



**Minutes of the
Public Safety Advisory Board
February 15, 2022
3:00 p.m. – Police Department
Administration Conference Room
10 NE Tudor Road, Lee's Summit, Missouri**

3:00 p.m. Chairman Ullery called the Public Safety Advisory Board to order

ROLL CALL:

Council Liaison Fred Demoro	Absent	<u>Staff Present:</u>	<u>Guests:</u>
Chairman Bruce Trammell	Present	Fire Chief Mike Snider	Present
Vice Chairman Neil Ullery	Present	Asst. Fire Chief Jim Eden	Present
Board Member Fred Pickard	Present	Chief Travis Forbes	Present
Board Member Kenneth Davis	Present	Major Cary Colyne	Present
Board Member Jim Pryde	Present	Director of Public Works	
Board Member Bill Morrow	Present	Michael Park	Present
Board Member Fred Delibero	Absent	Chief Counsel of P. S. – Civil law	
Board Member Randy Johnson	Present	Beth Murano	Absent
Board Member Jennifer Nussbeck	Absent		

1. PUBLIC COMMENTS:

No public comments.

2. BOARD COMMENTS:

No board comments.

3. APPROVAL OF ADENDA:

Vice Chairman Ullery requested approval of the Agenda. Board Member Ken Davis moved to approve the Agenda with Board Member Fred Pickard seconding the motion. The Agenda was approved with no one opposed.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Vice Chairman Ullery requested approval of the minutes from the November 16, 2021 meeting. Chairman Bruce Trammell moved to approve the Minutes. Board Member Fred Pickard seconded the motion. The minutes were approved with no one opposed.

5. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

A. Animal Control – Bill Morrow

No issues to report.

B. Miscellaneous Issues – Fred Pickard

No issues to report.

C. Ordinance Review - James Pryde

No issues to report.

D. Tow Committee – Fred Pickard

No issues to report.

E. Traffic Safety – Jennifer Nussbeck - absent

No issues to report.

6. OLD BUSINESS:

There being no items to discuss, the Board moved onto New Business.

7. NEW BUSINESS:

City Manager, Steve Arbo spoke of how if passed, the Half Cent Public Safety Sales Tax would be utilized. The city's current sales tax rate is 2.25%. If the half cent sales tax is passed this would raise sales tax to 2.75%. Bringing the total sales tax rate from 7.85% to 8.35%.

In the last few years, it has cost the city of Lee's Summit \$80 million a year to run the city, of which \$43 million is designated for the Police and Fire departments. The passing of this would allow both police and fire to attract, retain, and train new employees and would allow for new equipment.

The passing of this ballot question would create \$10 to \$12 million more a year which would go in to the General Fund of which 100% will go to Public Safety. This will create extraordinary opportunities with this level of funding.

Fire Chief Mike Snider advised potential options if funding is passed. Several more plans than what will be discussed in this meeting are also options.

Fire Prevention Division would require 3 people for the fire inspections, investigating businesses, etc., coordinating with fire trucks for over 3,000 inspections.

Fire apparatus in every ambulance, fire station. All personnel being cross-trained.

Fire station alerting system will cost \$400 thousand to put in all stations. This would improve response time, improve health, a boat will allow more efficiency by having personnel with the proper resources.

Live Fire training within the city would be beneficial due to them being high stress incidents, but occurring with low frequency.

Chief Snider commented how blessed the Fire Department is for having passed accreditation. The process was completed in December for approval.

Police Chief Travis Forbes advised the police department has the same issues with recruitment as the fire department. The passing of the Public Safety Sales Tax would allow the police department more resources such as a third crisis intervention co-responder. This would also allow a co-responder on every shift and would allow more time for after visits to make sure individuals have received further assistance.

Adding a mobile community crisis response vehicle would be beneficial in allowing the response to behavioral health emergencies and as community outreach and education.

Implement a second Crime Reduction Team and have 2 teams of five members to have 7 days a week coverage. This allows for long term solutions and problem solving. This will not take away from the district officer responsibilities.

Evidence based practices – CRT (Crime Reduction Team) a group which is proactive in police work and addressed Sage Crossing resulting in a drop in crime. Also worked on a catalytic converter case which resulted in a federal indictment. Worked in conjunction with the FBI, KCPD, and the Missouri State Highway Patrol.

