

LADUE BOARD OF FIRE AND POLICE COMMISSIONER'S MEETING MINUTES

June 13, 2016

Present:

Col. William Francis Jr., Chairman
Ms. Carol D. Gaskin
Mr. L. Shepley Hermann
Mr. John Schaperkotter
Mayor Nancy Spewak (arrived 4:12 p.m.)

Also present were Police Chief Rich Wooten, Fire Chief Steve Lynn and Assistant Fire Chief Jeff Johnson.

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

The agenda was approved upon motion by Commissioner Hermann and second by Commissioner Gaskin.

The minutes of the March 21, 2016 meeting were approved upon motion by Commissioner Gaskin and second by Commissioner Schaperkotter.

During an opportunity for public comment none was offered.

Fire Chief Lynn presented the monthly and annual reports. Chief Lynn explained that the increase in operating costs in 2015 was due to the contract with Central County Dispatch. There was discussion regarding the different categories of calls reported. When it is not clear how to categorize a call it is listed as a good intent call.

Fire Chief Lynn presented the proposed mission statement for the Fire Department. *"The dedicated Men and Women of the Ladue Fire Department are committed and prepared to provide exceptional Emergency Services while honoring the trust and respect bestowed upon us by the Citizens of Ladue."*

The proposed mission statement as presented by Fire Chief Lynn was unanimously endorsed by the Fire and Police Commissioners upon motion by Commissioner Schaperkotter and second by Commissioner Hermann.

Fire Chief Lynn explained that he was approached by students that were interested in a Ride-Along Program. After working with the City Attorney, waivers were developed and two 18 year old male students participated in the program during the month of May. The program allows for individuals to ride on the fire truck but not on the ambulance. Participants are not involved in any activities; it is observation only. Discussion ensued regarding age and participation limits and other requirements. The Commissioners fully support the operation and participation in the program during the month of May.

Fire Chief Lynn presented a photo policy written by the City Attorney. The policy allows the fire fighters/paramedics to take photos with their personal cell phones while on accident scenes. Photos can be very useful for treating physicians and for training purposes. There are Department issued cameras on the trucks, however, today, more often than not, cell phones are carried on your person and are more easily accessible.

Police Chief Wooten was asked about the Police Department photo policy. Chief Wooten stated that no photos are allowed to be taken with personal cell phones.

Following discussion, the consensus of the Commissioners was to forward both the Fire Department and Police Department Ride-Along and photo policies to the City Attorney for review for consistency and any appropriate recommendations.

Fire Chief Lynn explained that the Fire Department is interested in creating a social media page. Some other fire departments are using social media. He feels it is a great communication tool. The City's policy allows each department to create a social media page. However, the City does not have its own face book page. Police Chief Wooten stated that each department within the City has different needs and it can be a full time job to manage posts. Twitter could also be an option.

Commissioner Hermann moved endorsement of the Fire Department's social media policy, seconded by Commissioner Gaskin, which motion passed unanimously.

Chief Lynn stated that he was approached by some of the firefighters about designing a new logo for the department. Firefighter Brian Gibson designed the proposed new logo which Chief Lynn displayed on department apparel for the Commissioners. Chief Lynn explained that the Fire Department is starting a new chapter and this was a unity project and morale booster. Fire Departments' identify themselves by their patch. The old patch will never be discarded. It will be displayed in the new fire house.

Commissioner Hermann moved endorsement of the logo change for the Fire Department, seconded by Commissioner Gaskin, which motion passed unanimously.

Fire Chief Lynn reported that negotiations are going well as the final items are being discussed and that he successfully completed the first year of the Executive Fire Officer Program.

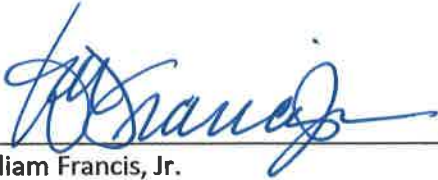
Police Chief Wooten displayed a new uniform shirt and vest carrier combination which is a proposed new option for police uniforms brought forward by Officer Arflack. The shirt and vest carrier can be changed quicker, extends the life of the body armor panels and is cooler to wear. This will be offered as part of the City provided uniform allowance.

Commissioner Gaskin moved acceptance of the vest carrier option, seconded by Commissioner Francis, which motion passed unanimously.

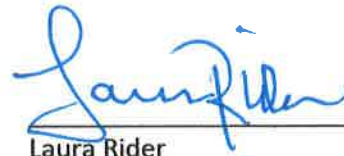
Chief Wooten initiated discussion regarding body cameras, use of force, and accreditation. Chief Wooten stated that he feels that there is value in body cameras and acquiring accreditation. Lt. McClure participated in a ten-week program at Northwestern University and during his studies researched and wrote a paper on implementing a pilot program on body cameras. Both a body camera program and accreditation are significant operational changes and the policies require time to implement.

The next meeting was tentatively set for August 8, 2016.

Commissioner Schaperkotter moved adjournment, seconded by Commissioner Hermann, which motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 5:16 PM.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "W. Francis, Jr.", written over a horizontal line.

William Francis, Jr.
Chairman

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Laura Rider", written over a horizontal line.

Laura Rider
City clerk