



Public Safety Committee Minutes
September 11, 2006, 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 September 11, 2006, Call to order 7:01 p.m.

ROLL CALL:

Members Present: True, Schmidt, Boone, Reckamp, Medford
Members Not Present: Bennett,
Staff Liaison: Chief Betten
Other Aldermen Present: Ned Drolet; Jerry Albrecht, Brent Saunders (OFD);
Other Persons Present: Aaron Sudholt Student SIU-E, Jean Bevington (OPD),
Media Persons Present: Georgia Hillyer, Progress; Jennifer Bowen, News Democrat

Chairman True declared a quorum present and requested a Motion to approve minutes of August 14, 2006, Alderman Schmidt made a Motion to accept the August 14, 2006, minutes as presented and Alderman Medford seconded. All ayes.

Old Business

Item 1. Roundabout State & Obernuefemann Road – Dennis Sullivan, City Engineer, was unable to attend tonight's meeting and no report was given.

Action: None

Motion: None

Disposition: Open

Item 2. Four-way Stop at Timothy & Illini Drive – The Committee reviewed the request for a four-way stop at Timothy & Illini and the decision of the Committee was that a four-way stop at that intersection is not warranted.

Action: None

Motion: None

Disposition: Closed

Item 3. Rescind Ordinance 32.17 "Educational Requirement for Police Officers" – Chief Betten informed the Committee that this Item is already on the second reading on the City Council Agenda. One Alderman did state that the City was reducing its standards in the process of hiring of Police Officers. Chairman True closed this issue as it has already been sent to Council

Action: None

Motion: None

Disposition: Closed

Item 4. Rock Springs Park Cross Walk – Chairman True informed the Committee that this item has been transferred to the Public Works Committee.

Action: None

Motion: None

Disposition: Closed

Item 5. Rescind Parking Meters – Chief Betten provided a hand-out (attached) for the Committee on five sections in the Book of Ordinances regarding parking meters. The Committee discussed this wording and came to the decision to rescind the five sections referring to parking meters as there are no parking meters in the City of O’Fallon. Alderman Medford made a Motion to recommend to Council to rescind the five sections in the Book of Ordinances beginning with Section 72.50 Rules and Regulations through 72.54 Tampering with Meters, Alderman Boone seconded the Motion. All ayes.

Action: Motion to recommend to Council the removal of Sections 72.50 – 72.54 in the City’s Book of Ordinances regarding parking meters.

Motion: None

Disposition: Closed

New Business

Item 1. Four-way Stop Wesley @ Shadowridge Crossing – Chairman True requested anyone present to come forward with the justification for placing a four-way stop at this intersection. No report was presented, therefore, Chairman True and the Committee discussed this request with pros and cons and agreed that the flow of traffic was safe and appropriate at this intersection and did not warrant a four-way stop. The request was denied.

Action: None

Motion: None

Disposition: Closed

Item 2. Review Fire Department Consultant Proposal – Fire Chief Saunders presented to the Committee the request to have the consultant fee for the Fire Department of \$28,850 presented to Council for approval. Chief Saunders informed the Committee that a total of nine proposals were evaluated with three of them being selected for face-to-face discussion. Of these three proposals, McGrath was selected in view of the fact that it was in line with the professional goals of the Fire Department. Chief Saunders informed the Committee that McGrath was highly knowledgeable of fire related services, placing the present Department in step with the growth of the City, with other Departments within the City and forecasting future locations of other stations. The McGrath Firm could also provide an efficient transition for employing a full-time staff. Chief Saunders also indicated that the Fire Department still operates on only 11¢ of every tax dollar the City collects when it could collect as much as 30¢ without imposing a tax referendum. After discussion, a Motion was made by Alderman Medford to recommend to Council the payment of the Fire Department’s consultant fee Alderman Boone seconded the Motion. All ayes.

Action: None

Motion: Motion to recommend to Council payment of the Fire Department's Consultant Fee of \$28,850

Disposition: Closed

Item 3. Sight in Line of Traffic on 629 Donna Drive – Alderman Drolet informed the Committee that visibility from Evan looking west on Donna Drive has a shrubbery in the line of sight in turning. Chief Betten will contact the owner of the property and request to have the shrubs removed or cut back whichever will clear the view.

Action: Chief Betten to contact owner of property to clear shrubs

Motion: None

Disposition: Closed

Item 4. EMS Use Of State Street vs. 3rd Street – Alderman Drolet inquired why the EMS Department uses State Street when it seems it would be faster and safer to use the overpass and take 3rd Street to get to residents on the west side of the City which would also avoid being stopped by trains. Chief Betten informed Committee that by using State Street the EMS Units have fewer stop signs and a safer stretch of road without turns. This route is shorter saving 50 - 60 seconds, on average, to reach Green Mount Road. The officers in the area will inform dispatch that a train is on-coming or is currently on the State Street rail and dispatch will inform EMS to take a different route to avoid any train delays.

Action: None

Motion: None

Disposition: Closed

Item 5. Disaster Table Top Exercises – Chairman True inquired if the Police and Fire Departments are considering or have planned another table top exercise. Chief Betten and Chief Saunders felt that they were both up-to-date on current disaster procedures and did not require additional table top exercises at this time.

Action: None

Motion: None

Disposition: Closed

Item 6. 911 Ceremony – Chairman True checked with Chief Saunders on what 911 services were conducted. Chief Saunders informed the Committee that a small service was held at one of the Engine Houses and they also participated in a ceremony with Shiloh.

Action: None

Motion: None

Disposition: Closed

Motion to adjourn was made by Alderman Boone and seconded by Alderman Reckamp.

Meeting Adjourned:	7:37 p.m.
Next Meeting:	October 9, 2006, 7:00 p.m.
Minutes Taken By:	Jean Bevington