

## **COMMUNITY PROTECTION & SERVICES COMMITTEE**

**October 13, 2016**

A meeting of the Community Protection & Services Committee was called to order at 5:13 p.m. by Chairperson Wiesner in Council Chambers, City Hall. **Roll Call:** Members Mr. Wiesner and Mr. Ward were present. Also present was City Administrator Josh VanLieshout, City Staff Members: Chief Dietman, Chad Shefchik, Bob Bordeau and Chief Porter; and Jason Mann of Mann Communication, LLC.

*Moved by Mr. Ward, seconded by Mr. Wiesner to adopt the following agenda:*

1. Roll call.
2. Adoption of agenda.
3. Consideration of: 2017 Cable TV budget
4. Consideration of: Personal Services Contract with Mann Communications, LLC for Cable TV Service
5. Consideration of: Snow Blowing Business Sidewalks
6. Consideration of: Public Safety Training Facility
7. Adjourn

*Carried.*

### **2017 Cable TV Budget**

The 2017 budget mirrors previous years; aside from the \$207,000 fiber cable lines and increase in contract pay which was discussed and approved by the Cable Communication Advisory Council.

*Moved by Mr. Wiesner, seconded by Mr. Ward that the Community Protection & Services Committee recommends to accept the 2017 Cable TV budget as presented and approve for incorporation into the 2017 budget. All ayes. Carried.*

### **Personal Services Contract with Mann Communication, LLC**

There were no questions regarding the extension of the service contract with Mann Communications. A wage increase was proposed for the next two years. This was approved by the Cable Communication Advisory Council.

*Moved by Mr. Wiesner, seconded by Mr. Ward that the Community Protection & Services Committee recommends the approval of the Personal Service Contract with Mann Communication, LLC for cable TV services for an additional term of two years commencing January 1, 2017, with a base salary increase of \$2,500 each year.. All ayes. Carried.*

### **Snow Blowing Business Sidewalks**

In January Mr. Bordeau, Municipal Services Directory, came before the committee to discuss removal of snow on the new sidewalks along Egg Harbor Road. Letters were sent informing the businesses making them aware they are responsible for snow removal, in

accordance with the City ordinance. If snow is not removed, the City will plow the sidewalk and charge that business.

Currently, after each 3" snowfall, the City Municipal Services Department blows the snow from sidewalks in the downtown area; defined as the area around Third Avenue and Madison Avenue. Since the installation of sidewalks on Egg Harbor Road, businesses have requested to have their sidewalks included in the snow blowing program.

It takes DPW twelve man hours at a cost of \$1,235 per snow event to blow sidewalks that border City owned property and downtown businesses. This cost includes wages, benefits and equipment costs.

After researching the records, it is still unknown when or why this practice started. The City Clerk questioned other municipalities to see if they clear sidewalks for businesses; all ten responses stated they do not. Additionally, they all stated that if sidewalks are not cleared within a certain amount of time the city will hire or clear the sidewalk and bill the property owner for this service.

Mr. Ward questioned if the City stops clearing snow, how many businesses will that impact. Mr. Bordeau was unsure, but added if the City continues to plow sidewalks where do we draw the line? It is anticipated that a few businesses will complain, but the majority will understand. Mr. VanLieshout stated the City is competing with private businesses that make their living cleaning snow, and recommends getting out of the business. Mr. Wiesner agreed.

Mr. Ward asked what the exit plan should be. Mr. VanLieshout thought a public notice put onto the City Facebook page and public access channel; Mr. Ward suggested sending a letter or including one in the utility bill. Mr. VanLieshout stated the City will work on getting the notice out to the public; if there are any issues with the explanation they will be justified at that time. Mr. Bordeau will get the notices out before the snow starts.

*Moved by Mr. Ward, seconded by Mr. Wiesner that the Community Protection & Services Committee approves the staff recommendation to eliminate snow blowing on downtown sidewalks. All ayes. Carried.*

### **Public Safety Training Facility**

Chief Dietman updated the committee on the training facility. At this time they have been donated fencing, Roen Salvage is taking care of the training pods, and majority of site prep can be done in-house.

Surveys have been sent to businesses in the industrial park gathering insurance saving information; some have come back stating minimal saving (7-10% annually) but are positive with the potential change in the ISO rating.

At this time no additional funding is being requested; information regarding costs involving utilities and sewer is pending.

Mr. Ward asked if private companies were interested in using the facility, what kind of agreement would be in place regarding renting the facility. Chief Dietman stated there is

already interest. At this time a usage agreement is being drawn up; there will be a minimal charge but it has not been decided upon. There are many different trainings the facility can host; not just for fire departments. The pods can be configured to whatever aspects are being taught.

Mr. Ward asked if there have been complaints with location. Chief Dietman stated he was confident the site was an ideal location due to it being more rural, not many neighbors. Mr. Wiesner agreed the location is ideal, and that it will be a benefit to the City. Eventually a bathroom may be built that can be utilized by visitors to the dog park; which would be an additional asset.

Chief Dietman commented that training is important to his department; and having something local would be valued.

*Moved by Mr. Wiesner seconded by Mr. Ward that the Community Protection & Services Committee recommends to approve and give permission to the Fire Department to move forward with the Public Safety Training Facility. All ayes. Carried.*

*Moved by Mr. Wiesner, seconded by Mr. Ward to adjourn the meeting of the Community Protection Services Committee. All ayes. Carried. The meeting was adjourned at 5:42 p.m.*

Respectfully submitted,

Sarah Spude-Olson  
Police Department  
Administrative Office Manager