

City of Lodi Public Safety Committee Meeting
Minutes of 05/03/2022

1.) Call to Order

Chair Hansen called the Public Safety Committee meeting to order at 4:00pm.

Committee members present: Eric Hansen, Tim Ripp, Nick Strasser

Others present: Mayor Ann Groves-Lloyd, Brenda Ayers, Melissa Randall-O'Neil, Wayne Smith, Jonathan Stefonek (remote).

2.) Meeting Etiquette

Hansen-forgone, no public input.

3.) Public Input- None

4.) Approval of Minutes from April 6th, 2022

MOTION (Strasser/Ripp) to approve the minutes from the April 6th, 2022, meeting. Roll call vote taken- Aye (Hansen, Ripp, Strasser); Nay (0). **Motion carried.**

5.) Building Permit Monthly Report

The building permit monthly report (new format) reviewed. Hansen noted NSFD on Ellie Rae. Strasser asked if Utilities paid permit fees as the WWTP had a \$30 permit fee charge. Ayers advised it looked like the city did charge the fee, and while the city is typically exempt, the fee may have been charged if Strander's applied for a permit. Ayers can follow-up with building inspector on this.

6.) ECCJMC Monthly Report

Ayers explained new format of report which shows money retained by City of Lodi only, so you know what you are comparing month to month and what the city retains. Hansen noted first quarter of 2022 higher than first few months in previous three years. Smith stated this is likely a result of being fully staffed and having more traffic/contacts in the city post Covid shutdown.

7.) EMS Monthly Report

No reports for review/no discussion took place.

8.) Fire Department Monthly Report

Chief's report reviewed. Strasser advised as of last meeting, they were targeting May 17th for new Engine. Engine 10 is in Harmony Grove while highway construction taking place. Crew members residing in Harmony Grove would be responding to the Engine and calls there. Strasser also noted the Sheriff's Department is issuing citations in the construction zone, & responders must go around unless they are responding to a location within the construction. Commission curious on status of new fire station site and Strasser recommended a brief status update meeting with West Point and Town of Lodi. Groves-Lloyd advised while currently in a waiting mode, a meeting could take place.

9.) Police Department Monthly Report

Asset & K9 Forfeiture balance remains unchanged since May of 2019. Strasser asked if we had any inclination to close the K9 Fund and discussion occurred on options for the funds to include fencing at a dog park, covering fees incurred by the City for animals turned over to the Lodi Vet & transported to Columbia County Humane and law enforcement purposes/expenditures currently not budgeted for or covered by grant. Discussion also occurred on the cost & startup of a law enforcement K9, as well as how requests are handled for a law enforcement K9 to respond to a call in the City of Lodi. Strasser advised if there is no intent to get a K9 in the city, a future agenda item to discuss getting this account off the books would be helpful. For expenditures,

Smith addressed a line item of concern, LE Wages/Overtime. Strasser noted while budgeting, the hope was that part-time hours would offset overtime hours. Smith noted the department has worked in depth case investigations, completed jail transports and case reports that need to be sent to court the next day. Smith also addressed overtime costs for subpoena's & trials and mandated training. The department still needs to staff upcoming events and while overtime was being monitored, the line item would likely go over budget & Smith hoped to offset that cost in other areas. Another line item higher than average for natural gas is due to rising costs of fuel. There was a discrepancy for line-item Minor Equipment which should be corrected by next month. Smith also advised Bar Buddies applied for & received grant and that amount should show on upcoming reports. Call numbers totaled 557 calls per day by April month end which averages out to 19.89 calls per day.

