



CITY OF NORMAN, OK
PUBLIC SAFETY OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE MEETING
Development Center, Room B, 225 N. Webster Ave., Norman, OK 73069
Thursday, September 12, 2024 at 4:00 PM

MINUTES

The Public Safety Oversight Committee of the City of Norman, Cleveland County, State of Oklahoma, met in Regular Session in Conference Room B at the Development Center, on the 12th day of September, 2024, at 4:00 PM, and notice of the agenda of the meeting was posted at the Norman Municipal Building at 201 West Gray, at the Development Center at 225 N. Webster, and on the City website at least 24 hours prior to the beginning of the meeting.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT

Chairman Linda Price
Committee Member Kenny Orr
Committee Member Kyle Hurley
Committee Member Lea Greenleaf
Committee Member Mark Emerson
Committee Member Ann Gallagher
Committee Member Ashlie Durham

ABSENT

Committee Member Russell Rice
Committee Member Greg Gilkey

OTHERS

Major Brent Barbour, NPD
Asst. Chief Chad Roney, NFD
Russell Anderson, Comm. Systems Manager
Kim Coffman, Budget Manager
Dannielle Risenhoover, Administrative Tech. IV
Jacob Huckabaa, Budget Technician
Bill Scanlon, Citizen

Chair Price called the meeting to order at approximately 4:00 PM. She welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced new Public Safety Oversight Committee Member Ashlie Durham.

MINUTES

1. CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL, REJECTION, AMENDMENT AND/OR POSTPONEMENT OF MINUTES FROM AUGUST 8, 2024

Member Gallagher moved to approve the August 8, 2024 Public Safety Oversight Committee minutes which were duly seconded by Member Hurley. The motion passed unanimously.

Items submitted for the record:

Citizens Public Safety Oversight Committee Minutes from August 8, 2024.

REPORTS

2. CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL, REJECTION, AMENDMENT AND/OR POSTPONEMENT OF FINANCIAL REPORTS

Kim Coffman gave the report. Sales tax is low for August. Coffman stated, "Year-to-date, we are about 10% below the budget target for sales tax. Hopefully we'll bring that up as the fiscal year progresses." Use tax is somewhat high, but not filling the gap left by sales tax. Norman Public Schools (NPS) has agreed to pay \$531,232 toward the City of Norman School Resource Officer Program. This amount was approved by Norman City Council at their August 27th, 2024 meeting. The City of Norman budgeted for NPS to pay \$732,957 toward the program. Coffman stated that the City of Norman's General Fund will have to fill this gap with an inter-fund transfer. It has been understood that NPS will receive one officer and one lieutenant – free of charge, during Summer School. "Overall, revenues are about 12% below the budget for July and August," Coffman said.

There were three payrolls in the month of August with no major expenditures. "Budget wise, on the expenditure side, we're below target; so that's looking good," stated Coffman.

Items submitted for the record:

Financial Reports

DISCUSSION & ACTION ITEMS

3. MONTHLY UPDATES

a) FIRE DEPARTMENT UPDATES

Assistant Chief Chad Roney gave the update. He stated that the department is still looking at the same timelines, as previously mentioned in other meetings, for replacement/construction of the ordered fire apparatuses.

Conversations regarding the Paramedic protocols for fire stations five and six are still on-going. The emergency life support equipment at these stations has not yet been placed back onto the fire apparatuses. Member Hurley addressed Asst. Chief Roney saying, "On the hospital side, when we have an unexpected outcome with a patient (due to lack of equipment), we enter what we call a variance. If a patient were to have a poor outcome and you're like, 'you know what, if we were to have this equipment, we could have made some sort of an intervention,' I feel like this group would need to know that. I feel like legal or whoever you're reporting to would also need to know because - you didn't have this equipment and there's a patient that suffered as a result of it." Asst. Chief Roney will follow up with Justin Garrett to see if any patients have

suffered as a result of life support equipment being off of the apparatuses at fire stations five and six.

The Fire Department is still waiting on the final draft of the Public Safety Study.

1. VEHICLE REPLACEMENT MATRIX

City of Norman vehicle replacement criteria was included in the Committee meeting packets for review.

b) POLICE DEPARTMENT UPDATES

Major Brent Barbour gave the update. Barbour didn't have any updates on the Public Safety Study, other than it would be available in September. The Police Department has 42 police cars ordered. The majority of these cars are electric and gas hybrids. Once received, the cars will go through special outfitting to make them street ready for the Police Department. The customization typically takes around one to two weeks per car.

