

PUBLIC SAFETY SUB-COMMITTEE MEETING
MINUTES
April 1, 2022

The Public Safety Committee meeting was called to order by Councilwoman Renee Hardman at 7:00 a.m. The following were present: David Edgar, Mark McCulloch, Craig Leu, Rachelle Long, Mike Whitsell, Lynne Twedt, Jessica Spoden, Darin Riney, Tim Stiles, Jody Hayes, Chris Scott, Rob Dehnert, Aubyn Giampolo, Anthony Giampolo, Dan Jansen, Greg Hudson, Renee Hardman, Britt Gagne, & Emily Sellner.

REVIEW OF LAST MEETING MINUTES

- There was consensus by the committee to approve the meeting minutes of February 4, 2022 as distributed.

FACILITIES/EQUIPMENT

- Chief Leu advised that the new fire apparatus is scheduled to be delivered next month.

CODES/ORDINANCES

- Honorary Naming Policy
 - A draft copy of the Honorary Roadway Naming Policy was created and distributed in the packet.
 - Lynne reported that two interns (Jenna & Kyra) in Development Services prepared the packet. Councilwoman Hardman gave kudos to those staff members for making the packet so clear and easy to understand.
 - There are a few outstanding issues/questions that require additional discussion at this meeting.
 - Topic I: Sign blade
 - Staff recommendations are:
 - Rectangular signage hung either horizontally or vertically. No additional expenses will be incurred with this solution as the signs will fit on existing poles.
 - Signage to be hung in a mid-block location as to not create confusion on between the honorary signs and regular street signs. This will also make the signage more visible to both vehicles and pedestrians alike.
 - Councilwoman Hardman, Councilman Hudson, and Ms. Long were all in agreement for this recommendation.
 - Topic II: Deceased and residency
 - Staff recommendations are:
 - No requirement of the honoree to be deceased.
 - No requirement of residency.
 - Mayor Trimble believes there should be a minimum residency requirement of 25 years. Councilman Hudson advised that, while he agrees with a residency requirement, he doesn't believe it needs to be 25 years.

- Councilwoman Hardman wants to create guidelines and not have to make changes to the policy every few years. She believes the honoree should be a longstanding member of the community as this is an uncommon situation.
- Councilwoman Hardman and Councilman Hudson both agreed on a ten-year residency requirement.
- Topic III: Petition
 - Staff recommendation is:
 - Petitions are required and must have 40% support of properties that touch the roadway segment that is to be honorarily named.
 - The applicant is required to obtain the signatures
 - Public Services staff will send notice to all individuals within roadway segment for comment, if they choose to provide any, at the Public Services Sub-Committee meeting.
 - Councilwoman Hardman and Councilman Hudson both agreed on the above listed recommendations.
- Topic IV: Sign sunset
 - Background information:
 - Public Services reports that the lifespan of a road sign is approximately 10 years.
 - Staff recommendations are:
 - Display the sign for ten years.
 - No option to renew. This would allow for other applications to be submitted for the same area and give other applicants the opportunity to be honored in that location.
 - Ms. Long voiced her concerns about the lack of diversity in the naming of streets, parks, and trails in West Des Moines. She pointed out that none of the aforementioned items are named after anyone of color. Additionally, she added that if someone can check off all the boxes and is deserving on the honorary naming, said honor should remain in place into perpetuity. Ms. Long went on to say that this is an uncommon situation that hasn't been done before in the history of West Des Moines, which is over 125 years. She would like to ensure that the descendants of the honoree are able to see the signage for years to come as that's part of their legacy. She believes that once the honoree has earned the honor, it should be a permanent honor. A ten-year honor with no option to renew seems like an appeasement. She also added that she doesn't believe the family of the honoree should have to pay for the signage as money shouldn't be a barrier to them to keep the honor in place.
 - Councilman Hudson questioned how the application process is set up. Lynne advised that it's not extensive and it is being built off the information that's in the packet. The application is submitted by the applicant, reviewed from an emergency services standpoint, and then goes to the Public Services Sub-Committee to determine if it meets criteria.
 - Councilwoman Hardman reported that she is struggling with the current recommendations on the table because she doesn't believe that we will be inundated with requests from applicants requesting to use the same sign

location. She is in support of NOT sunsetting the signage. Councilman Hudson advised that he is not in favor of no option to renew. He added that, since the application process isn't complicated, he would prefer to allow the option to renew and that he expected lifespan of sign should align with application period (10 years).

