget amendment to appropriate funds, recommend approval of the purchase of a BATT-X armored vehicle and recommend authorization for the City Manager to execute all documents to facilitate this purchase.

Attachments: Budget Amendment BA-2025-13
Quote GSAJJ250325A

**BUDGET AMENDMENT
BA-2025-13**

1. Amendment necessary to designate and appropriate funds received from the Police Department Federal Forfeiture program for the purchase of an armored vehicle.

General Fund:

Revenue:

Restricted Revenue	\$335,000
--------------------	-----------

Expenditure:

Public Safety	\$335,000
---------------	-----------

Adopted this 8th day of April, 2025.

Robert A. Burns, Mayor

Attest:

Bridgette H. Robinson, City Clerk



5221 N. Saddle Rock Drive
 Phoenix, AZ 85018
Contact: Jeremy Johnson
Office: 602-840-2271 Fax: 602-840-6162
Cell: 817-291-4956
Email: jeremy@armoredcars.com

Customer: Monroe Police Department
 450 W. Crowell St
 Monroe, NC 28111

Quote #: GSAJJ250325A Payment Terms: Net 30 Days of Acceptance
 Quote Date: March 25, 2025 Acceptance at TAG Armor Facility
 Tax ID #: 86-09877046 1% Net 10 Available

Terms & Conditions: Net 30 Days-Transfer of Certificate of Origin Upon Acceptance of BATT
 Inspection & Acceptance: TAG Armoring Plant

GSA Contract #: GS-07F-9375S

Item & Options	Pricing
B.A.T.T.(Ballistic Armored Tactical Transport) E	\$ 293,807.25
Diesel Engine Upgrade for BATT	\$ 9,900.00
4 Door BATT Package	\$ 9,776.26
BATT V Pkg: (4) 365/80R20 Tires with 2 Piece Hutchinson Rim, that includes Off Road Suspension Upgrade	\$ 19,181.24
Run Flat Package for BATT V; (4) Run Flats	\$ 8,408.82
LED Roof Mounted Remote Control Spot Light x 2	\$ 3,588.74
Multi Position Hydraulic Ram Package	\$ 16,706.24
Color Back Up Camera	\$ 2,475.00
Gas Needle Ram Pkg	\$ 5,939.99
Radio Prep Package x 2	\$ 1,732.52
Seat Belts for Rear Bench Seats	\$ 1,175.64
Driving Lights with High Intensity x 2	\$ 3,712.48
Total Cost Estimate:	\$ 376,404.18
Discount	\$ (46,254.18)
BATT Cost:	\$ 330,150.00

- *Price Does Not Includes Freight.
- *Estimate does not include any taxes. TAG nor GSA collect Sales Tax.
- *Estimated Total Cost Above does not include DMV Tags or Tire Disposal Fee estimates.
- *Refer to Our GSA Contract # on PO. GS-07F-9375S

ARMOR WARRANTY
24 Months/Unlimited Miles

Jeremy Johnson Authorized Signature
 Director, Law Enforcement Division Monroe Police Department
 The Armored Group, LLC



STAFF REPORT

TO: Public Safety Committee
VIA: Mark Watson, City Manager
DATE: April 7, 2025
FROM: Terry Sholar, Senior Staff Attorney
PREPARED BY: Terry Sholar, Senior Staff Attorney
SUBJECT: Proposed Amendment to Title VII, Chapter 71, Section 71.07 – Roller Skating and Skateboarding in Downtown Monroe

SUMMARY STATEMENT

Request to amend Chapter 71- Traffic Rules; § 71.07 Roller Skating, Skateboarding in Downtown Monroe.

REVIEW

Currently, Section 71.07 of the Monroe Code of Ordinances prohibits roller skating, skateboarding and other similar activities in Downtown Monroe. However, the activities and language used in the ordinance are outdated. In addition, the ordinance has no specific penalty provision making enforcement difficult. The proposed amendment cleans up the language and expands the prohibition to include all public parking lots and all public property in Downtown. It also provides for criminal enforcement as a Class 3 misdemeanor.

The Public Safety Committee Section 71.07 and make a recommendation to City Council regarding approval.

RECOMMENDATION

The Public Safety Committee is requested to review and consider the amendments to Chapter 71 – Traffic Rules, Section 71.07 and make a recommendation to City Council regarding adoption.

Attachment: Proposed Chapter 71 amendments: § 71.07 Ordinance O-2025-13

ORDINANCE TO AMEND CITY OF MONROE CODE OF ORDINANCES
TITLE VII: TRAFFIC CODE
CHAPTER 71: TRAFFIC RULES
O-2025-13

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MONROE THAT TITLE VII, CHAPTER 71 OF THE MONROE ORDINANCES IS HEREBY AMENDED AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Amend § 71.07 by deleting it in its entirety and substituting and replacing it with a new Section 71.07A and B to read as follows:

§ 71.07 ROLLER SKATING and SKATEBOARDING IN DOWNTOWN MONROE.

- A. It shall be unlawful for any person to roller skate, skateboard, or use a hover board in the streets, on a sidewalk, public parking lot, or other public property within the Downtown District as defined in Section 160.01 Downtown District Established and including the following portions of streets south of the Downtown District: Houston Street from Lancaster Avenue to S. Church Street, Parker Street to Houston Street, S. Hayne Street to Houston Street, S. Beasley Street to Houston Street, and Church Street to Houston Street. It shall be unlawful for any parent or guardian to permit their child or child in their care to skate, skateboard, or use a hover board in the area defined herein.

- B. A violation of this section may be punished as a Class 3 misdemeanor and be subject to a maximum fine not to exceed \$500.00 pursuant to G.S. 160A-175 and G.S. 14.4.

Section 2. This Ordinance shall be effective upon final adoption.

Adopted this 8th day of April, 2025.

Attest:

Robert A. Burns, Mayor

Bridgette H. Robinson, City Clerk