

POLICE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
July 2, 2019


The Police Committee met in the Council Chambers at City Hall on July 2, 2019 at 6:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Mayor Elmer Littlefield Jr., Alderman Doug Lafary, Alderman Kim Pascal, Alderman Kendall Miller, City Clerk Cindy Goddard, Chief John Werland.

BUSINESS: Discuss Police Matters:

Need over site for the police, more control over things. Around \$25,000.00 in overtime last year Mayor Littlefield said. Four full timers at this time, mayor thinks three full timers is enough. Alderman Lafary said if cut someone then the overtime will increase. Chief Werland said 14 years ago there was 4 full time police officers, and said the city needs to hire new part-timers. Chief Werland thought he was told to wait on hiring any new part-timers. Right now the city has 6 part-timers on pay roll. He wants to replace 3 of them because they don't work any shifts. Alderman Miller said they did not have that much overtime previously, and the part-timers would fill in when needed. Qualifications have changed in the past 15 years for part-timers Chief Werland stated. Alderman Miller asked if the city pays for the training. The state pays for the training, and the city pays the hourly payroll during the time they are at training. The Chief said the best ones to hire are retired police officers. The reason for overtime is keeping someone on for 24 hours a day. The schedule is done at least 2 weeks in advance. There is one shift a week that is always open, 1st shift on Sundays. Pascal asked if when they sign up if they can sign something that they are mandated to work. Yes, but things can change. One way is not have 24 hour coverage. Discussion on maybe cut 4 hours on different days. One officer worked 24 hours straight Mayor Littlefield said. Some officers are working to many hours that could cause them to not be able to function correctly. All agreeing on having open times during the week. Non emergencies can wait till someone is on duty. Alderman Lafary said there will be complaints from people, but have to explain that the city is trying to save money. When a call comes in it gives the dispatcher the option to decide if emergency or not. Chief Werland has a Canton officer that is interested in being part-time. Alderman Pascal asked for all full timers names. Need to decide, do we really need 24 hour protection? Chief Werland gave update on new police truck; he hasn't got an answer for final bill. Computer system is still getting finished with Verizon at this time.

Adjournment at 6:55 p.m.


Cindy Goddard, City Clerk