



CITY OF ELMHURST

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Minutes of Committee
Monday, June 27, 2011
7:00 p.m.

PUBLIC AFFAIRS AND SAFETY COMMITTEE

- 1) Police Department – Officer Vacancies
- 2) Historical Museum – Part-time Aide Vacancy
- 3) Discussion: Pace Van Program
- 4) Al's Hobby Shop Special Event
- 5) Other Business

Committee: Wagner, Pezza, Bram

Elected: DiCianni

Staff: Neubauer, Kopp, Bacidore, Mahoney, Bergheger, Grabowski

Guests: Ruth Maple, Grayson Haller, Cathy Jordan, Chris Rose (Pace), Mary Donner
(Pace) and Matthew Siffer

Copies To All
Elected Officials

06-29-30

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DISCUSSION AND COMMENTS:

Item #1

Asst. City Manager Kopp and Chief Neubauer discussed the manpower issue with the police department. At the April 11, 2011, meeting of the PA&S committee, the Committee issued a report authorizing the police department to hire those officers as provided for in the 2011-2012 budget. That budgeted number of officers is 69. At the time of that report, the police department was staffed with 67 officers creating 2 openings. As of today, there are 64 officers due to retirement and separations. The police department will swear in 2 officers on July 8 for the July 11 police academy, but they are seeking clarification on the hiring of the remaining 3 officers.

Chief Neubauer again advised the Committee that there is a 32 week police academy and field training time line to getting officers on solo patrol. The July academy officers will be available for patrol in February. The next police academy is in September and those officers will not be available for patrol until May of 2012. Chairman Wagner and Mayor DiCianni mentioned that caution in hiring should be considered pending the outcome of contract negotiations and the potential costs associated with settlement. Chairman Wagner also asked about part-time police becoming full-time police. Chief Neubauer said the testing is regulated by the BOFPC and a test will probably be given in May 2012. Any qualified part-time police officer is welcomed to take the test for full-time police officer. Currently, the part-time hiring process, qualifications and training is different than the full-time officer program.

The Committee did not recommend filling the 3 vacancies at this time. The Committee asked that they be updated on a regular basis regarding these manpower issues.

Item #2

Museum Director Brian Bergheger spoke of an opening he had at the museum for a part-time employee to work the gallery on Saturday and Sunday. The current employee has resigned. This is a replacement position already budgeted. The Committee members indicated they would sign a report approving the replacement part-time position.

Item #3

Kathy Jordan, Grayson Haller and Ruth Maple from the senior commission introduced an issue involving senior transportation options for Elmhurst. "Ride Elmhurst" is no longer a viable option for senior transportation. The other current senior taxi-supported program is problematic for seniors who need to go outside the city limits and township senior transportation has limitations within the township.

Jordan introduced Chris Rose and Mary Donner from PACE to talk about a van leasing program. According to Donner, the City is eligible to lease a 15 person van handicapped equipped van for \$100.00 a month. The City would provide maintenance, fuel and a driver. The City could then develop a van program regulating hours, routes, rules and rates. The Committee members

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were interested in the concept. The Committee advised the members of the senior commission to develop a more complete plan for the project with realistic costs and come back to the Committee with more specific information.

Item #4

Matthew Siffer from Al's Hobby Shop appeared to talk about their special event. They will be hosting a radio controlled car race on Sunday, July 10, 2011 in the Schiller Ct. Alley. There were no objections from police or fire. Siffer provided proof of insurance and the Committee signed a report approving the event.

Item #5

Other Business - None

The Committee was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.
Submitted by Steven Neubauer, Chief of Police