

City of Auburn
Public Safety and Community Services Council Committee Minutes
Thursday, February 25, 2016
6:00 PM
Council Chambers

Present: Councilor David Young; Councilor Leroy Walker; Councilor Andy Titus; Denis D'Auteuil, Assistant City Manager; Paul Fraser, Director of Info Technology; Dot Meagher, Director of Social Services; Phil Crowell, Chief of Police; Jason Moen, Deputy Chief of Police; Phyllis Gamache, 911 Director; Frank Roma, Chief of Fire; Tim Allen, Deputy Chief of Fire; Mamie Anthoine Ney, Library Director; Erin Towns, ELHS Teacher; and Mason LaGasse, ELHS Student.

Denis D'Auteuil opened the meeting with request for two immediate actions:

- Elect a committee chairperson: Councilor Leroy Walker was elected chairperson.
- Determine meeting schedule of committee, going forward: Councilor Walker will get back to the Committee with that information within the next week.

Denis asked committee members to identify higher priority items that could be addressed at upcoming March meeting:

1. **Councilor Titus:** recommended each committee member identify their 1st, 2nd, and 3rd priority;
2. **Councilor Young:** would like to address the consolidation of Lewiston/Auburn 911, mutual aid, and parking problems in the city;
3. **Phil Crowell:** gave an update on *county dispatch consolidation*, including a brief history of studies done, challenges, issues, and recommendations. Chief Crowell will give council members update so they can make a decision in the near future. Denis will put this on the March agenda for council;

Parking issues: Chief Crowell advised committee that we need to evaluate options such as permit parking, meter parking, and 'pay and display' parking. At this point we need input from councilors, business owners, and residents.

Ordinances: Chief Crowell would like to look at ordinances to bring forward.

Annual Report: Completed and to be put on the website tomorrow.

4. **Phyllis Gamache:** *County dispatch consolidation* – recommended all under one roof. L/A accounts for 40% of county calls. L/A could accommodate taking over consolidation but other county centers could not. If L/A takes over, a reasonable cost must be assigned to dispatch calls.

5. **Frank Roma:** Both Police and Fire use *mutual aid* governed by state mutual aid agreement. EMS provides mutual aid if it does not leave the city with no coverage. Chief Roma to get mutual aid documents to Councilor Walker before the next meeting;

EMS, Operational side: Has had conversations in the past with councilors about collection options. Jill Eastman can provide financial information in whatever format would be helpful to council members, going forward, as she is very involved in process. Councilor Titus said that since EMS accounts for 70% - 80% of the Fire Department's calls, this needs to be a high priority conversation;

Safer Grant: Chief Roma would like feedback on this grant, which is due March 25th. The grant would pay the salary and benefits for 4 additional fire department staff members to cover Engine 2. Councilor Walker will bring the information to the council for their input as soon as possible, given the timeline. If we procure the grant, Council holds the final authority to either accept or not accept it.

6. **Mamie Anthoine Ney:** *NASA Exhibit* – April 13 to July 8, with 20 programs planned to coincide with exhibit.

Cornerstone to Science Grant: to help library build stem capacity and help state libraries become proficient in planning programs;

100th Anniversary of Pulitzer Prize: Grant obtained to take part in series of programs including bringing political cartoonist to the library;

Building Audit: First grant application failed, but currently looking for another grant possibility, considering public help, or capital campaign options. Need to find out what the needs are; prioritize those needs; and identify cost involved in addressing them.

7. **Paul Fraser:** *Great Falls TV recently folded into City IT Department.* This may be a long process to sort out what needs to be done and how it is going to work, including whether or not there will be an established studio. Denis D'Auteuil advised that once the committee for Great TV is seated, the first order of business is to create bylaws for committee. Will need full council to adopt bylaws.
8. **Dot Meagher:** No initiatives to bring forward. Social Services is a part-time department. Clientele has decreased recently. Discussed options for employee donations and working with other committees.
9. **Public Interaction:** Former Councilor Tiz Crowley addressed the committee with concerns and recommendations about "community services" and "community development".

Meeting ended: 8:01 PM