

**POLICE COMMITTEE  
MEETING MINUTES  
May 6, 2010**

1. Call to Order

Chairman Sylvia McIvor called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. in the City Hall Conference Room of the Darien City Hall. Committee members in attendance: Alderman John Galan and Alderman John Poteraske.

Staff members in attendance: Chief of Police Robert Pavelchik, Deputy Chief David Skala and Deputy Chief of Police John Cooper

Elected officials in attendance: Alderman Halil Avci (arrived at 6:08 p.m.)

Others in attendance: Steve Kowynia 7121 Emerson, Sgt. Gregory Cheaure, Matt Goodwin 1118 Tamarack

2. Approval of Minutes

Alderman Galan made a motion to approve the minutes of the April 8, 2010 meeting; the motion was seconded by Alderman Poteraske and approved by a voice vote of 3 ayes.

3. Communication

There was no communication directed toward the Committee.

4. New Business

a. Sale of Property

The Committee was requested by Chief Pavelchik to approve the sale of surplus property owned by the City as outlined in the Agenda Memo. The property is three seized vehicles and numerous items from the evidence room. Motion by Galan, seconded by Poteraske to recommend City Council approval. Motion approved by a voice vote of 3 ayes.

b. Fourth of July Parade

Chief Pavelchik has been working with the Lions Club for the Fourth of July Parade. The Chief asked that the City Council legislate a temporary closure of roadways so that the Lions Club can conduct the parade. Motion by Galan, seconded by Poteraske to recommend City Council approval. Motion approved by a voice vote of 3 ayes.

c. Building Automation System-Budgeted Replacement

(Alderman Avci arrived as this discussion began.) Deputy Chief John Cooper explained to the committee that there are budgeted funds for replacement of the automated control system that directs the heating and air conditioning system in the police facility. The current system is 15 years old and has begun to fail; it cannot be repaired and must be replaced. Deputy Chief Cooper obtained three competitive bids for this project and is recommending a bid of \$41,080.00 to Automated Logic.

Alderman Galan questioned why the police department is handling this project that clearly should fall to the Public Works Department. Staff explained that the research for this project had begun prior to May 1<sup>st</sup> involving the former facilities manager, Phil Robinson. Deputy Chief Cooper is merely following up and closing this project. Deputy Chief Cooper also explained that there will also need to be a maintenance contract into the future for this system. Alderman Poterasko questioned if the Automated Logic's bid for the replacement/install will still be the low bid once we determine what the annual maintenance contract will be going forward. The Aldermen generally agreed on the need to replace the building automation system, but would like to see how the future maintenance contracts will affect the costs.

Alderman McIvor also asked that the proposals for this project be sent to her so that she could research potential grants for this type of project.

Motion by Alderman Galan, second by Alderman Poterasko to tentatively approve the low bidder, Automated Logics, for this project based on staff preparing a comparison of all here bids that includes both the installation of the new system and the cost of a multi-year maintenance contract going forward. Motion by Galan, seconded by Poterasko to recommend City Council approval. Motion approved by a voice vote of 3 ayes pending review of future maintenance costs.

## 5. Old Business

There was no old business to discuss.

## 6. Department Report

### a. Overview of Monthly and YTD Statistics

Chief Pavelchik provided the Committee with the Illinois Uniform Crime Report (IUCR). At a previous Committee meeting this report was provided, but missing one month's data. The Chief explained that this annual report represents the City's crime rate.

Alderman Poterasko wanted to know where the expense and budget review is. The Chief explained that the expense review will be presented at the June Committee Meeting as was directed by the Committee at the April meeting (refer to April 8, 2010, Police Committee Minutes, Item 6).

Alderman Poterasko also wanted to know what other statistical reports could be viewed for department activity. Chief Pavelchik explained that in the Records Management System there are "canned reports" that represent certain types of data and that he will attempt to review more of these reports.

The Committee then had a discussion on vehicle lock outs and whether or not the City should be providing this service at all, or just charge for it.

### b. Public Safety

Chief Pavelchik told the Committee that the authorized strength of the Police Department is at 37 officers due to the retirement of Sgt. Menzione and the termination of a

Probationary Police Officer. Alderman Poteraske questioned if the department went back to the testing companies to tell them that the officer has failed and asked them why they approved him. A discussion was conducted on the hiring testing and training process for police officers.

c. Monthly Purchases

There was no discussion to this specific topic.

d. Monthly Expenses

There was no discussion to this specific topic.

7. Public Comment

Steve Kowynia asked the Committee to stop allowing police officers to carry over their comp time banks. The Committee explained that this is an issue for contract negotiations. Mr. Kowynia also commented that he thought the police department should stop doing vehicle lock outs.

Matt Goodwin commented that Federal Labor law allows for 440 hours of comp time to be accumulated in Public Safety and that the City's lesser cap of 160 hours may be a good thing in that comparison. He further added that he thought vehicle lock outs was a good service to provide to the community no matter where people live. In response to Alderman Poteraske's comments criticizing police testing, Goodwin informed him that there was a recent Supreme Court decision regarding public service testing where a municipality threw out a test that they thought was unfair and the court ruled against the city. He added that the testing services regularly update their tests as to not impose a disparate impact on potential applicants.

Goodwin also commented that he was concerned that recent violent criminal activity is not just a fluke, but a trend in our area and that reducing police officers to thirty-seven is a questionable practice. Goodwin and the Committee discussed how the reduction from thirty-nine to thirty-seven was reviewed with the Chief and as Alderman Galan put it, it was about money. Alderman Galan and the Committee also reaffirmed that they may direct a total number of officers to the department, but they will never tell the police department how to allocate those officers.

Alderman Poteraske commented on a newspaper article where the Hinsdale Police Department touted a tightening of post shift overtime. Chief Pavelchik informed Alderman Poteraske that the Darien Police Department has had a regular practice of monitoring post shift overtime. Alderman Poteraske then announced that the Woodridge Police Department had cut five people and he would like to know what their criteria was for that reduction. He then questioned why the Darien Police Department has five detectives. After a short discussion it was decided by all that these issues will be addressed in future meetings as a monthly department highlight.

8. Next Meeting Date

The Committee will reschedule the June 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting to June 10, 2010, due to conflicts.

9. Adjournment

Alderman Galan made a motion to adjourn the meeting; the motion was seconded by Alderman Poteraske and approved by a voice vote of 3 ayes. Meeting adjourned at 7:32 p.m.

Minutes Submitted by: Chief Robert Pavelchik

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Alderman: \_\_\_\_\_  
John Galan

Chairman: \_\_\_\_\_  
Sylvia McIvor

Alderman: \_\_\_\_\_  
John Poteraske