



Hastings

March 21, 2024

Public Safety Advisory Commission Meeting Minutes

**Present:** Commissioners: Melissa Blackstad, Andy Caflisch, Mary Nehring and Theresa Auge`, Steve Anderson

**City Staff:** Chief Fire Chief John Townsend and Police Chief Dave Wilske

**Guests:** City Council Member Dave Pemble

Augé called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

A **motion** made by Commissioner Nehring and seconded by Commissioner Blackstad to approve the amended agenda. Motion passed unanimously.

Amended Agenda included Minnetonka Car Crash & 2<sup>nd</sup> Street Parking

**Welcome/Introductions:** Commission was introduced to Council Member Pemble

**Police Update:**

- Hiring Update: 1 candidate is in background and more interviews scheduled.
- Community Service Officer candidate in background.
- Wilske expressed thank you to Commission Chair Augé for helping with the swearing in of Officer Ronning. The event was well attended by the Police community.
- Coffee with a Cop was held. Attendance was about the same.
- Confluence hosting opioid event on Wednesday.
- Polar Plunge happening on Saturday. Several officers will be taking the plunge.
- Special Olympics: Sharks award banquet is Saturday.
- Hastings Tastings is scheduled for Monday.
- 1<sup>st</sup> Car Show will be Law Enforcement on Sunday May 19. PSAC members are invited to participate.
- Discussion on the recent car crash in Minnetonka answering commissions questions.
- Discussion of 2-hour parking limit on 2<sup>nd</sup> street.
- The city will have a heavy price tag as 2 officers went daily for several days to assist the Burnsville Police department.
- A request to send a thank you to Minnesota Coaches for providing transportation to staff to attend the Burnsville event was made.

**Fire Update:**

- Busy stretch recently with several events.
- The Fire department helped cover the Burnsville department due to recent tragedies.

- Hiring Update: 2 full time firefighter interviews are pending.
- 2 offers pending for fire fighters.
- Paid on calls from January have completed initial phase of training.
- 2 firefighters will be attending a conference in Indianapolis.
- Discussion of 6<sup>th</sup> street fire, answering commission questions.
- An update on the brush fire north of bridge.

### **Old Business:**

- **Commissioner Training** was well attended by PSAC and a lot of good information was provided. While this training is offered annually, the commission encourages members to attend once a term. The date will be included in the calendar of events.
- **PSAC 2024 goals** were reviewed. They included:
  1. **The PSAC will continue to actively participate in the numerous Hastings PD and Fire public events throughout the year.**
  2. **The PSAC will learn from the PD staff the addition of a social worker to their department and how this impacts those in mental health crisis.**
  3. **The PSA will learn from the Fire Staff on the role of the Fire Marshall, the differences between the EMT and Paramedic, and how the rental housing inspection program works.**

A **motion** made by Commissioner Blackstad and seconded by Commissioner Nehring to approve the 2024 goals. Motion passed unanimously.

- **Coffee with a Cop:** Would like to see a few more Coffee with a Cop in 2024. Encourage an afternoon.

### **New Business:**

- **Burnsville Event:** The commission discussed the particulars of the Burnsville event that involved both the Police and Fire departments over several days. Both chiefs shared that such an event can have long lasting consequences for staffing.

### **Next Meeting:**

The next monthly meeting will be held on April 18, 2024. The meeting will be streamlined to allow for the Fire Department to present goal number 3.

### **Adjournment:**

A **motion** was made by Commissioner Cafilisch and seconded by Commissioner Blackstad. The meeting was adjourned at 7:31 pm.