- Councilwoman Hardman noted that by creating this process, we are evolving and progressing. Her opinion is that, if we are honoring someone who has made a significant contribution to our city, we shouldn't cheapen their honor by requiring the family to pay for it. Handling it within the City of West Des Moines budget sends a good message of gratitude to them for their service, legacy, and contribution to our community.
- Councilwoman Hardman and Councilman Hudson both agree that the costs will be incurred by the City of West Des Moines signage budget, there will be no application fee, and the honor remains in place permanently.
- Topic V: Roadway coverage
 - Staff recommendations are:
 - Start and stop at collector streets or obvious breaks
 - Typically 6-8 blocks apart
 - Applicants can always request fewer blocks or a specific block range
 - Sign placement mid-block between start and stop
 - Minimum of four signs
 - Both directions
 - One on each side
 - Councilman Hudson emphasized the importance of working with the applicants on sign locations.
 - It was determined that, in the application process, applicants can make a request and the Public Services Sub-Committee will determine the appropriate start/stop locations followed by City Council's formal approval.
 - Councilwoman Hardman and Councilman Hudson both agreed on the above listed recommendations.
- The changes discussed in today's meeting will be added to the policy and then sent to City Council for further affirmation.
- Ms. Long requested that consideration be given for the signs to be hung at one of the following dates, if possible:
 - Juneteenth (June 19, 2022)
 - Taste of the Junction Celebration 2022 (Labor Day weekend)
 - October 1, 2022, which is the anniversary of her father's death.

PLANNING/OPERATIONAL UPDATES

- Third Party Billing for EMS
 - Chief Leu advised that EMS leadership is continuing to meet with QuickMed and the process is moving along very quickly. Tentatively, May 1st is the scheduled go-live date, but the hope is to be ahead of that schedule.

COLLABORATIONS/PARTNERSHIPS/PROGRAMS

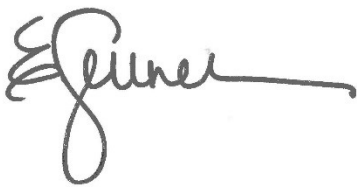
- It was reported that Captain Barrett's retirement provided a great showing of love and respect to him. Councilwoman Hardman agreed and added that it was very nicely done for a man who made a significant contribution to the City of West Des Moines.
- Chief Scott advised that Captain Anthony Giampolo is being promoted as of Monday, April 4th. His promotional ceremony will take place on April 15th at 1pm at the Police Department. An invitation will be sent out.
- West Des Moines PD has donated several items of body armor to the efforts in Ukraine. The items are past the manufacturer's suggested life, but it was an opportunity to donate necessary items to a god cause.
- Every sworn officer at the PD will be attending a crisis intervention training. The cost of the class is being covered by Dallas County Health Department.

OPEN FORUM

- There was a recent house fire 8th Street. A Mid-American Energy employee discovered the house on fire and was able to wake the family to get them all out safely.
- Chief Leu reported the legislation is moving through State house with some amendments, one of which is removing parts of the Division 10 (building and fire code section of bill). He's hopeful that it may move forward after eliminating some of the items in it that were problematic.
- The annual EMS Memorial will take place on May 14, 2022 at 9am at Station 19.

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Public Safety Sub-Committee will be Friday, June 3, 2022 at Fire/EMS Headquarters located at 318 5th Street.

There being no further business before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 8:33 a.m.



Emily Sellner, Recording Secretary

Any discussion, feedback or recommendation by committee members should not be construed or understood to be an action or decision by or for the West Des Moines City Council. Further, any recommendation the committee may make to the City Council is based in information provided to the committee at this point in time.