

## PUBLIC SAFETY STANDING COMMITTEE

**Regular Meeting**  
**Oak Harbor Fire Department**  
**July 15, 2010**

### **ATTENDANCE**

The meeting began at 7:00 a.m., with the following in attendance: Council members Munns, Dudley, Campbell (for Council Member Severns), Mayor Slowik and City Administrator Schmidt  
Staff present: Police Chief Rick Wallace, Fire Chief Mark Soptich, Admin. Asst. Romy Velasquez  
Others present: None

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

None present for comment.

### **REVIEW OF JUNE 17, 2010 MEETING NOTES**

No questions or comments.

### **POLICE**

#### **Citizens on Patrol (COP)**

Chief Wallace reported the all volunteer group was formed in 1993 to actively patrol the City. The volunteers act as an extra set of eyes and ears for the department. They are provided with training, a vehicle, portable radios and cell phones. They conduct vacation watches, check vacant homes and assist during school, at parades/special events, with handicapped parking violations and searches for missing persons.

#### *Committee Discussion*

In response to Mr. Dudley, the COP Board meets on the first Tuesday of the month. The department continuously recruits new members.

#### **Community Advisory Board (CAB)**

Chief Wallace reported CAB was established in 1991, meets every 2 months, and their duties are to: 1) promote public awareness, seek public input on service/programs; 2) appraise/make recommendations to Mayor, Council and Police Chief concerning police protection/service; and 3) review and make recommendations regarding matters referred to CAB by Mayor, Council or Police Chief.

#### *Committee Discussion*

None

#### **Diversity**

Chief Wallace reported on the police department's diversity in personnel.

#### *Committee Discussion*

None

### **FIRE**

#### **Recent Fires**

Chief Soptich reported the residential fire on SW 2nd Street [05.19] is still under investigation. Since June 17, cooking fires and discarded cigarettes contributed to building fires, resulting in property loss of \$2,000, and mutual aid was provided to North Whidbey Fire & Rescue and NAS. Four permits were issued for fireworks stands. As in previous years, fire crews were located inside and outside the public fireworks display. In 2009 there were 1339 incidents and, as of July 14, 2010 there were 669 incidents.

### Committee Discussion

In response to Mrs. Munns, there were minor grass fires over the 4th of July Holiday. In response to Mayor Slowik, Chief Soptich said the department is looking into the apparatus responding to an emergency incident that occurred during the 4th of July parade. In response to Mr. Campbell, Chief Wallace said the department meets with US Postal Service, UPS, FedEx and others to notify them of alternate routes/delivery times during the parade.

Mr. Dudley asked about the investigative outcome on the Subway restaurant fire, and asked how mutual aid and automatic aid in 2010 compare to 2009. The Subway fire was a set fire, individuals were interviewed, and the incident is still under investigation. In 2009, there were 186 mutual aid and automatic aid incidents. In 2010 and through July 15th, there were 107 mutual aid and automatic aid incidents. An explanation of mutual and automatic aid incidents and how the program operates will be provided at the next PSSC meeting.

Mr. Campbell asked if sprinklers are required for home assisted living occupancies. They are not required in the 2009 International Fire Code (IFC) for I-4, R-2 and R-4 type occupancies. Mr. Dudley asked for an update on Lava Lounge. There appears to be an issue between the owner and the sprinkler company. The fire department continues to conduct spot checks. Chief Wallace said the number of complaints is down at Lava Lounge.

### **Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) - Update**

Chief Soptich reported the department applied for 2 grants: 1) \$225,000 for a rescue rig, and 2) \$166,000 for an exhaust system to be located in the fire station's apparatus bay. Federal grants will be awarded in September/October. The matching requirement is 10 percent of the total award.

### Committee Discussion

Mrs. Munns asked if there were deadlines for installation of the exhaust system and Chief Soptich said there were none. Mrs. Munns asked what is expected of council members during disasters. Copies of the Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan (CEMP) CD were sent to city administration, councilmembers, department heads, and administrative assistants. A version for the public is also on the city's website. CEMP CDs will be sent to council members next week and a tour of the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) will be conducted at the next PSSC meeting. Remaining council members are invited to tour the EOC.

### **Police Chief / Fire Chief Comments**

No comments

**NEXT MEETING: AUGUST 19, 2010**

**MEETING ADJOURNED: 7:55 A.M., JULY 15, 2010**