

LADUE BOARD OF FIRE AND POLICE COMMISSIONERS MEETING MINUTES

The regular meeting of the Ladue Board of Fire and Police Commissioners was held on Monday, January 14, 2019, at 4:00 p.m., at Ladue City Hall Council Chambers, 9345 Clayton Road.

Present:

Col. William Francis Jr., Chairman

Ms. Carol D. Gaskin

Mr. John Schaperkotter

Mr. John Stupp

Mayor Nancy Spewak

Absent:

Mr. L. Shepley Hermann

Mr. Stephen Jones

Also present were Police Chief Ken Andreski, Jr., Police Lieutenant Ray Hahs, Fire Chief Steven Lynn and Assistant Chief Jeff Johnson.

Chairman Francis called the meeting to order at 4:00 pm.

The agenda was approved upon motion by Commissioner Schaperkotter and second by Commissioner Stupp.

The minutes of the regular meeting of November 12, 2018 were approved upon motion by Commissioner Stupp and second by Commissioner Gaskin.

During an opportunity for public comment none was offered.

Chief Andreski began with the monthly report noting the armed robbery that occurred on January 1st will be reflected on the 2019 report. The Chief went on to provide details of the suspects and investigation of the armed robbery. Upon inquiry from Commissioner Stupp regarding the increase in assaults and clearance rates on vehicle thefts, Chief Andreski explained the majority of assaults are occurring at schools along with some in the business district. While there is an increase in assaults the formatting of the report for assaults has changed from the previous year. All stolen vehicles were recovered.

Commissioner Francis inquired as to whether there is a statutory limit on the speed an emergency vehicle may travel while in pursuit. While the statute calls for speed to be reasonable and prudent, there is no limit for police vehicles but standard practice for the fire department is 10 miles over the posted speed limit.

Policy 21.1, Enforcement of Traffic Violations, was unanimously approved with additional language added on Page 7 Section V 9.11 regarding searches of suspect vehicles, and discussion of operation of a commercial motor vehicle, whereby, drivers of commercial motor vehicles are held to a higher standard, the department's policy of issuing warnings for a period of 30 days when new legislation is enacted with exception of violations posing a serious public safety risk, clarification that drivers' license and proof of insurance are the only two items required to be carried when operating a motor vehicle, and confirmation that predetermined patterns for vehicle safety checks are determined before setting up the check point and all participating officers are aware.

Chief Andreski and Lt. Hahs presented for consideration of the Commissioners the following additional policy sections of the Police Policy Manual.

- Section 21.5 Traffic Citations, there was one typographical error noted.
- Sections 22.1 Communication of Units, 22.2 Staffing, 22.3 Preliminary Investigations; no discussion.
- Section 22.4 Field Interview Reports, Section IV 7.6 review of identification is left to the discretion of the officer dependent upon the reason for the stop.
- Section 22.5 Notification of Next of Kin, amended to add to Section III Definition of Next of Kin, "appointed legal representative".
- Section 22.7 Victim & Witness Rights, no discussion.
- Section 22.9 In-Car Camera Systems, the source document is the department's existing policy with some minor changes. The most important change is Section V 7 Field Sobriety Tests, to remind officers if the front emergency lights are turned off to position 1 on the patrol car's light controller, the camera will shut off, officers will have to press "record" on their microphone or camera mirror, clarification of Section V 1.4 in-car camera system has a setting on the back end of the system that will record when exposed to significant crashes and when the driver reaches 90 mph.
- Section 22.10 Summons in Lieu, discussion of felony threshold (currently \$750) which can change periodically.

Sections 21.5 through 22.10 were unanimously approved with one amendment to Section 22.5 Notification of Next of Kin, to add language to the definition of Next of Kin – "appointed legal representative", upon motion by Commissioner Stupp and second by Commissioner Gaskin.

A special meeting will be scheduled on either February 20th or February 21st for consideration of additional police department policy sections.

Chief Lynn reported on a busy December for the Fire Department and explained the challenges the department experienced while fighting a significant house fire on Upper Ladue. Different types of building materials were discussed. The Chief explained that pressed wood, as it breaks down when heat is applied for an extended period, can help fuel a fire. The report of the fire investigation on Upper Ladue may be shared with the Chief by the independent investigator.

Chief Lynn presented for consideration of the Commissioners the following policies for the Fire Department.

- Policy 1.05 Shift Transfer Policy and Procedure, existing policy with only one change to move the date up for permanent shift change requests to October 15th, with shift assignments effective January 1st.
- Policy 1.36 Promotional Process – Driver Operator/Engineer, this is a new policy which mimics the testing process for Lieutenant and Captain. The policy includes eligibility requirements, testing process and scoring, and timeline.

- Policy 2.10 Knox Box Use Guidelines, the existing policy has been discarded and a new policy written. The policy offers guidance for non-emergency situations when the fire department receives a request by the home owner to open the Knox Box so that they may gain entry into the home. The Ladue Police Department shall be notified and property owner identity confirmed. A Know Box is required if a home has a sprinkler system.
- Policy 2.16 Annual Hose Testing Procedure, this procedure follows guidelines set forth in NFPA 1962.
- Policy 3.10 Forcible Entry Policy and Procedure, this is a new policy to provide a framework for forcing entry into locked structures without a Knox Box and locked vehicles for situations requiring forced entry for medical alarms, fire alarms and other emergencies when risk to life or property is present. One typographical error was noted.

Policy sections 1.05 – 3.10 were unanimously approved upon motion by Commissioner Schaperkotter and second by Commissioner Gaskin.

Chief Lynn presented a topic for consideration by the Commissioners regarding a partnership between Lindenwood University and the Ladue Fire Department for a paramedic education program. The program uses the department's ambulance as an educational tool. Lindenwood students would be under the direct supervision of a preceptor. The students educational levels would vary and exposure to treatments/response are dependent upon their educational level. Preceptors that have the ability to teach would be selected from within the department and would be voluntary.

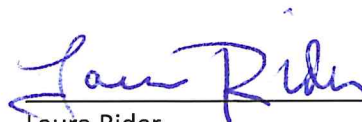
The Chief indicated that a draft contract has been forwarded to the City Attorney for an opinion and that he has yet to have discussions with the Mayor, but wanted to introduce the topic for the Commissioners to consider.

Commissioner Francis questioned if liability is placed on the City in this program. Chief Lynn explained liability is placed on Lindenwood and the student's insurance. The preceptor is common practice for medical education programs. Students will be required to adhere to Ladue's policies. The agreement should give the ability to terminate the relationship with the student, if necessary. The agreement will require Council approval and Chief will be asking for the Commission's support at a later date.

The meeting adjourned at 5:40 PM.



William Francis, Jr.
Chairman



Laura Rider
Assistant to the Mayor/City Clerk