



MINUTES

LAW ENFORCEMENT, PUBLIC SAFETY, HEALTH & WELFARE COMMITTEE MEETING

January 13, 2015

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Mr. Wayne McCall, Chairman, District II
Mr. Joel Thrift, District IV
Mr. Reg Dexter, District V

The Law Enforcement, Public Safety, Health & Welfare Committee met at 5:30 PM in Council Chambers, 415 South Pine Street, Walhalla, SC with all Committee Members present, Administrator Scott Moulder and Elizabeth G. Hulse, Clerk to Council present.

Press:

Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act, notice of the meeting, date, time, place of meeting and agenda were posted on the bulletin board at the County Administrative Offices, 415 South Pine Street, Walhalla, SC, and the County Council website [www.oconeese.com/council]. In addition it was made available to the newspapers, radio stations, television stations and concerned citizens.

Member of the press present: None present

Call to Order

Chairman McCall called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Thrift made a motion, seconded by Mr. McCall, approved 2 – 0 – 1 [Mr. Dexter abstained – form filed with these minutes] to approve the October 14, 2014 minutes as presented.

2014 Fire Service Year End Update / Chief King

Chief King addressed the Committee utilizing a handout [copy filed with these minutes] highlighting the successes from 2014 and establishing goals for 2015. Highlights from the 2014 Year End Report are as follow:

- 4,129 call for service – 20% increase over 2013
- Response Time reduced by 75 seconds from 2013 to 8:44
- Flow Tested and Inspected more than 1,800 hydrants and water points
- In-house testing of equipment for more than 51,000' of fire hose
- Continue to build out Emergency Report Software Database [cloud based, allow for submittal and sending of reports, etc.]
- Instituted Active911 System – puts critical information into hand of 436 staff
- Revamped Medical Evaluation Program
- Life Safety: provided education to citizens – 2014 191 man hours at events in OC
- Smoke Detectors: estimate that 50% of homes and businesses do not have WORKING smoke detectors
- Pre-Incident Planning: conducted 948 commercial businesses in unincorporated areas
- ISO Evaluation: County wide ISO Rating of 4 for property within five [5] miles of a fire station

Discussion followed regarding aspects of the report. Lastly, Mr. McCall thanked Chief King for his presentation.

New Business:

Mosquito Pointe

Mr. Moulder stated that the dock permit has been received from Duke Energy and provided the Committee with Duke's letter [copy filed with these minutes]. Discussion followed regarding next steps.

Feasibility Report re: County replacing service related to the Municipal Fire Contracts

Mr. Dexter asked Mr. Moulder to provide a feasibility report [including cost estimates] for the Committee's review/recommendation at a future meeting regarding doing away with the municipal fire contracts and the county providing those services.

Discussion followed.

Mr. Moulder noted that a report has been drafted and after it has been reviewed by the County Attorney that it will be presented to this committee as part of the Phase II Fire Plan.

Status of Cheohee Valley Fire Station

Mr. McCall asked Mr. Moulder & Chief King for an update regarding the status of this fire station. Mr. Moulder noted that they have to date worked with three property owners [noting the last backed out at closing] in an attempt to locate this fire station. Chief King stated that they are in discussion with two property owners and will report back as the project moves forward.

Emergency Surplus Equipment

Mr. McCall asked Mr. Moulder & Chief King for an update regarding the status of obtaining surplus equipment for use by the Fire Service. Chief King noted that he routinely reviews the listings but that to date the equipment available has not be appropriate for the department's needs. Discussion followed with options offered to obtain equipment through the Forestry Service.

Cost of Housing Prisoners in the Detention Center

Mr. Dexter asked Mr. Moulder to provide the following information at the next Committee meeting:

- [1] Cost Per Day to house an inmate
- [2] Cost Per Day to house an inmate without medical/psychological issues
- [3] Cost Per Day to house an inmate WITH medical/psychological issues
- [4] Reimbursement received from the state for housing inmates
- [5] Average stay for inmates without issues vs. with issues

Old Business:

Boating Safety Update

Mr. McCall noted that Mr. Ray Lewis, DNR, was not able to attend the meeting so this matter needs to be rescheduled for a meeting in February, 2015.

Adjourn:

Mr. McCall adjourned the meeting at 6:20 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Elizabeth G. Hulse
Clerk to Council