

**CITY OF SANTA BARBARA
FIRE & POLICE COMMISSION MINUTES**

Thursday, June 27 @ 4:00
David Gebhard Public Meeting Room
630 Garden St.

REGULAR MEETING

1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL:

Present: Commissioners: Christensen, Lennon, Rodriguez and Torell

Staff Present: Police Chief Cam Sanchez, Fire Chief Pat McElroy, City Attorney John Doimas, and Acting Secretary Carol Lupo

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

MOTION: Lennon to approve minutes of **May 23, 2013**. Torell seconded.

VOTE: Unanimous voice vote.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT:

Any member of the public may address the Fire & Police Commission for up to one minute on any subject within the jurisdiction of the Commission that is not scheduled for a public hearing before the Commission. The total time for this item is 10 minutes. If you wish to address the Commission under this item, please complete and deliver to the Commission Secretary before the meeting is convened, a "Request to Speak" form, including a description of the subject you wish to address.

None.

4. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

Tow regulation Subcommittee – Torell asked about status of the final Proposed Rules and Regulations that was sent to the City Attorney's. Attorney Doimas stated he had made some minor revisions and emailed them to the Commissioners. He will forward the revision copy to Torell. Final copy will be adopted by the Commission, then placed on the City Council agenda for final approval.

5. OLD BUSINESS:

None.

6. NEW BUSINESS:

None

7. KILLER SHRIMP – 416 STATE ST. - NIGHTCLUB DANCE PERMIT

Due to agenda posting error, item is continued until special meeting date of July 11, 2013.

8. FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT

From Fire Chief Pat McElroy:

- Statistical reports handed out: Since May 27, there have been 896 calls for service; average response time was 3:17 minutes. Breakdown on call types also includes \$84,000 in loss property (This does not include the damage cost on a multi-unit apartment building fire that took place last Friday 6/21/13).
- Graduated 8 recruits on May 30, and all are now working on shift.
- Retirement event for 5 recent retirees this week. Three of the employees were retired due to disabilities. Torell inquired on who makes the disability determination. McElroy responded that Risk Management makes the determination. Future retirements include Engineer Sarah McCarter who will retire in September and Engineer Olga Herrera, who retires in December.
- An Engineer exam will take place the 2nd week of July; there are 2 qualified candidates.
- Other significant responses: Recently sent a large number of firefighters to the Powerhouse fire in the Angeles National Forest; and have sent 2 Incident Management Team members to the West Fork Fire in Colorado.
- Discussed the area going into a Red Flag Alert the weekend of June 28-30. The Forest service may discontinue open burning in the Los Padres forest and campsites after July 6.
- A Firefighter Assistance Grant award was approved by city council on June 25. Provides the department with about \$450,000 in purchasing power, including matching funds, to upgrade radios and communication systems.
- FireHouse database analytics reports provided: Incident Call by Time of Day; Calls by shift battalion, including fire Prevention Bureau; Incident calls by Station; Comparison of EMS versus Non-EMS calls.

8. POLICE CHIEF'S REPORT

From Police Chief Sanchez:

- Working 2 murder cases in the last 30 days
- Cold cases continue to be investigated. 2 suspects have been located in Mexico and PD is working with the Mexican authorities to arrest them. Trials and any punishment will take place in Mexico.
- Response times:
 - Priority 1 calls: April 5.70; May 5.90
 - Priority 2 calls: April 12.20; May 12.40
- Injuries 5 additional injuries the past month; none are long term.
- Residential burglaries – 9 arrests in May, including one for a 'Hot Prowl'. All were prior burglars. Much of the property taken has been recovered, except cash. Great relationship with pawn shops who report unusual situations to PD. However, 20 additional burglaries took place in May. 95% are crime of opportunities (i.e. doors open or unlocked).
- Gang crime is generally down in numbers, but up in violence.
- Criminal Impact Team – Follows up on sex Registrant reporting every day. During the school year they patrol undercover at the high schools.
- Academy – 7 currently in academy; half way through and doing well. Last class doing really well.
- 4th of July and Fiesta plans are ready. Commissioners are invited to walk with a nightlife team during these holidays.

Rodriguez asked if there were any pending retirements. Chief Sanchez stated none.

Torell commented that he liked seeing the police presence on State Street. Sanchez stated they now have 2 officers assigned to State St. and 2 to Milpas St. areas. The nightlife officer numbers are down from the past, as they were moved into the gang unit.

Lennon inquired about the Dispatch Center move. Sanchez stated it is moving slowly, the design is being worked on and underground wiring and electrical needs to be planned, along with where to move the existing department (Environmental Services).

Torell asked City Attorney Doimas who is responsible to place the Towing Regulation agenda item on the City Council Agenda. Doimas responded that once the new regulations are approved by the Commission, Officer Hunter will put the item on the City Council Agenda, as he is overseeing the process. Doimas will check whether the item will be a Consent or an Administration Council agenda item. Sanchez believes there will be public comment regarding the changes.

Report from Councilmember White:

White attended the Fire Safe Council meeting on 6/20/13. He relayed that 2 US Forest Service personnel from the White Fire Command gave a follow-up on the fire. They said we 'dodged a bullet' due the wind direction. The mountains think it is August already, and conditions are very dry.

Lompoc will be selling fireworks this year. Chief McElroy stated that Lompoc made the decision in opposition to the Fire and Police Chief's recommendation.

Council approved the new PD position (additional State St. patrol).

White noted there has been confusion over the Red Flag Alerts and affected zones. He would like to see an educational public TV spot. McElroy has already spoken to City Administrator Jim Armstrong regarding this and will make it happen.

White stated the Dispatch Center is the #1 capital project priority with City Council.

Christensen stated that it seemed that the Forest Service had learned some lessons from the Zaca Fire, and were more proactive in managing the White Fire and contained the size.

McElroy responded the Zaca fire grew into areas that couldn't be fought with aircraft, due to environmental concerns, or from the ground due to geography and logistics. Due to some communities expanding faster than fire services can be provided, the Forest Service is having to cover more residential fire prone areas, impacting the number of resources that can respond to fires.

White stated that in 1990, the Federal government funded sworn positions and which helped increase State St. presence. Federal funding is not available anymore. Sanchez stated the PD does received one time federally funding on various items, but not for staffing

9. ADJORN: 4:50 PM