REDMOND CITY COUNCIL PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING

Council Conference Room 15670 NE 85th Street, Redmond, Washington Tuesday, March 26, 2013 4:30 p.m.

Council

David Carson, Chair Kim Allen Hank Margeson John Stilin (Attending Council member)

Staff

Ron Gibson, Police Chief Joe McGrath, Finance Officer, Fire Steve Eastham, Senior Systems Analyst Erik Scairpon, Police Commander Michelle M. McGehee, MMC, City Clerk

Meeting Summary

Convened: 4:29 p.m. Adjourned 5:39 p.m.

Committee Chair David Carson opened the meeting, reviewed the agenda items, and noted Council members in attendance.

Consolidation Feasibility Study Re: REDCOM/NORCOM

Mr. Steve Eastham, Senior Systems Analyst, and Police Commander Erik Scairpon reported on the feasibility study of moving the Redmond Fire dispatch from the Northeast Regional Public Safety Communications Agency (NORCOM) to the Redmond Police Communications Center (REDCOM). In January 2013, the process started with viewing the previous studies on this issue. Commander Scairpon said that the most difficult part of this change is for Redmond to keep the connection with the mutual aid partners. The plan is that by May or June 2013, the Council will make an informed decision on the status and direction of the fire communications for the City.

NORCOM was created in 2007 and there was a big push to join. Redmond chose to be a subscriber instead of joining. Three other agencies are planning on leaving NORCOM-Eastside Fire and Rescue, Snoqualmie Pass Fire, and Duvall Fire. With these agencies leaving, costs will likely go up. In December 2014, Redmond Fire's contract with NORCOM expires; however, there may be a need for an extension of the contract until the Redmond program is up and running.

Benefits of joining REDCOM:

- a unified CAD system for Fire, Police, and EMS,
- long-term financial planning,
- reduced response time,
- flexibility to make adjustments, and
- control of costs and technology.

Challenges of switching from NORCOM to REDCOM:

- develop new policies and procedures,
- train new and existing employees,
- up front capital costs, and
- maintaining automatic mutual aid.

Initial Conclusions:

- CAD to CAD is feasible but risky because of the unknowns,
- unsure of the implementation timeline,
- possibility of large unidentified costs,
- increase in governance and control, and
- higher service level and safety.

Commander Scairpon stated it would be important to have an industry specialist review the process to help look for pitfalls.

General discussion ensued regarding the CAD system and how it will interface with other fire departments.