

SERVICE-SAFETY COMMITTEE

JUNE 22, 2015

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m. by Chairman Jim Matuszak. Committee members present were Jim Matuszak and Barry VanHoozen. John Kevern was absent. Also present were Mayor Michael Olmstead, Bridgette Kabat, City Administrator and Jon Eckel, Public Service Director.

FIRE DIVISION DATA PRESENTATION

Mayor Olmstead stated that the Administration has for the last year and a half been looking at data relative to the service level of the city's fire division and has considered future service levels. According to the administration's interpretation of the data, run times for the vast majority of calls have been and are currently acceptable. Mayor Olmstead said that the city is safe and that there is no crisis. He further explained that according to the data, service calls are trending to the southwest part of the city and a fire and EMS presence in that area may be necessary in the future. According to the data, the fire division is currently averaging 5.5 calls for service per 24-hour shift. Based on the data, two of the 5.5 calls would be answered by fire division personnel from a service station located in the southwest part of the city if one existed.

The administration shared a PowerPoint presentation that showed several options for additional fire stations, by type. Mayor Olmstead explained that the fire division's current annual operating budget is \$3.1 million and that each of the options would be in addition to the current station's annual operating budget. He further explained that the estimated costs to operate each of the optional service stations was based on the existing service station's budget, adjusted accordingly, and included debt service for \$4 million over 20 years at 1.5 percent (1.5%) interest. The \$4 million represented the estimated cost of a new full-service fire station. The administration's estimated costs did not include the cost of land.

Mayor Olmstead said that the administration needs to know city council's level of commitment before further considering any of the options they have put forth. Mayor Olmstead suggested that, in the absence of additional revenue, city council would need to determine which city services we would be willing to reduce or eliminate if council wants to proceed with one of the administration's options for an additional fire station. Mayor Olmstead committed to continue monitoring run times and community needs.

Mr. Matuszak and Mr. VanHoozen both questioned the estimated costs of the options presented by the administration and asked for more information regarding how the estimates were calculated.

Mr. VanHoozen asked if the NFPA standards are what we should be aiming for. Ms. Kabat stated that NFPA best practices are what many communities strive for, but the standards were created in a vacuum. According to Ms. Kabat, under Section 1710, full time fire stations meet best practices if four people respond from one station under the

command of one person. According to Ms. Kabat, Fire Chief Klein says we are meeting that standard.

Tom Mackin was in the audience and asked if the administration has a recommendation. Mayor Olmstead said that they do not have a recommendation at this time because there will need to be discussions with city council regarding funding.

Mr. Matuszak noted that one option that had previously been discussed was moving the current fire station and that that was not presented as one of the options. Ms. Kabat explained that in previous presentations it showed that the current location was the best overall location so that option had been dismissed.

Mr. Matuszak expressed that it is comforting to hear that we are safe and apparently ahead of the curve with respect to planning for future fire and EMS needs.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jim Matuszak, Chairman
Service-Safety Committee

Next meeting: Monday, July 27, 2015 at 5:00 p.m.