

**REDMOND CITY COUNCIL  
PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE**

Thursday, May 21, 2009

Meeting Summary

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**Council**

David Carson  
Kim Allen  
Pat Vache

**Staff**

Larry Gainer, Deputy Police Chief  
Tom Norton, Deputy Fire Chief  
Russ Albertson, Fire Lieutenant  
Robert Schneider, Ed.D, Emergency Preparedness  
Manager  
Kristi Wilson, Police Commander  
Elizabeth McAnlis, Deputy City Clerk

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Convened: 8:30 a.m.

Adjourned: 9:45 a.m.

Chair David Carson opened the meeting.

**Department Updates**

**POLICE**

Commander Kristi Wilson updated the Committee on Police Department staffing: two new entry level police officers started on Monday, May 18, 2009; one additional police officer will start Monday, June 1, 2009; lateral testing for Lead Dispatcher position to begin the week of Monday, May 25, 2009; and the Police Department should be fully staffed as of June 2009.

Commander Wilson also stated that an over-hire authorization request will be presented to City Council at the regular meeting on Tuesday, June 2, 2009. Approval of the request will allow the Police Department to hire up to three additional police officers in order to eliminate lag time between termination/retirement of current officers and the hiring and training of new officers.

Deputy Police Chief Larry Gainer updated the committee on the Eastside Public Safety Communications Agency (EPSCA) transfer to Redmond, approved at the May 5, 2009, regular meeting; employees have moved into the new Redmond location and have started to settle in. Deputy Gainer also updated the committee on the E911 Viper project: full digitalization of the Redmond E911 station has been completed and staff is currently in training; NORCOM: 12 positions built into the Redmond office to be completed by Wednesday, July 1, 2009 (training facility and back-up center capabilities included); and the renovation of the fire arms range is almost complete – the range is usable, but still undergoing HVAC updates to be on par with OSHA standards.

## **FIRE**

Deputy Fire Chief Tom Norton presented information gathered to address the Fire Department (FD) Overtime Budget; specifically addressing a Time Use Analysis examining the types of time off causing overtime. Deputy Norton's presentation included:

- working with Fire Prevention and Finance to track overtime in eTimesheets;
- Fire Station No. 17 levy funds and staffing;
- “move-ups” resulting from changes in the FD staffing structure (Chief Fuller's move to the Police Department as interim Chief, and resulting FD staffing changes);
- wellness programs to promote reduction of sick leave use; and
- compilation of a 16-month study of daily reports (currently being compiled and analyzed by Deputy Norton).

General discussion ensued regarding possible solutions to cut down on overtime usage with FD ranking changes, Fire Station No. 17 timeline/staffing/levy funds, and “move-downs” in FD staffing upon Chief Fuller's return to the department.

Fire Lieutenant Russ Albertson and Deputy Norton expressed interest in the Police Department's over-hire authorization request. Discussion ensued regarding the possibilities of a similar program for the FD, a “Drop Program” used in other FD jurisdictions, and Council support for exploration into such a program.

Deputy Norton also briefed the Committee on a recent Police/Fire/Human Resources training session, led by Interim Fire Chief Bob Oliver, on leadership and self-assessment, the success of the training, and possible future trainings.

## **EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS**

Mr. Robert Schneider, Ed.D, Emergency Preparedness Manager, updated the Committee on current department activities:

- approval of a limited-duration employee at the Tuesday, May 19, 2009, regular meeting;
- Americorps/VISTA Grant: applied for and received approval for two funded positions at the City of Redmond; currently in development of the application process with Human Resources; possible development of the positions as multi-function employees; and
- Regional involvement of Dr. Schneider – on the University of Washington (UW) advisory board for UW Northwest Center for Occupational Health and Safety.