



**Public Safety Committee
October 29, 2015
MINUTES**

Present: Aldermen Hawkins, Pukaite; Police Chief Graff, Fire Chief Bialk, Executive Assistant Kowalchuk, press and interested public

Absent: Alderman Leszczynski

Others Present: Steve Doberfuhl, Erick Hackert

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m.

1) Approve meeting minutes of September 22, 2015

Moved by Alderman Hawkins, seconded by Alderman Pukaite to approve the meeting minutes of September 22, 2015. The motion passed by voice acclamation.

2) Deer Culling Discussion

Chief Graff laid out the history of the city's participation in deer culling programs including annual costs, service provider changes, and number of deer harvested. He advised that citizen complaints about the program itself (not the service providers) have increased significantly, including some aldermen expressing their say in culling locations chosen.

Discussion of the proposed 2016 contract and its changes included the decreasing numbers of deer harvested over past years, the lack of public outcry for deer removal, and the fact that the actual number of deer in Mequon is unknown. It was noted that full commitment of this program by the Common Council is currently lacking and questions were raised about reaching out to the University of Stevens Point for any potential game management insight they may have to offer. Committee members expressed a desire for additional information on the number of vehicle/deer accidents.

Moved by Alderman Hawkins, seconded by Alderman Pukaite to table this item for further discussion to a special meeting to be held just before the next Common Council meeting. The motion passed by voice acclamation.

3) Emergency Medical Dispatch (EMD) Update

Chief Graff's update of the Emergency Medical Dispatch program included explaining Mequon's total cost is \$40,000; however there is a commitment from St. Mary's to pay \$20,000. St. Mary's is additionally trying to come up with the \$20,000 balance so Mequon would not have to foot any of this expense.

In a meeting the chief attended this morning, he learned that the sheriff feels they are more qualified to handle such calls and will no longer transfer the calls to Mequon. This is in addition to the fact that the Sheriff's Department takes Mequon's cell calls and then transfers

maybe 60-65% of those calls causing a 1.5–3 minute delay on average. The chief shared the concerns he raised during that meeting.

Fire Chief Bialk expressed that he believed that Aurora was also picking up some of Mequon's EMD costs; he will work with Chief Graff to gain clarity.

Chairman Pukaite suggested that possibly the city administrator and a common council member will need to sit down with the sheriff to discuss the service concerns mentioned. Chief Graff added that cell phone providers have the technology to route cell calls directly to municipalities, however, the county has to agree to this. He suggested a joint resolution with Cedarburg, Grafton and Mequon. Chairman Pukaite stated that she would join his efforts bringing the succinct concerns of the three communities forward to county supervisors as well.

4) Adjourn

Moved by Alderman Hawkins, seconded by Alderman Pukaite to adjourn at 7:20 pm. The motion passed by voice acclamation.

Respectfully Submitted,
Diane Kowalchuk
Executive Assistant
Committee Approved 12-14-15