

**MINUTES OF COMMUNITY ADVISORY BOARD MEETING
TUESDAY DECEMBER 4TH, 2018 AT 4:15 P.M.**

Board Members Present:

Chair Gene Barner, Nora Daniel, Randy DeVries, Cheryl Lawler, Les MacCormick, Marty Malloy, Bob Olson & Andrew Lof

Board Members Not Present:

Susan Gerard

Department Staff Present:

Captain Mike Bailey, Captain Bill Wilkie & Meg Massey

Others in Attendance:

One Community Member

The meeting was called to order by Chair Barner at 4:15 p.m. in the Police Department Conference Room.

AGENDA TOPICS

JUNE 12TH, 2018 MINUTES:

Minutes from the September 11th meeting were unavailable. It was moved and seconded to postpone approval of minutes until the next meeting.

PERSONNEL / DEPARTMENT UPDATES:

Captains Bailey & Wilkie gave the following report:

➤ **Staffing & Department Updates**

Captain Bailey gave the following report:

The City, in looking at its IT structure, separated from the Oak Harbor School District. That led the way to install a new phone system, as the previous one was managed by the school district. Previously, most of the calls received were redirected to ICOM. Now callers have the option to connect directly to ICOM. This has reduced our incoming calls by about 90%.

Animal Control Officer (ACO) position tested September 1st, Greg Woodward, currently one of our corrections officers was selected in October, with a tentative start date of January 1st.

WAIF contract was approved by Council on September 26th, which will reduce our costs by about \$78,000, and begins November 1st. The holding facility building is in terrible shape, and our lease does not end until May 31, 2019. Under the new contract with WAIF we transport dogs to Coupeville when necessary. We have developed a great partnership with WAIF.

The department has two bargaining units, one for the commissioned staff and one for the non-commissioned staff. The commissioned staff, Police Officers, have powers of arrest through Washington State. The non-commissioned staff includes the Corrections Officers and Records staff. The corrections officers have partial commission and can issue civil infractions, but do not have powers of arrest. The records staff are not commissioned.

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Scott Johnson was hired in October. He had worked for the Department of Defense. He started at the academy on November 13th and will graduate on March 27th. Our budget provides for 26 officers, Scott brings us to 24, so we are still down 2 positions.

We opened these positions up internally to non-commissioned employees and both Dave Faagau and Jeff Rang have successfully completed the testing process. They are expected to enter the academy on February 5th and graduate on June 13th.

Sergeant Carter is retiring in January. We will do an assessment center in early summer to fill the sergeant vacancy. In the interim, the Officer In Charge (OIC) will act as acting sergeant, and we have set a schedule to rotate the OIC's to cover Sgt. Carter's squad.

On the non-commissioned side, when Chief was hired he was tasked with reevaluating the department structure. One topic was the Jail which was built in 1954. Our jail staff has done a great job with very limited resources. The options were to maintain the status quo, hire additional correction officers for proper coverage, or close our jail and contract with Island County Sheriff Office (ICSO). At the November 20th City Council meeting Chief was directed to look at contracting with ICSO. The County Commissioners considered the contract on November 21st but did not take any action. Tomorrow, Chief, City Administration and two Council members will meet with them to address any questions. Statewide, three quarter of county jails house city inmates. All 7 jail staff were notified months ago that we would be looking at these options. As Greg, Dave and Jeff transfer out, that leaves 4 employees to place. Two could be hired by ICSO and two could be retained for a new position as a Police Support Officer (PSO). This new position would assist with transporting prisoners to ICSO, community events, evidence, ACO, etc., a multitude of tasks. With the savings from closing the jail we would have the ability to stay within budget and hire 3 additional officers. We could devote officers to traffic, DEO, and special services.

OLD BUSINESS:

➤ **Citizen Academy**

Captain Bailey stated the Citizens Academy has finished. Les, Marty and Nora all participated. It is a great tool to educate the public on what officers do on a daily basis. The other members of the committee were encouraged to participate in the academy next fall as it gives a great overview of the department. There academy started with 23 participants and 19 / 20 completed the program.

➤ **Fence**

Captain Bailey stated a fence and electronic gates are installed and operational. ICOM contributed to the cost of gates. We are pleased to finally have a secured parking lot.

NEW BUSINESS:

➤ **Committee Update**

Please welcome Andrew Löff as the student member of the committee. Andrew was appointed by Mayor Severns at the October 16th Council Meeting.

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➤ **Meeting Dates**

The committee proposed changing the meetings from quarterly to every other month. Discussion included but was not limited to the changes the department is facing, as well as the path to accreditation, Mr. Malloy made a motion to meet every other month, and amend as needed to fulfill scheduling requirements. The motion was seconded by Ms. Lawler and passed unanimously.

GENERAL QUESTIONS / COMMENTS:

Ms. Massey stated she needed to get everyone current on CAB ID cards and committee polo shirts.

Mr. Malloy asked who would fill the Drug Recognition Expert (DRE) position when Sgt. Carter retires? Captain Bailey stated Sgt. Carter was the only certified DRE on the island. DRE was requested very rarely, maybe once a year. Know that marijuana has been legalized, the training is not being offered by the state. May look at it at a later date once fully staffed.

Mr. Devries about the training required by the new law 1940 and that he had heard some agencies are losing officers because of the costs of the training? Captain Bailey stated he and Chief are attending a meeting on Thursday at the academy about the curriculum and how to implement it. The law removes "with malice" from the definition, harder to prosecute "with malice", was harder to get convictions. Any officer involved shooting, make sure you have an outside agency do the investigation, as we did with the SMART team. Currently 2 hours Crisis Intervention Training (CIT) is required to be taken annually. Mental health is a huge issue and the de-escalation training is very helpful.

Mr. Olson stated some business owners had stated that officers seem to be harassing the semi truck drivers about their deliveries. Most of the businesses don't have loading docks, and some drivers will pull partially onto the sidewalk to allow vehicles to pass. One owner wants to approach the Mayor about a cut out of about 50 feet for such deliveries.

Mr. Olson stated the speed limit on Pioneer is 25 but people tend to go 30 – 35? Can we treat it like a school zone and lower it to 20? Captain Bailey stated loading zones and speed limits are set by engineering, not the police department. There is a Traffic Calming Citizen Action Request that can be submitted.

Mr. Olson stated Main Street posted 15 minute parking signs, not enforceable, just to do counts. 7 signs were put up, 2 were stolen. Counts were done with and without the signs posted, and it was noted if people seemed to observe the time limit. Based on initial counts, it appeared to be effective. Will probably approach City to make permanent.

Chair Barner encouraged the committee to be proactive in making contacts out in the community.

ADJOURN:

Ms. Daniel made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Mr. Olson seconded.
Meeting adjourned at 5:21 p.m.

NEXT MEETING:

The next CAB meeting will be February 12th.

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Prepared by Meg Massey