10.) Discussion and Possible Recommendation Regarding Approval of Renewal of Retail Alcohol Licenses

Smith advised background checks were run on all agents/businesses and there were no concerns, or reasons to deny on ordinance or demerit points. **MOTION** (Strasser/Ripp) to recommend approval of renewal of retail alcohol licenses to Common Council. Roll call vote taken- Aye (Hansen, Ripp, Strasser); Nay (0). **Motion carried.**

11.) Discussion and Possible Recommendation Regarding an Ordinance Amending Chapter 325-3 (B)(3) of the City of Lodi Code of Ordinances to Change the Street Parking Limit from 24 Hours to 48 Hours

MOTION (Strasser/Ripp) to recommend, to Common Council, the ordinance amending 325-(B)(3) striking 24 hours, and replacing it with 48 hours, **excluding weekends**. Additional language was added to exclude weekends so that residents and anyone coming home for the weekends were not committing a citable offense parking in front of their own homes. Smith had no issues with the addition and amendment to ordinance. Roll call vote taken- Aye (Hansen, Ripp, Strasser); Nay (0). **Motion carried.**

12.) Discussion Regarding Golf Cart Ordinance

Hansen presented draft document/Golf Cart Ordinance which uses some points brought up at last Council meeting. Council requested this item be sent back to Public Safety for further discussion. Items brought up that should be clarified in ordinance are daylight hours and what those hours are, passengers, restricting operation on sidewalks/multi use pathways and whether Chapter 325 covers/addresses safety items. Strasser discussed concerns on limiting use to and from golf course only and felt that if we were to permit golf carts on the roadway, it should be permitted for all. Smith did note additional privilege for some if restricted to and from course only, as well as the police department stopping out with golf cart operators to verify that they are driving to and from the course only. Groves-Lloyd discussed safety concerns, especially in busier areas and parking lots such as Kwik Trip if we were to open this up to all. Ripp wasn't as concerned with operation to and from the golf course but did present safety concerns with traffic and golf carts moving down all city roadways as well as to and from locations with possible impairment and unlicensed drivers operating carts. Ripp advised regardless of what Public Safety decides to do, minimum safety features, such as lighting & slow-moving vehicle signage should be required. Hansen doesn't see much change in opening use to and from golf course but felt that if use was opened to all, you would see more usage trailering and running errands. Strasser asked if we as a city were trying to solve a golf course problem and needed additional information on how many people this was affecting to understand the extent of this problem. Hansen recommended the committee do research on course issues and how many carts and citizens are involved to bring back to the next meeting.

13.) Discussion Regarding ATV/UTV Ordinance

Smith advised currently, you cannot operate an ATV/UTV on any state highway or in the City of Lodi. The only place you can operate is where a Municipality has created an ordinance to allow it. Discussion at last meeting was to allow ATV/UTV usage for the city and school while conducting business. Points were brought up on ATV/UTV's being used on a volunteer basis to assist at games/event and being used at special events, such as the fair. Strasser recommended making the wording broader in city ordinance, explicitly allowing ATV/UTV use to the school on official school business, city on official city business and may be permitted with any special event and

for other events at discretion of the police chief. Ayers did advise the special events permit was being modified that could include ATV/UTV usage.

14.) Discussion and Possible Recommendation Regarding No Mow May

Groves-Lloyd will present resolution at Common Council May 17th for approval. The city would not be citing for overgrown grass during the month of May and would encourage residents to leave what they can for bees & pollination. Ripp noted multiple other communities around the state are adopting this, the state is leading the way nationally and encouraged the city to be on board. **MOTION** (Ripp/Strasser) to recommend No Mow May to Common Council. Roll call vote taken- Aye (Hansen, Ripp, Strasser); Nay (0). **Motion carried.**

15.) Discussion Regarding Police Body Cameras

Due to meeting time constraint, Smith advised committee to stop over for a body cam demo if interested.

16.) Next Meeting Date & Time

The next regularly scheduled Public Safety Committee meeting is June 7th, 2022, at 4:00pm

17.)Adjourn

MOTION (Strasser/Ripp) to adjourn at 5:08pm. Roll call vote taken- Aye (Hansen, Ripp, Strasser); Nay (0). **Motion carried.**

Minutes by Melissa Randall-O'Neil, Administrative Assistant, Lodi Police Department