



# KNIGHTDALE PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

950 Steeple Square Court, Knightdale, North Carolina 27545

**October 4, 2010**

The Knightdale Public Safety Committee met at 6:35 p.m. at the Knightdale Town Hall, 950 Steeple Square Court, Knightdale, NC.

Present: Councilor Jeff Eddins, Councilor Tim Poirier

Staff Members Present: Seth Lawless, Town Manager; Shawn Brown, Public Safety Director; Jason Godwin, Assistant Chief; Tim Guffey, Fire Chief

## Discussion of the Kenny Ring Homicide

Chief Shawn Brown stated the arrest in the Kenny Ring Homicide was a success. He advised that earlier the subjects purchased two pounds of marijuana and did not have the money to pay the dealer. They came up with a plan to rob Domino's to obtain the cash. The intent was not murder, but robbery.

## Discussion of recent robberies

Shawn Brown stated that recently there have been four robberies that occurred at Bo Jangles, Applebee's, Dunkin Donuts, and The Shell Station. There are no leads in the Bo Jangles robbery, Soto is working on Applebee's and knows the owner of the vehicle used to commit the robbery, but the owner is cooperating it is not believed he was involved. At this time there are no promising leads in the Dunkin Donuts robbery. Boryla is investigating the Shell Station robbery and possibly has suspect in the case due to another robbery that took place in Raleigh. Raleigh interrupted a robbery in progress, but the suspects were not apprehended. The suspects' car was recovered and a cell phone was put into evidence in Raleigh which is being used to identify the suspects.

## Discussion of New Hires

Chief Shawn Brown introduced Assistant Chief Jason Godwin and described him as being well qualified for the position having a Masters Degree and previously working with Johnston Community College, ALE and the Johnston County's Sheriff's Office. Also, he informed everyone that two Kevin Bobbitt from the Wake County Sheriff's Office and Justin Guthrie, a Sergeant from ECU Campus Police were our two newest Public Safety Officers.

Pourer inquired if they were Firefighter I & II Certified, and Brown stated Bobbitt had all of his certifications, but Guthrie and Godwin had to complete the training. They will be attending an Essentials class soon and will then be enrolled in the Fire Academy in the spring. This will allow the training to be complete in six months compared to years of taking classes through the department and will consist of all fire and medical training.

Shawn Brown informed members that they are also in the process of hiring two more Public Safety Officers to fill the Governor's Highway Safety Positions. The positions should be posted soon, since the previous applicants did not meet the expectations for the position.

Shawn Brown gave an update on the three Firefighters that were hired under the grant. The backgrounds are complete and are spotless. All three have college backgrounds and will be an asset to the department.

Eddins inquired as to how many firemen will be working the firebox and how many PSO's will be on patrol.

Brown said that 18 hours of the day (6 am – 12 am) there will be 4 in the firebox and 4 on patrol plus one traffic officer.

#### Discussion of False Alarm Ordinance

Chief Shawn Brown presented the revised false alarm ordinance that changed the penalty time period from thirty-six months to twelve months and requested the document be presented to Town Council for final approval

#### Discussion of Improvements to the Police Station

Eddins inquired about the progress of the interrogation room.

Shawn Brown stated at this time it is at a stand still until Planning and Public Works has an available slot to begin.

Eddins asked for a rush to be put on this because the department is in desperate need for this.

Seth Lawless stated there are other projects that are on a higher priority to complete because they are working on Grant money and have limited time before it will expire.

#### Discussion of parking issues at Lockhart Elementary School

Seth Lawless advised that Brown and himself met with school officials and devised a plan to double stack the vehicles. After this was put into place the traffic issues have been greatly improved

Meeting adjourned at 7:00 pm

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Committee Chairman

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Town Manager or Admin. Asst.