

Minutes

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

Monday, June 12, 2023

7:00 P.M.

Police Training Room, Fourth Floor
Municipal Building, Jamestown, New York

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairman Brent Sheldon, Councilman William Reynolds III, Councilman Jeff Russell

MEMBERS ABSENT:

OTHERS PRESENT: Leigh Anne Jordan, Police Chief Timothy Jackson, Deputy Fire Chief Matt Coon

Councilman Sheldon called the meeting to order.

Public Safety Committee

7:00 p.m., Police Training Room

Opportunities for Public Comment

No one from the public appeared to speak before the committee.

Informational Report

1. Special Event Permit – After Game Fireworks, to be held immediately following the Tarp Skunks game on June 30, 2023.

The committee approved of the event as presented

2. Special Event Permit – Christmas in July, to be held from Thursday, July 20, 2023 through Sunday, July 23, 2023, from 8:00 a.m. until 9:00 p.m. (including set up and tear down.) Events will take place throughout the city with fireworks following the July 23 Tarp Skunks game.

The committee approved of the event as presented

3. North Main Street viaduct project discussion.
 - This discussion item also appears on the Finance Agenda.

Director of Development Crystal Surdyk will speak to the plans during the full work session as she was briefing the Finance Committee during the Public Safety meeting.

The committee was provided two new business resolutions from the Jamestown Police Department as new business items.

1. WHEREAS, on January 22, 2002 the Jamestown City Council adopted resolution number 200201C03 that effective immediately and until further notice instituted a hiring freeze for the City of Jamestown, and

Whereas, on November 20, 2006 the Jamestown City Council adopted resolution number 200611B17 to extend the freeze to any change in employment from Part-Time to Full-Time status, and

WHEREAS, it has become apparent that within the Jamestown Police Department, an effort to effectively manage the city's day-to-day responsibilities in a cost-efficient manner, it is in the City of Jamestown's best interest to lift the hiring freeze for a certain position, now therefore be it

RESOLVED that effective immediately the Jamestown City Council hereby suspends the hiring freeze instituted by resolution number 200201C03 and authorized the filling of the following position due to the essential nature of the position.

- One Clerk II in the Jamestown Police Department

The committee agreed to place the resolution on the June 26, 2023 voting session agenda.

2. WHEREAS, on January 22, 2002 the Jamestown City Council adopted resolution number 200201C03 that effective immediately and until further notice instituted a hiring freeze for the City of Jamestown, and

Whereas, on November 20, 2006 the Jamestown City Council adopted resolution number 200611B17 to extend the freeze to any change in employment from Part-Time to Full-Time status, and

WHEREAS, it has become apparent that within the Jamestown Police Department, an effort to effectively manage the city's day-to-day responsibilities in a cost-efficient manner, it is in the City of Jamestown's best interest to lift the hiring freeze for a certain position, now therefore be it

RESOLVED that effective immediately the Jamestown City Council hereby suspends the hiring freeze instituted by resolution number 200201C03 and authorized the filling of the following position due to the essential nature of the position.

- One part-time Crime Analyst and one part-time GIVE Coordinator Assistant in the Jamestown Police Department

Both positions are funded by the GIVE X award.

The committee agreed to place the resolution on the June 26, 2023 voting session agenda.

Chief Jackson noted that the city received much more money this year from the GIVE Grant, and the positions were recommended by the New York State DCJS to help facilitate the grant. One of the positions is for a paid student intern to assist with data entry and the second is for a crime analyst to work in the Erie County Crime Unit, helping connect crimes to our jurisdiction.

Chief Jackson and Councilman Russell discussed the nuisance officer position briefly. Councilman Russell is very happy with the success the officer has had thus far with the statistics that have been distributed. Foot patrols have been conducted when there is an available officer. Mostly, there is a walking about around 4:00 p.m., however the night shift is currently not offered.

Councilman Russell asked if there were plans to restart the bike patrol problem. To date, there is not training available for bike officers but the idea is not off the table. Additionally, Councilman Russell queried whether there have been problems with tickets being issued to minibikes, etc., regarding them not being eligible for vehicle registration. In some cases, that have been seen, cases such as those have been thrown out in court. The question arose if a city ordinance might be in order to avoid such potential problems.

Deputy Chief Coon reminded the group that bids for the new ambulance are due this coming Wednesday.

To close out the meeting, Councilman Reynolds led a brief conversation about Washington Street and the arrows. He noted that they may take a bit to get used to be he feels it will work itself out and residents will adjust.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Senior Account Clerk-Deputy Registrar/Leigh Anne Jordan