



City of Hot Springs Public Safety Committee – Minutes of Meeting

Date and Time of Meeting: Thursday April 4, 2024; 2:00 p.m.

Location of Meeting: Mueller Civic Center Annex; 801 S. 6th Street

Call to Order and Roll Call

Members present: Alderman Bill Lukens; Alderman J.R. Huddleston; Alderwoman Debra Johnston; Mayor Bob Nelson; Chief Ross Norton; Captain Phil Shively; FRC Assistant Emergency Manager Gary Baker; FRHS Compliance Manager Renae Staley:

Members of the Public

Soni Cockran; Jeffrey LaRive; Jerry Huddleston; Jane Lukens, Ryan Engel

Adoption of Agenda

The agenda was adopted as published

Communications from the Public

- Jeffery LaRive, concern over traffic rerouting through Evans Heights and the 25 mph speed limit on Summit Road ;
- Soni Cockran, concern over traffic speed in the Harney Road and Happy Hollow Street area, asked if there is a possibility for a flag near that intersection;
- Ryan Engel, reminded the Committee that the crosswalk sign at 16th and University at carwash was knocked down needs to be replaced; also cars parked at 19th and Jennings in the School Zone.

The Committee had previously determined to reduce the speed limit on Summit Road and the adjoining roads in that area and will follow-up with the City Administrator with the status of request as well as the possibility of additional warning signage at Harney and Happy Hollow and the reinstallation of the Crosswalk sign at 16th and University. Chief Norton will follow-up on the concern with parking issue at 19th and Jennings.

Update from the Police Department

- PD performed an emphasized saturation patrol on April 3rd from 6 pm to 8 pm; 22 stops with emphasis on speed and seat belts compliance. These saturation patrols will continue as the overtime is supported by a Highway Safety Grant.
- As of the March Expense Report, PD had expended 22.81% of its budget through 25% of the year.
- In March officers responded to 308 calls, 39 of which were considered potentially high risk call. Of the 1091 calls through March, 18.15% are considered potentially high risk calls.



Old business

1. The status of the seven items on the action item list was reviewed:
 - a. Fall River Emergency Management continues to plan the NIMS Training for elected officials, which should take place this July or August;
 - b. The Traffic Control Sign study is progressing and should be completed by the end of this quarter;
 - c. A second survey of The House Number Project is being coordinated with the Boy Scouts;
 - d. The Fuels Reduction Grant – no update available at this meeting;
 - e. The Back-up Power Grant – no update available at this meeting;
 - f. Animal Control issues – no update available at this meeting;
 - g. Family Day Care Compliance – Currently no Day Care facilities have renewed their licenses; action plan to be developed.

New Business

1. A citizen request for Speed Indicator sign on University within the School Zone. Chief Norton will investigate the feasibility of this request.
2. The next meeting will be held at the Library Conference Room as there will be Emergency Coordination Center training held for Council members and Public Safety Committee members at 3 p.m. after the Public Safety Committee meeting.

Adjournment: 3:07 p.m.

The next meeting is Thursday May 2nd at 2:00 p. at the Library Conference Room.