



# KNIGHTDALE PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

950 Steeple Square Court, Knightdale, North Carolina 27545

**January 6, 2010**

The Knightdale Public Safety Committee met at 6:05 p.m. at the Knightdale Town Hall, 950 Steeple Square Court, Knightdale, NC.

Present: Councilor Jeff Eddins, Councilor Tim Poirier

Staff Members Present: Shawn Brown, Public Safety Director; Tim Guffey, Fire Chief

Approval of Minutes

Discussion of the proposed Special Events Policy

Chief Brown presented a proposed Special Events Police that would cover the town for any expenses that a Special Event would create. There is an initial processing/application fee of \$50.00. After an application is submitted there is a form that allows each department head to view the events and decide what will be needed or supplied by their department and the cost that the event coordinator will be charged. From the date the application was filed there will be a one week review period for each department to complete the forms before it is turned over to the Town Manager for final approval.

Councilor Eddins inquired if the policy was ready to be presented to Town Council.

Chief Brown stated he would prefer if Attorney Holt could view the policy to ensure that it covered the Town from any liability.

Discussion of Redflex Camera System

Chief Brown informed Councilor Eddins and Councilor Poirier that Redflex had agreed to move the least productive red light camera to another intersection and also add an additional camera.

Councilor Eddins asked which was the least productive camera and where both would be placed.

Chief Brown stated the camera at Maplewood and Knightdale Blvd was the least productive. He would like to see that camera and the additional camera placed East and West bound on Knightdale Blvd at Widewaters Pkwy.

Councilor Poirier questioned what type of reputation are the red light cameras portraying about Knightdale.

Chief Brown explained that the cameras have helped in multiple ways. It has cut down on the amount of accidents that occur at the intersections that have cameras

installed. The cameras act as virtual officers by catching violators since an officer cannot always be present and also the cameras have nonstop streaming video which have helped in multiple situations including the current homicide case. Chief Brown also explained that the officers use this as a learning tool. If someone comes to the Police Department with a complaint about receiving a red light citation, the officers will show the violator a video of the violation and educate them about the hazards of running red lights. If the officer believes the individual has learned from the experience and this is the first citation they have received the citation will be voided.

#### Discussion of Town Hall Security

Chief Brown suggested that Town Hall look into options to make the building more secure. He suggested several different metal detectors that would prevent the public from entering the building with a weapon. The first option was a hand held wand. It is the least expensive estimated at \$100.00, but the wand has to be operated by an individual. The next option was a walk through metal detector which is estimated around \$4,000.00. It has to be monitored and the monitor would need training. The last option was to install security cameras which are moderately priced around \$1,000.00 per camera but would not keep the public from entering with a weapon.

Councilor Eddins and Councilor Poirier both preferred the hand wand. Councilor Eddins agreed to discuss the idea with Town Council.

#### Other Business

Chief Brown stated that the Police Department needed some improvements to make the building more useable. He stated there are no cameras in the patrol area or interview room and this could potentially cause an issue if a detainee claimed wrong doing against an office.

Councilor Poirier agreed, and stated that this issue has never been brought to their attention. He said the building was originally set up for the Fire Department and he and Councilor Eddins needs to take a tour of the building to see what improvements need to be made in order for the Department to be more secure and more useable.

Meeting adjourned at 6:45 pm

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Committee Chairman

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Assistant Manager or Admin. Asst.