

Police Committee Meeting
City Of Virden
City Council Chambers
Thursday October 12, 2023

Meeting called to order by Alderman Mitchell at 7:00 pm

Aldermen in attendance: Bertolino, Boster, Calloway, Cunningham, Ibberson, Mitchell, Mottershaw, and Neighbors.

Also in attendance: Mayor Murphy and Chief Steven Snodgrass

Visitors: None

Comments from audience: None

Topics:

1. Approval of Agenda for 10/12/2023

Motion made by Mitchell second by Bertolino to approve the agenda for 10/12/2023 Police committee meeting with additional discussion items #5 and #6. Motion passed with all in favor.

2. Approval of Meeting Minutes (09/14/2023)

Motion made by Mitchell second by Bertolino to approve the Police Committee Meeting Minutes for 09/14/23. Motion passed with all in favor.

3. Discuss Future of Safe Passage in Virden

John Huxtable and Tom Kennedy were heavily involved with Safe Passage program, and they both left Virden. The money for this program is being held at the Knights of Columbus. They are getting impatient holding onto the money if it is not going to be used it needs to be passed along to the county. The new minister at Prairie Temple was interested but needs more information. The police would refer addicts to the program either to rehab or a step to recovery. The name safe passage is because they are encouraging if seeking help, they can come into the police department and if they have drugs they can turn them over without being arrested. The account holds between \$2-3000. Decided to see if the minister wants to take it over and hold off Knights of Columbus for now.

4. Discuss no access of Soda Street by Semis/Trucks

Republic Services trash trucks and a random semi-truck when making a turn are getting up into his yard and have destroyed planters. Linder Street is the main road. Previously we would have been able to just have a conversation with Flowers. Police chief and the Mayor will reach out to Republic to have a conversation regarding using Linder Street as the main road.

5. Discuss Promotion of sergeant

This position was posted on 9/18/23. We are still a few days off from 30 days for the required posting. Officer Gist has sent a letter of interest. He is aware of the shift he would need to work. Alderman Ibberson feels that the new sergeant should be on shift that does not have a supervisor. Seargent Berns is currently on from 3am to 3pm. Whomever is promoted to sergeant would take the opposite shift of the current sergeant which would be 3pm to 3am shift.

6. Discuss vehicle seizure

In February, the police department was in pursuit of a subject that ended up being charged with aggravated fleeing and eluding. The state statute gives the police department the opportunity to seize the

vehicle involved. The City of Virden is the owner of 2008 Audi A4. The city can either use this vehicle for city/department use. The chief would have to submit paperwork to the state (DMV) to get the registration transferred to the City of Virden or we can take it to auction if auctioned the city has to send the check to the state and we would get a portion (65%) of the money and has to be used for law enforcement. Chief will call and make sure of the process that the city has to go through to sell the vehicle. This will be placed on Council agenda to approve selling surplus property.

7. Update on FOIA request

Alderman Cunningham was wanting an update on the complaint regarding the FOIA request. Chief Snodgrass spoke with the Mayor, and they reviewed the bodycam footage. Chief did not want to violate body cam statute. Items were redacted and both the Mayor and the Chief were good with releasing. The Chief also called and asked complainant to come in and discuss the complaint. Complainant did state that they worked M-F from 7am-3pm and the chief let complainant know if he had a day and time they would come back in and meet. The complainant stated he would call back and let the chief know when a good time was. The chief did not hear back. The chief reached out again via email and the complainant stated he did not want to come in and talk with the chief. The disk of the video is sitting at the office ready for complainant to pick up. The complainant has filed a complaint with Attorney General's office. Attorney General's office has reached out asking for a copy of everything that was sent to the complainant via the FOIA request. The chief also uploaded the video to the Attorney General and that is all the chief has heard.

Additional:

Mayor Murphy: Any movement on the trailer (corner of Green and Bissell). The chief states there is no further movement when given an extra two weeks.

Motion made by Bertolino seconded by Murphy to enter executive session at 7:33 pm

Executive Session

1. Personnel- Employment 5ILCS 120/2(c)(1)

Motion made by Mitchell seconded by Mottershaw to exit executive session at 7:37 pm. Motion passed with all in favor.

Motion made by Bertolino seconded by Calloway to adjourn the meeting at 7:38 pm. Motion passed with all in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 9:15 pm.



Shelly Boster
City Clerk

Date Minutes Approved: