CITY OF LYNDON SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES MONDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2024

Mayor Brent Hagan called the Special Meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Those present: Susan Barto, Jenny Benner, Carla Nalley, Becky Ricketts, Mardy Sidebottom, Vicki Stanely, Amy Stuber and City Attorney, John Singler. Other guests were also present: Police Chief, Rob Schroeder, Deputy Chief, Chris Thomas and Major Brian Tucker.

Mayor Hagan stated the meeting was called by a member of the Police Headquarters Building Committee to discuss police services provided to other cities by the Lyndon Police. Amy Stuber began with her statement after reviewing the police operational expenditures from the 2023-2024 budget and the statistical information of call responses in Lyndon vs. contract cities, Ms. Stuber is concerned about the cost of serving the other cities. Chief Schroeder stated according to a FBI standard analysis, Lyndon alone with the 26 officers currently employed (25 full-time and 1 part-time), the ratio is 2.38 officers per 1,000 residents. The Chief and Mayor feel the number of officers we have is adequate for Lyndon alone. Chief summarized the incident reports and how many Lyndon receives versus the total number with all the cities served. He also listed runs per city and other data. Deputy Chief Thomas also spoke about grants the department currently receives and will be applying for. Mayor Hagan added serving a higher population and demographics of the contract cities determine the amount received through these grants. Discussion was held.

There was a question from Jenny Benner regarding data the Chief provided for occurrences in 2023, just under half of those calls were from Lyndon so why is Lyndon paying majority of costs? She suggested increasing hourly costs for the part-time cities to encourage them to contract full-time. More discussion was held. The Chief explained the service hours of response calls in Lyndon compared to total number.

City Attorney, John Singler asked the Chief if he could provide a break-down of the City's cost per hour of officers so they can compare it to rate structure. He also mentioned to council that the type of department they chose to have is the main component of costs. Carla Nalley stated that safety and protection is a very high priority, and she realizes the costs for those needs. Chief Schroeder also mentioned how Lyndon officers are being noticed more outside of Lyndon and it decreases crime in and around the city. Mayor Hagan reminded council they have the ability to determine how much money in the budget is allocated for the police department but the administration handles staff and operations of the department. Becky Ricketts asked if when we contracted with Graymoor-Devondale if they were also servicing multiple other cities. Deputy Chief Thomas explained they only patrolled and all response for service calls would go to Metro Police so they were not a fully functioning police department. More discussion was held.

Amy Stuber asked again for confirmation, if the department served 10,000 residents or 25,000, it would be the same costs? The Mayor said he believes so. Vicki Stanley requested hourly figures to make a responsible decision about the upcoming budget and entertained a budget committee.

There was no action taken at the meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:57p.m.

Brent Hagan, Mayor

ATTEST:

Stacev Woodward, City Clerk