



Public Safety Committee
9:00am, Monday, August 10, 2020
Virtual Meeting via Zoom call due to COVID-19 Pandemic
broadcasted live on YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/user/cityofisleofpalms>

MINUTES

1. Call to order

Present: Council members Buckhannon, Ward, and Pounds

Staff Present: Administrator Fragoso, Chief Cornett, Chief Hathaway

Also Present: John Edward Griffith, Trident Construction

2. Approval of previous meeting's minutes – July 6, 2020

Council Member Pounds made a motion to approve, and Council Member Ward seconded the motion. The minutes passed unanimously.

3. Citizens' Comments

The City Clerk read into the record comments submitted to the Public Safety Committee. They can be found on the City's website alongside the agenda for this meeting.

MOTION: Council Member Pounds made a motion to reorder the agenda to allow for the discussion of the change orders to be heard after the update on the Public Safety building. Council Member Buckhannon seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

4. Old/New Business

A. Update on Public Safety Building Rehabilitation Project

John Edward Griffith, Trident Construction, gave an update on the Public Safety rehabilitation project. He said the work is still on schedule to be completed in November and is also on budget.

B. Discussion and consideration of a change order in the amount not to exceed \$30,000 for the purchase and installation of a flood resistant door at the Public Safety Building

Administrator Fragoso said both the architect and the City's owner's representative recommended having the flood-resistant doors installed as part of the project. Mr. Griffith explained the reasoning for the location of the double doors: "Those are your main entry points. With Chief Cornet and Chief Graham and the fire and the police side, those are the community

doors. It is right in the middle of the lobby. It is the easiest and the quickest access for employees and whoever else is coming to visit.”

Mr. Griffith also said the seismic bracing is required. Administrator Fragoso asked Committee members for their approval to move forward on the change orders for these items ahead of the Ways & Means and City Council meetings so as to keep the project on track. She noted these monies will come from the City’s contingency fund, which has not been used to date.

MOTION: Council Member Pounds made a motion to approve the change orders for the double flood doors and the seismic bracing. Council Member Ward seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

5. Old Business

A. Update on Breach Inlet Safety Camera

Chief Cornett reported the project was deferred at the start of the epidemic. However, an additional \$5,000 is now needed for the electrical box for the camera. Further discussion for this additional expense will be held next month after funding can be located in the City budget.

B. Discussion of implementing paid parking on the existing public beach parking zones

Administrator Fragoso said the City has hired Stantec to begin working on changes needed to the sign plan and the ordinance. She also shared with Committee members that changing the times of enforcement (time of year and time of day) could lead to more than \$100,000 in reduced revenue to the City.

After some discussion, Committee members recommended that the time of year in which paid parking is enforced will remain as it is, the times of enforcement at the Front Beach will be 8am - 8pm, and the times of enforcement for the new paid parking areas will be 9am-6pm. The Committee also recommended that parking along 29th Avenue near the Recreation Center be signed as “Recreation Center Parking Only.”

Administrator Fragoso said she and Chief Cornett are still exploring the possibility of residential decals and seasonal passes through the paid parking app. The misuse and illegal reproduction of residential day parking passes was also briefly discussed. Public Safety officers will be looking for illegally reproduced passes more intently.

C. Update and discussion of eliminating parking on the landside of Palm Boulevard between 22nd and 40th avenues due to public safety concerns

Administrator Fragoso said, “We had a meeting with Stantec to identify whether or not eliminating the landside of Palm Boulevard changes the City’s definition of public access parking, and we talked about how the City provides at least three and four times as much parking as it is required by the Beachfront Management Act.” She noted that any changes to the parking on the landside of Palm Boulevard will also prohibit the residents from parking there. Council Member Buckhannon asked if it was possible to see if the setback for parking can be increased in that area.

5. New Business

A. Discussion and consideration of the purchase of beach patrol vehicle (ATV) with plow attachment in an amount not to exceed \$20,000 [FY21 Budget, Hospitality Tax Fund, Police Department, Capital Outlay, \$20,000, pg. 21, ln. 21]

Chief Cornett said this purchase will replace the Bobcat that was used to fill holes on the beach. This new ATV will include a front plow attachment used to fill holes. The quotes included in the meeting packed are all under budget.

MOTION: Council Member Pounds made a motion to approve the request, and Council Member Buckhannon seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

B. Discussion of pedestrian crosswalks and intersection safety

Chief Cornett said that any new signage at the crosswalks and intersection will need to be approved by SCDOT. He said he will reach out to them about that signage and also the inconsistent stop lines at the crosswalks. He will also step up enforcement in the area of 21st Avenue.

C. Discussion of speed limits on side streets

Chief Cornett said that the speed limit in residential areas is 30mph even if unposted as dictated by State law. He will contact SCDOT about the process needed to lower the speed limit on the side streets.

D. Discussion of Front Beach loading zone and parking

Council Member Buckhannon said Front Beach business owners have asked if the loading zone can be designated for after hours parking. Chief Cornett said that if the City owns that road that change can be made with restriping and a sign indicating it is a loading zone during designated hours. He will ask the businesses what times they are receiving deliveries. Administrator Fragoso will look into the cost of restriping.

6. Highlights of Departmental Reports

A. Fire Department – Chief Graham

Chief Hathaway noted there were 20 less calls for service this July than there were last July. He reported their two new employees are doing well so far and that staff participated in a tabletop emergency operations exercise in July.

B. Police Department – Chief Cornett

Chief Cornett reported there were 1,680 calls for service, 1,201 parking tickets written, 115 incident reports, and 145 charges made in July. He reported on a couple of internal personnel changes and continued improvements in Dispatch.

He asked the Committee to consider changes to the alarm ordinance as he is concerned the permit requirement for monitored alarms may result in people not getting alarms installed on their homes.

8. Miscellaneous Business

The next meeting of the Public Safety Committee will be Monday, September 14, 2020 at 9am.

9. Adjournment

Council Member Pounds made a motion to adjourn, and Council Member Buckhannon seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 10:11am.

Respectfully submitted,

Nicole DeNeane
City Clerk