

# **Public Safety & Community Health Committee**

## ***Meeting Minutes – October 4, 2021***

Call to Order: 1:17 PM

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### **Attendance:**

**PSCHC Members Present:** CM Kinnear; CP Beggs; CM Mumm; CM Stratton; CM Burke; CM Cathcart; and CM Wilkerson (arrived at 1:18pm).

**Staff/Others Present:** City Administrator Johnnie Perkins, Mike Ormsby, Assistant Chief Justin Lundgren, Eric Olsen, David Singley, Michael McNab, Chief Brian Schaeffer, Lance Dahl, Howard Delaney, Tonya Wallace, Michael Diamond, Michelle Murray, Jason Ruffing, Justin Bingham, Matthew Boston, Tim Dunivant, Brian McClatchey, Giacobbe Byrd, and Hannahlee Allers.

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**Approval of August 30, 2021 minutes:** Motion to approve by CM Burke; M/S by CM Mumm. The committee approved the minutes from the August 30, 2021 PSCHC meeting unanimously.

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### **CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS**

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#### **Monthly Reports:**

1. OPO Monthly Update – August 2021
2. Photo Red Update (SPD)
3. October Strategic Initiatives Report (SPD)

#### **Consent Agenda Portion:**

1. State Office of Public Defense Grant Application Approval and Award Acceptance for 2022 and 2023 (Public Defender)
  2. Water Quality Gant for Education and Outreach (Public Works)
  3. AMS Contract Extension for Electronic Monitoring (Municipal Court)
  4. Clean Energy Contract Renewal (Fleet Services)
  5. Sole Source Resolution for Purchase of Vacuum Assembly (Fleet Services)
  6. Installation of Radio and Electrical Equipment Contract Renewal (Fleet Services)
  7. Police Jumpsuits Value Blanket (SPD)
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### **STRATEGIC PLANNING SESSION**

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#### **Strategic Priority: Integrated 911/Dispatch**

NONE

#### **Strategic Priority: Integrated Response**

NONE

#### **Strategic Priority: Criminal Justice Reform**

NONE

## **Strategic Priority: City-Wide Clean & Safe**

NONE

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### **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

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#### **Staff Requests:**

##### **Asset Capital Fire SBO – Tonya Wallace (10 minutes)**

Michelle Murray talked about a past SBO where amounts were adjusted down. This request is to fund the brush rigs SFD has already purchased as well as some pediatric tools used to treat COVID-19. There were no Council questions.

##### **Fire Department Access Road Distance Requirements SMC Amendments – Fire Marshal Lance Dahl (5 minutes)**

Fire Marshal Lance Dahl said that the current Fire Code requires that all points around buildings be within 150 feet of an approved setup location for fire apparatus. He said he is recommending a Fire Code change to the SMC to address fire apparatus access issues for single family and duplex lots. He said he has come to this decision through discussion both internally and externally. He talked about current fire code and his authority to extend 150ft and how that relates to the standard pre-connect hose lengths. CM Cathcart asked if homes within the range wouldn't have to be sprinkled. Mr. Dahl confirmed that. CM Cathcart asked if there as a way to possibly extend hose lengths to increase these distances even further. Mr. Dahl explained how adding extensions delays SFD's ability to fight fire.

##### **ESB 5476 Therapeutic Courts Grant Funding – Howard Delaney (5 minutes)**

Howard Delaney gave an overview of the current law around drug possession. Mr. Delaney talked about the referral process for individuals who are contacted by law enforcement for drug use. He talked about the coordination between community partners about how they can all work together to make this coordination most effective for connecting someone with treatment and providing a diversion opportunity. CM Cathcart asked for a description of the difference between community court and therapeutic court services. Mr. Delaney said the communities that are served are very different. Drug court is much more structured than pre-trial diversion. City Prosecutor Justin Bingham talked about the process for citing individuals and referring them to treatment. He said that he doesn't think the first two contacts by SPD will be meaningful and said that the third attempt may be most meaningful in the diversion process. CM Cathcart expressed support for a real opportunity for an individual to improve their situation upon the third contact. Mr. Bingham said that the Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) grant may need additional support by the City in the approach and navigation services for program participants. Mr. Delaney said that they anticipate getting most if not all of they ask for from this grant. CM Wilkerson asked how public safety officers will know the number contact an individual is on. Mr. Delaney said that locally it is being built into the local CAD system for dispatch and crime analysis. He said it might also be in a system state-wide.

