

City of Evansville Public Safety Committee

Regular Meeting

Wednesday, March 3, 2021 at 6:00 p.m.

Meeting held virtually due to COVID-19 Guidelines

MINUTES

1. **Call to Order at 6:00 pm**, by Dianne Duggan, Public Safety Chair.
2. **Roll Call.**

Members	Present/Absent	Others Present
Aldersperson Dianne Duggan, Chair	P	Bill Hurtley, Mayor
Aldersperson Bill Lathrop	P	Jamie Kessenich, EMS Chief
Aldersperson Erika Stuart	P	Chris Jones, Lieutenant
		Justin Nagel, ADCI
		Mike Maas, ADCI
		Darnisha Haley, City Clerk
		Leah Hurtley, Deputy Clerk

3. **Motion to approve the agenda**, by Duggan, seconded by Stuart. Approved unanimously.
4. **Motion to waive the reading of the minutes from the February 3, 2021 regularly scheduled Public Safety Meeting minutes and approve them as printed, by Lathrop, seconded by Stuart.** Lathrop and Duggan requested grammatical revisions to the paragraph 7(C) and 7(D). *Approved unanimously.*
5. **Citizen appearances other than agenda items listed.** None
6. **Old Business.**
 - A. **Motion to recommend to Common Council Ordinance 2021-03 Amending Chapter 6 Alcohol beverage, by Duggan, seconded by Lathrop. Motion carried.** City Clerk, Darnisha Haley, presented Municipal Code Chapter 6 Alcohol Beverages, as it stands with small formatting changes for consistency throughout the municipal code. Haley proposed revisions beginning at Sec. 16-44, Operator’s License. Haley explained the presented changes to Sec.6-44(a) would eliminate the current process for committee approval of recommended applicants. The Clerk would issue the license to the approved applicant. Recommendations would come from a completed background check and Police Chief’s recommendation. The process of the non-recommended applicants would still go to committee for review/discussion. Haley’s second proposal to the committee: revisions of Municipal Code, Sec. 16-44(c), Violations. Haley acknowledged Chief Reese’s interest in setting clear guidelines on how and when to issue a license following offenses. Haley’s proposal is to avoid a resolution but rather update municipal code, ensuring information is assessable within the code. Haley’s proposal also included changing the proposed waiting period of denied applicants to six (6) months rather than a year. Duggan would like to proceed with the proposed changes Haley has written. Lathrop suggested minor grammatical changes. Lathrop would also like to see the classifications defined within the section versus referring to state statutes. Lathrop also commented on Sec. 6-2(d), dancing. Lathrop would like to go on the record stating, “Everybody ought to have a right to dance.”
 - 1) **If approved, discussion on possible motion to recommend that the Council suspend its current rule and/or past practice of voting on proposed ordinances only after a first and second reading so that proposed ordinance 2021-03 can be voted on after the first reading. Motion denied.** Haley proposed “fast-tracking” the ordinance due to renewals approaching. Mayor Hurtley voiced his concern with not

having a second reading of an ordinance change. Lathrop and Duggan shared mutual unease with not following the rules set forth and would like two (2) readings of the proposed change to council.

- 2) **Resolution 2021-02 Amending Fee Schedule for Operator License.** Duggan will recommend to the March 4 2021 Finance meeting. Mayor Hurtley asked for justification of proposed increase amount of \$10.00. Haley explained increase was to cover the cost of the background check (\$7.00) and wanted a rounded number.
- 3) **New Operator's License Application.** Committee was in favor of the new application and its implementation.

B. Discussion and possible motion to recommend Ordinance 2021-04 for updates to Animal Ordinance.

Lt. Jones recapped the need for clarity and consistency in regards to Municipal Code Chapter 14. Sec. 14-8 "No person may keep a Pet which disturbs the peace by loud or unusual noises at any time of the day or night." and 14-33 "No person shall possess, harbor or keep any animal which: Habitually makes noise to the annoyance of any two or more other persons." Jones also discussed more inconsistencies throughout the ordinance that would need discussion later. Duggan requested Jones to make all revisions throughout Chapter 14 of the Municipal Code Ordinance, returning the proposed changes to the April 7, 2021 Public Safety Meeting with possible recommendation to Common Council at the April meeting.

7. New Business.

A. A motion was made by Stuart, seconded by Lathrop to approve the Original Operators License application(s) for:

- 1) Trinity L. Rosa 2) Tracie L. Held 3) Colin J. Reese 4) Dorry A. Weigel 5) Austin L. Marlowe.
- Motion carried.*

B. Discussion on EMS and Police Wants & Needs Assessment. Chief Reese was absent from the meeting. In his absence, Lt. Jones introduced Mike Maas and Justin Nagel from ADCI, present in the meeting. Nagel explained ADCI is a full service architecture and interior design firm and they met with Chief Reese at a Police Chief show at the Kalahari a month ago. Duggan asked what the process is in terms of a timeline of consulting services. Nagel reported they would begin with a Needs assessment that takes about 45-60 days including meeting with stakeholders and conversations compiling pertinent information. Mayor Hurtley asked what the average initial average cost is. Nagel explained the two-month effort is usually around \$15,000-17,000 for the first step and if the City were to choose their firm, "it is a much more significant investment 'depending on' the budget and the project." Mayor Hurtley explained that the City budget time runs from January to January. Lathrop asked if there has been any other discussion on this topic in any other City meeting. Duggan reports there has been no discussion at recent meetings of Finance and Labor; however, discussion has occurred at the annual budget meetings as a future topic since she started as an Alderperson in 2017. Mayor Hurtley explained the budget and borrowing money process. Lathrop asked for Mayor Hurtley's gage of priority of this project in relation to other city projects. Hurtley said personally he sees a need for city services to be together, but many factors go into this project. The biggest issue would be land property and where would it go? Nagel explained his firm could assist with the space needs/facility study. Chairperson Duggan thanked Nagel for his time.

C. Discussion on electric car charging station. Duggan has received complaints of internal combustion engine vehicles parking in front of the electric car station. Duggan brought it to Chief Reese's attention; she asked for drive-bys on patrol and for Reese review of the ordinance in regards to violations and management.

D. Discussion on City COVID-19 response. Duggan asked both Mayor Hurtley and Chief Kessenich's for input on her role on Covid-19, whether it be information only or coordinator of Covid-19 vaccination shots

as well. Kessenich shared her efforts thus far. Direction from Mayor Hurtley was if she had time to continue her communication and information to city staff.

- E. Discussion with possible motion for road closure & traffic control for a High School 5k on March 23, 2021.** Chief Reese was not in attendance to report on this topic. Stuart shared general information on Cross Country. Mayor Hurtley suggested that with the road closures and traffic control it may be best to leave it to the Police Department and DPW. Leah Hurtley read a shared email correspondence with specific time and proposed maps. The committee was in agreeance and entrust Chief Reese's input and direction on said event.
- 8. Evansville Emergency Medical Services Report.** Chief Kessnich had to leave the meeting early but emailed her written monthly report prior to the meeting. No further discussion occurred.
- 9. Evansville Police Department Report.** Chief Reese emailed his written monthly report covering the training for officers, community outreach, updates in the department, staffing matters, and accreditation. No further discussion occurred.
- 10. Meeting Reminder: Next regular meeting scheduled for Wednesday, April 7, 2021 at 6:00 p.m.**
- 11. Motion to adjourn at 7:47 p.m, made by Lathrop, seconded by Duggan. Motion carried.**

Respectfully submitted, Leah Hurtley, Deputy Clerk City of Evansville