



Public Safety Committee Minutes
February 11, 2008, 7:00 p.m.

Minutes of a regular meeting of the Public Safety Committee of the City of O'Fallon, held in the Mayor's Conference Room, City Hall, 255 S. Lincoln, O'Fallon, Illinois, on February 11, 2008. Call to order 7:10 p.m.

ROLL CALL:

Members Present: True, J. Drolet, Polites, Schmidt, Engler
Members Not Present:
Staff Liaison: Chief Betten
Other Aldermen Present: Rick Reckamp, John West, Jerry Albrecht; Allen Medford
Other Persons Present: Walter Denton (City Admin.); Dennis Sullivan (City Engineer); Brent Saunders (OFD); Dan Bowman, Engineering; Dean Rich (Finance Director); Jean Bevington (OPD)
Media Persons Present: None

Chairman True declared a quorum present and requested a Motion to approve Minutes of January 14, 2008. Alderman Polities made a Motion to accept the January 14, minutes as presented and Alderman Schmidt seconded.
All ayes

Old Business

Item 1. Roundabout State & Oberneufemann Road – Dennis Sullivan, City Engineer, had nothing new to report.

Action: None

Motion: None

Disposition: Open

Item 2. MPH Signage on Vincennes Trail – Dennis Sullivan informed the Committee that the signs have been placed.

Action: None

Motion: None

Disposition: Closed

New Business

Item 1. Update Fireworks Ordinance – Chief Betten provide the Committee with handouts (copies attached) 137.27 Fireworks and 425 ILCS.35/ Fireworks Use Act. Chief Betten wanted the Committee's approval to encompass the State of Illinois' Fireworks Use Statute with the O'Fallon City Fireworks Ordinance to update and include the State Statute with the City Ordinance. After the Aldermen reviewed all the handouts a Motion was made by Alderman Polities to update the City's Ordinance with the recommendations of Chief Betten, Alderman J. Drolet seconded the Motion. All ayes.

Action: None

Motion: Incorporate the Illinois State Statute (425 ILCS 35/) Fireworks Use Act with the City of O'Fallon's 137.27 Fireworks Ordinance.

Disposition: Closed

Item 2. IML Pension Resolution – Chief Betten provided the Committee with a handout (attached) “Resolution 2008 to the General Assembly.” This resolution (Bill) is for the City's support of Legislature to embrace sensible pension reforms in the areas of ethics reform, pension fund management, public disclosure of pension board activity and realize the costs of generous retirement and disability benefits which can threaten long-term sustainability. Walter Denton and Dean Rich, City Staff, explained there are hundreds of pension funds in the State of Illinois and possibly grouping these together would enhance their financial support and increase pension funds. After careful discussions, Alderman Polities made a Motion to recommend to Council to support IML through Resolution 2008 urging the General Assembly to stop making costly benefit Improvements and adopt reforms that protect Police and Fire Pensions, Alderman Schmidt seconded the Motion. 4 Ayes. 1 Nay. Motion Carried.

Action: None

Motion: Motion to recommend to Council support of Resolution 2008 to the General Assembly

Disposition: Closed

Item 3. Hwy 50 @ Edward – Dennis Sullivan provided a handout (Aerial Map) of Edward and Hwy 50 with a view of 5th Street (attached). Complaint on the confusion of roadways, accidents and the uneven grade of 5th Street which enters Hwy 50 was brought to the Committee for evaluation. The Committee studied the map and street directions, inclines and signage with careful attention to the east/west entrance to Hwy 50 from Edward. With all considerations of new signage, re-grading in the area of Gators, Hwy 50 and 5th Street, the Committee could not resolve the problems of Hwy 50 without petitioning the State of Illinois. City Engineer made no recommendation. Committee agreed the best solution is to not make any changes.

Action: None

Motion: None

Disposition: Closed

Item 4. Budget Review (Police, Fire, EMS and Board of Fire and Police Commissioners) – Chief Betten provided the Committee with handouts of the FY 2008-09 Police, EMS and Board of Fire and Police Commissioner's Budgets (attached)

Police Department

Chief Betten reviewed the increase in salary line item (union increase); the negative in Police Workman's Comp Insurance Dean Rich will research and provide explanation, the increase in oil prices are reflected and a decrease in Line item of Other Professional Services and Legal services reflect a non-bargaining year with no additional legal fees. Six squad cars to be replaced by attrition and Computer services decreased as product installation and costs are completed.

EMS Department

Chief Betten reviewed the increase in salary line item (union increase and overtime which includes the 24 hours shifts), increase in revenue from the Shiloh Ambulance District (tax), training and computer supplies line item decrease with product installation and training completed. The equipment reserve for purchase of a new ambulance is incorporated.

Board of Fire and Police Commissioners

Chief Betten reviewed the Commissioners budget with very minor decreases in professional services and no changes elsewhere.

Fire Department – Chief Saunders provided copy of Budget to Committee (Budget Attached)

Chief Saunders reviewed the decrease in Shiloh Valley Gas/Electric (tax) and increase in property tax revenue. Increase in salary line item, hospitalization, dental Ins., life insurance, etc. (hire of full-time Fire Chief and pro rata share of IT Assistant). Increase in building maintenance (re-surface Station 1; remodel offices, re-seal parking lot at Station 2), operation expense increase due to matching funds of radio system grant.

Action: None

Motion: None

Disposition: Closed

Item 5. Hiring Status of Fire Chief – Chairman True inquired about the status of hiring the new Fire Chief. Notice has been publicized and deadline for applications are due at the end of February, 2008.

Action: None

Motion: None

Disposition: Closed

Motion to adjourn was made by Alderman Schmidt and seconded by Alderman J. Drolet

Meeting Adjourned:	8:50 p.m.
Next Meeting:	March 10, 2008
Minutes Taken By:	Jean Bevington