##### **Municipal Court Office Supplies SBO – Howard Delaney (5 minutes)**

Howard Delaney talked about the COVID-19 budget exercise that led Municipal Court to give up M&O. This SBO moves salary savings to the office supply line to get them through the end of the year.

### **Foreclosure Registry Contract – Jason Ruffing (10 minutes)**

Jason Ruffing from code enforcement talked about a potential new contract with an existing provider to maintain a foreclosure registry program, which is defined in the SMC. Mr. Ruffing provided a brief overview of foreclosure registry data, including a map that code enforcement uses to monitor the properties. The properties are relatively equally distributed across the City. He said that the registry remains a useful tool for code enforcement staff and it is a good interdepartmental resource. CM Wilkerson asked if there have been any challenges in bank ownership of these properties. Mr. Ruffing said that banks have been hesitant to do maintenance and management in the pre-foreclosure status. CM Cathcart asked how well the vacant properties are maintained during the foreclosure process. Mr. Ruffing said that there are some properties that are problematic and walked through the tools and process code enforcement goes through in monitoring and abating these properties.

### **WA Dept. of Commerce Less-Than-Lethal RFP – Major McNab (10 minutes)**

Major McNab provided Council with information on both the Department of Commerce Grant and the PepperBall less-than-lethal proposed purchase. Mr. McNab walked Council through less-than-lethal devices in general, including when and how SPD uses them. He talked about how they are a valuable tool for suspects who are exhibiting assaultive behavior. He said there are multiple less-than-lethal options that can be deployed dependent on the circumstances. Mr. McNab said that SPD's proposal for this Commerce grant is \$50,761.52 which provides for 30 "FN 303 launchers" with ammunition and instructor certifications. This is a competitive grant with \$1M available for the nearly 300 agencies in the state. Major McNab gave examples of how less-than-lethal tools are employed by officers. CP Beggs asked if Major McNab could explain the FN 303. Major McNab explained the similarities and differences between the FN 303 and the PepperBall launcher. Ultimately, it is a more accurate version of the PepperBall launcher. He said they would like both the FN 303 and PepperBall launchers available. CM Stratton asked if there is any data around injuries or fatalities with PepperBall devices. Major McNab said there have been no fatalities with PepperBall launchers but there has been one fatality that he knows of with the FN 303. Major McNab talked about the care SPD will take regarding how they are used and who is using the, CM Wilkerson asked if there is a shelf life to PepperBalls. Major McNab said they are requesting for 100 of these so that there is one in every car. CM Cathcart asked without the PepperBall is the next step deadly force. Major McNab said what is unique about the launchers is it allows officers to disrupt someone while maintaining distance, which he said is a good thing. CM Kinnear asked if there is protocol regarding whether PepperBall can be used when under-aged people are in the crowd including children and teenagers. Major McNab said that the PepperBall would be targeted at a person exhibiting violent behavior. CM Kinnear asked how often this tool would be deployed. Assistant Chief Lundgren said several times a week they are in the hands of officers, which can de-escalate in and of itself. CM Kinnear and CM Wilkerson talked about how citizens have been reaching out to Council Members with questions about how PepperBall will be used and expressed appreciation for SPD's willingness to answer questions about this tool.

### **Council Requests:**

#### **PepperBall & Other Police Capital Items - CM Wilkerson (10 minutes)**

This item was covered in the conversation about the Department of Commerce Less-Than-Lethal RFP.

#### **Traffic Officer Discussion – CM Stratton and CP Beggs (10 minutes)**

CP Beggs and CM Stratton asked for the timeline on getting traffic officers back, who have been re-assigned to patrol. Assistant Chief Lundgren talked about the patrol schedule and the staffing needed.

He mentioned that 5 patrol officers have been temporarily reassigned without an end-date established. CM Cathcart said that he hopes SPD can incentivize recruitment and asked what SPD is doing actively to recruit. Mr. Lundgren said they have been successful in attracting lateral recruits and that existing officers are instrumental in recruiting. CM Stratton asked for an update on NRO staffing. Mr. Lundgren said there are not plans to make any permanent cuts to the NRO program. CM Kinnear echoed support for incentivizing recruitment.

**State Legislative Update:**

NONE

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**ADMINISTRATION REQUESTS:**

NONE

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**Action Items:** NONE

**Executive Session:** NONE

**Adjournment:** CM Kinnear adjourned the meeting at 2:20 PM. The next PSCHC meeting will be held Monday, November 1, 2021.

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**Respectfully submitted by:**

Giacobbe Byrd, Legislative Aide to Council Member Lori Kinnear (PSCHC Chair)



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**Lori Kinnear Spokane City Council – District 2**