

Missoula City Council Public Safety and Health Committee Minutes

November 10, 2021

10:45 AM

City Council Chambers

140 W. Pine Street, Missoula , MT

Members present: Stacie Anderson (chair), John P. Contos, Mirtha Becerra, Heather Harp, Julie Merritt, Amber Sherrill, Sandra Vasecka, Heidi West

Members absent: Jordan Hess, Gwen Jones, Jesse Ramos, Bryan von Lossberg

1. ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS

1.1 Roll Call

1.2 Approval of the Minutes

Approved as submitted

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

Matts Larson commented there is one open or sustained complaint against PD for not following video camera policy. It is important for public safety and officer safety. He wants a tally the number of police officers on the roll that are CIT or crisis team qualified. It should be a goal that each new officer be certified for CIT. This is helpful than riot gear and other things that have been purchased last year. There is a lot of things going on in the community with shootings and MPD and the ciity has not released any video to his knowledge. Montana is 9th on officer involved shootings per capita and he feels they are hiding the coroner's inquest at the county.

Stacie Anderson encouraged him to follow up with the county attorney's office since city council has no authority over the county.

3. COMMITTEE BUSINESS

3.1 Confirmation of Police Officers

Chief Jaeson White presented the confirmation of police officers Michael Haderlie, Daniel Kozlowski and Payton Holmgren. They have successfully completed their training requirement and their one year at the Police Department.

Stacie Anderson asked what the current employment status is. Chief White said there are currently there are one hundred seventeen authorized positions. There are four officers in the academy, three other officers in FTO, but there are still four vacancies. The next academy class is in January so they plan on hiring in December.

Discussion was made on the CIT program and getting as many people through the program as possible. Chief White agreed and said they use all the slots that are offered to them and they also provide instructor core to the academy.

Sandra Vasecka made the recommended motion to confirm the three police officers

Mirth Becerra wanted to know the recommended number per capita. Based on staffing study, looked at the demand load based on calls for service. They made changes on the schedule and zoning. The results of the report was looking at current strength and how the new model functions and do organizational changes. Because of the delay in getting new officers into the academy, they have to sit on vacancies, so in order to staff 117.

Mirtha Becerra asked about recruiting diversity demographically. Chief White said they initiated a new recruitment program and have gone to a better online platform.

Mirtha asked about CIT training and wanted to know if the state academy is looking to incorporate that training. Chief White said they receive some training, but the CIT course in Missoula is a 40 hour certification course.

Matts Larson talked about the Missoulain article and there was 50 officers twenty years ago and it is the largest union in the city, 35% of the budget. He wants is to divert funding to CIT training and make it happen more than once a year. He wants to know when the psych evaluations are going to happen for the three officers and when they are going to pass the certification at the DOJ.

Moved by: Sandra Vasecka

Confirm Officers Michael Haderlie, Daniel Kozlowski and Payton Holmgren

AYES: (8): Stacie Anderson, John Contos, Mirtha Becerra, Heather Harp, Julie Merritt, Amber Sherrill, Sandra Vasecka, and Heidi West

ABSENT: (4): Jordan Hess, Gwen Jones, Jesse Ramos, and Bryan von Lossberg

Vote results: Approved (8 to 0)

3.2 Purchase of decontamination equipment

Chief White talked about purchasing decontamination equipment. It will be used for the uniforms and gear. It is a UV light used to kill viruses and bacteria on the equipment. The money comes direct from a grant that they received in June 2020. The company they are going with is a Missoula-based company.

Julie Merritt made the recommended motion.

Sandra Vasecka asked about a different device such as a UV Wand. Chief White said that instead of further handling the gear with a wand, the ability to not have to handle the material gives it a higher level of safety.

Matts Larson believes this is superfluous equipment and overpriced hocus pocus gear and get a bid out. He feels you can get cheaper equipment.

Kyla Tripp made public comment on the UV wand. She feels the spending is excessive. She feels it would be better to spend money on PPE. She is a sterile compounding specialist and is aware of material handling and UV sanitation and the same thing can be accomplished with hand sanitizer or a UV wand. You are not decreasing touch contamination.

Chief White has reached out to other agencies who have used this device and have done their due diligence in research.

Moved by: Julie Merritt

Approve the purchase of de-contamination equipment from Kart Kleen of Missoula, Montana for \$36,850.00.

AYES: (7): Stacie Anderson, John Contos, Mirtha Becerra, Heather Harp, Julie Merritt, Amber Sherrill, and Heidi West

NAYS: (1): Sandra Vasecka

ABSENT: (4): Jordan Hess, Gwen Jones, Jesse Ramos, and Bryan von Lossberg

Vote results: Approved (7 to 1)

4. ADJOURNMENT

Adjourned