Safety Tax would not be used for major capital improvements. Bond issues could be used for something such as a police sub-station to be added on the south side. This would meet growth needs in both residential and retail areas.

City Manager Steve Arbo thanked everyone for their time and commented how everyone relies on each other for success.

Board Member Bill Morrow asked how soon will the money be seen after the sales tax ballot is passed. CM Arbo advised that the city would begin collecting the money on 10/1/2022. But will not begin until about 1/1/2023.

Board Member Bill Morrow asked if Amazon tax will be used as well. CM Arbo responded, yes.

Chairman Bruce Trammell asked if the ballot passes, if it would be split in half between police and fire. CM Arbo advised that not necessarily, and that projects would be prioritized by cooperative efforts between the two Chiefs, himself, and the city council.

Board Member Bill Morrow asked if the interest paid out of the monies received, will stay with the departments? CM Arbo advised that is stays in the General Fund.

8. DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

A. Fire Department – Chief Mike Snider

Chief Snider commented how blessed the Fire Department is for having passed accreditation. The process was completed in December for approval.

He advised there are 6 new employees as of 1/3/22. There is one vacancy with two pending retirements on 2/28/22; Dave Downing is retiring after 41 years and Brian Jones after 33 years.

Two new Communication Specialist on 2/28/22 with one off training and two coming off training.

Assistant Fire Chief Brian Austerman advised Fire Station #'s 4 and 5 are expanding their fleet and both stations will be receiving a ladder truck by 7/21/22 or by the end of this calendar year.

Currently working with architects and builders for designs for the construction of Stations 4 and 5 and are nearly complete.

Assistant Chief Jim Eden reviewed December and January's reports. Christmas Eve fire at the swimming pool store was aggressively attacked from the exterior of the building. KC HazMat were called out to provide air monitoring. The State Fire Marshall report stated it was accidental in nature. Thanks to Public Works for providing the heavy equipment.

New Year's Eve structure fire was located in the bedroom and the roof with a minor explosion. One pumper received minor damage and the fire was attacked from the exterior. The State Fire Marshall concluded there was illegal manufacturing of commercial grade fireworks. Charges are pending for the illegal manufacturing of fireworks.

A residential fire on January 18th was due to electrical in the kitchen. Fire arrived within 4 minutes from receiving the call and the child found in the home was at the hospital within 8 minutes from arriving on scene. The 10-year-old girl has been released from the hospital.

B. Police Department – Chief Travis Forbes

Chief Travis Forbes advised it has been one year since the police department began using NIBRS reporting system. Report submitting is not too informative and will hopefully get a comparison report for next meeting.

The police department is still eight officers down and is aggressively recruiting. Currently there are several lateral transfers from other agency's such as Gladstone and Grandview. Several in the Police Academy.

The lateral transfers will take approximately 4-6 months to get accustomed to the LSPD ways of doing things.

There are still four openings in Communications.

The police department has had several promotions. Detective Sam Cole to Sergeant, Detective Alex Walker to Sergeant, and Detective Jason Spaeth to Sergeant.

Board Member Fred Pickard asked about the golf carts. Chief Forbes advised that Michael Park would address that question.

C. Public Works – Director of Public Works Michael Park

Director Michael Park advised the ordinance passed and was adopted for the use of the golf carts within the city of Lee's Summit. However, a driver's license is required as well as insurance and can only be driven on city streets no more than 35 mph. The use of golf carts does not allow for drivers to drive on state highways.

Currently there are 8 vacancies within Public Works. Susan Berry is the new City Traffic Engineer. She has been previously employed with MODot, and Scout.

Licensed Professional Engineer Sarah Boscher is also a new employee with Public Works.

City Council approved planters being placed in the Right of Way and to also include tables. However, to do so will require obtaining permits from City Hall.

9. ROUNDTABLE:

Board Member Ken Davis once again welcomed new Board Member Randy Johnson to the PSAB Board.

Board Member Bill Morrow asked if there is grant money that could go towards Animal Control. Chief Forbes said there may possibly be something through ARPA.

Board Member Randy Johnson thanked everyone for the warm reception.

10. ADJOURNMENT:

Vice Chairman Neil Ullery made a motion to adjourn with Board member with Kenneth Davis seconding the motion. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 4:55 p.m.