



KNIGHTDALE PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

950 Steeple Square Court, Knightdale, North Carolina 27545

January 21, 2015

The Knightdale Public Safety Committee met at 6:00pm in the Council Chambers of Town Hall.

Present: Councilman James Roberson

Staff Members Present: Seth Lawless, Town Manager; Tim Guffey, Fire Chief; Lawrence Capps, Police Chief

Councilman Roberson called the meeting to order at 6:05pm. The minutes from the December 17th PS Committee meeting were reviewed and approved.

Chief Capps shared that the police department would be testing applicants on January 26th and 27th. Testing will consist of a written examination and a physical abilities test. Over 50 applications were received for the vacant police officer position, and a group of 17 applicants was selected for additional testing. Chief Capps also reported that the application process for the vacant Lieutenant position would close at 5pm on January 26th. The agency expects to move forward with the promotional process in the coming weeks.

Chief Capps shared the 4th quarter and year-end crime data with the committee as well. Crime trends were highlighted by a 15% reduction in Part I (violent & major property) crimes as compared to 2013. Larceny rates also continue to plummet (down 17% from the previous year), while street level drug offenses saw an increase of 13%. Overall, crime was down 3% in 2014 as compared to 2013. Chief Capps gave notice of his intent to submit a letter to WCPSS regarding the funding model for school resource officers. He noted that the current funding model was established in 1998, with no revisions or adjustments in nearly 17 years. The letter is no a request for additional funds, but merely a request to see if the school board is willing to meet to discuss a possible revision to the funding model.

Chief Guffey reviewed the mid-year report for the Fire Department. Of the 679 calls received at the halfway point of the fiscal year, nearly 59% were medical calls (399). His report also showed that the Fire Department had maintained an average response time of 4:47. The department responded to 11 structure fires in town and a total of 23 structure fires. In 46% of those incidents, the department was able to meet a new NFPA standard requiring 15 fire members to be on scene at the 10 minute mark. Chief Guffey also reported that two firefighters sustained minor injury during fire responses, and 7 civilians were injured in fire calls as well. The department provided 391 training classes, and amassed over 4,400 hours of training during the last six months. Additionally, the department hosted and participated in 53 fire prevention and safety classes, reaching more than 1,800 adults and 4,000 children. Copies of the report were made available to council.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:45pm.

Councilman James Roberson
Committee Chairman