

Committee on Public Safety

Councilor Maureen T. Carney, Chair
Councilor Jesse m. Adams
Councilor William H. Dwight
Councilor David A. Murphy

Meeting Minutes for June 1, 2015 Public Safety Meeting Meeting Held in Council Chambers, 212 Main Street, Northampton, MA

At 5:02 pm Councilor Carney called the meeting to order. Councilor Carney announced that the meeting would be video and audio taped.

Present: Councilor Carney, Councilor Dwight, Councilor Adams; Councilor Murphy arrived at 5:25 pm
Public Comment: None

Councilor Dwight moved to accept the minutes of April 13, 2015; Councilor Adams seconded the motion. The minutes were approved on a voice vote of 3 Yes, 0 No, 1 Absent (Councilor Murphy)

Departmental Presentation:

The June Departmental Presentation was made by the Fire/Rescue Department. Chief Duggan presented information to the committee regarding personnel:

- Captain Clark will retire from the department effective July 11, 2015. He will receive a 30 year service award from the department.
- Firefighter Soto will also be receiving a 30 year service award.
- Nicholas Demetrion will transition from the Police Department to Fire/Rescue. Training time will be reduced for Mr. Dementrion as he is already familiar with City procedures.
- Brian Davis and Jeff Jasinski will be graduating from the State Fire Academy.
- Chief Duggan announced that there is a promotion process in place for deputy and captain. A list will be in place by July 20th.

Regarding Operations, the Chief announced that an electric vehicle will be delivered to the department sometime in June. The department received a grant for a hybrid electric vehicle (Ford Fusion). The vehicle will be used for fire safety inspections.

Deputy Chief Chris Norris informed the committee that the department responded to 1,659 medical calls. Eighty nine % of the calls result in transport to the hospital. Response time for the period shows that calls in Northampton are responded to in under 5 minutes. The department also responds to calls in surrounding communities.

Chief Duggan put together an ambulance committee. This committee will be commissioned to design a new ambulance to replace the previous model purchased in 2007. The committee has already scoped out options; after the specifications for the new vehicle have been approved, it will take approximately 12 months to build the new unit.

The vendor contract for Coastal Medical Billing is up this month. The department is hoping to do another 5-year contract. The benefit to a longer contract is a lower rate.

At 5:35 pm Councilor Adams moved to adjourn the meeting; Councilor Murphy seconded the motion. The motion was approved on a voice vote of 4 Yes, 0 No.

Prepared & Submitted By: P. Powers, Administrative Assistant to the City Council