The Police Department has 184 commissioned positions with 169 officers employed. Some of the officers are still in training. A lateral academy will start in October. There are four officers in this academy. They will graduate in February 2025 along with approximately 6 cadets from the traditional academy. A spring 2025 academy is anticipated as well. "We're really, really lean on those who can retire and most people are wanting to stay," Barbour said. "We're in a really good place on staffing on the commissioned side."

The Police Department was recently involved in the City of Norman Citizens' Academy and the "Tip a Cop" fundraiser for Special Olympics. Officers will conduct National Night out on September 30 at the Sooner Mall parking lot.

Norman Police School Resource Officers continue to serve the Norman Public Schools, but with four additional officers added to the 2024-2025 school year. Kim Coffman asked how the Norman Police Department (NPD) is going to stop the School Resource Officers from working overtime. "I think what you'll see is us (NPD) not having a dedicated SRO at some events that aren't necessary; now, that being said, we have an active threat, we have a significant concern going on, obviously we're going to have people there," Barbour said. "The reality is, we're not going to stop public safety for an overtime budget."

Barbour commented on the "tremendous amount of resources" that are involved during the University of Oklahoma football games. "From the emergency services side of the house only, we run about 350 people on the ground on game days," Barbour said. "They're all being coordinated to make sure everything runs as efficiently and safe as possible. There are a tremendous amount of contingencies at work behind the scenes, so it's a really big group effort." The University of Oklahoma does reimburse the City of Norman for their deployed fire and police resources; however, the reimbursement does not go back into the police or fire budgets. It goes into the City's General Fund.

The Norman Police Department operates with three patrol K-9s, two drug interdiction K-9s, and two therapy dogs. The dogs are on call 24/7. To name a few, Norman Police Department partners with Cleveland County, University of Oklahoma, Oklahoma State University, Oklahoma City Police Department, and Oklahoma Highway Patrol for use of their specialized dogs as well.

1. SPYDR TECHNOLOGY

Major Brent Barbour gave a presentation explaining the Norman Police Departments new Spyder Technology that has been in use for approximately five weeks. This new technology allows NPD to update 911 callers, via text messaging, regarding NPD's response to their calls and cases. It also offers callers the opportunity to provide feedback, in the form of a survey with a comments section, regarding their experience with NPD. Norman Police Department is able to pull granular reports on the data that is collected through the surveys. Barbour says that this will help NPD identify things that they can do better.

c) DISPATCH UPDATES

Russell Anderson gave the update. Anderson stated that he has a full staff. University of Oklahoma (OU) Dispatch is considering moving their operations to the City of Norman's Emergency Communications Operations Center (ECOC). Anderson stated that this would be an easy transition since OU is already on the same radio and computer aided design (CAD) system.

d) EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS OPERATIONS CENTER (ECOC) UPDATES

Major Brent Barbour gave the update. Barbour confirmed that the Dispatch Department is up and running at the ECOC. The construction punch list items for the ECOC should be completed by September 20, 2024. The Vehicle Storage Facility at the ECOC is scheduled to be completed by the end of February; however, contractors believe construction will be completed sooner.

When asked about the effectiveness of the Decompression Room in the ECOC, Barbour replied, "In the first week alone, in the ECOC building, we ran almost 2,000 police calls, 463 EMS (emergency medical system) calls, over 400 fire calls, and about 400 OU calls through our system. Within that, multiple fires, the two babies, the homicide, and a lot of other things. We are already seeing an impact with that space being used."

The Dispatch Department has received more applications for employment (than typical) since the ECOC has opened.

4. ESTABLISH TOPICS FOR THE OCTOBER 10, 2024 MEETING

The meeting topics for October 10, 2024 will include updates from the Finance, Police, Fire, and Dispatch Departments.

MISCELLANEOUS COMMENTS

The Public Safety Oversight Committee decided that their October 10, 2024 meeting will be held at the Emergency Communications Operations Center, Room EOC, 2801 E. Robinson, Norman, OK 73071.

ADJOURNMENT

Member Emerson made a motion to adjourn the meeting which was duly seconded by Member Gallagher. The motion passed unanimously.



Linda Price, Chair

Citizens Public Safety Oversight Committee