



Public Safety Commission Meeting Minutes

Chairperson Nate Marsh
Vice-Chair Clark Hammelman
Debra Beck
Don MacBrayne
Richard Morton
Andy Powell
Carl Smith
Steve Thayer
Laurie Van Court

Thursday, November 2, 2023

3:00 PM

Castle Rock Fire Station 151
300 Perry St., Castle Rock, CO 80104

This meeting is open to the public. Please note that all times indicated on the agenda are approximate and interested parties are encouraged to be present earlier than the posted time.

Call to Order and Attendance

Vice-Chairperson Hammelman called the meeting to order at 3:01 p.m.

Present 7 - Chairperson Nate Marsh, Vice Chair Clark Hammelman, Don MacBrayne, Carl Smith, Steve Thayer, Debra Beck, and Laurie Van Court

Not Present 2 - Andy Powell, and Richard Morton

Attendance 3 - Norris Croom, Sam Varela, and Deborah Stanley

Approval of Meeting Minutes

[PS 2023-033](#) Public Safety Commission meeting minutes - October 5, 2023

Attachments: [PSC October 05, 2023 minutes](#)

Mr. Thayer moved to approve the October 5, 2023 minutes. Ms. Van Court seconded the motion; the motion carried.

Yes: 7 - Chairperson Marsh, Vice Chair Hammelman, MacBrayne, Smith, Thayer, Beck, and Van Court

Not Present: 2 - Powell, and Morton

Fire Department Report

[PS 2023-031](#) CRFD September Report

Attachments: [CRFD September Report](#)

- Commission members were emailed a copy of the Fire Department's September report prior to today's meeting.
- Chief Croom provided Commission members with a brief overview of the 2024 preliminary budget.
 - Included in the budget were requests for increased funding for EMS supplies, funding to replace existing equipment, and three FF/EMT's to assist with staffing the future Station 156.
 - The department also requested increased funding for its Explorer program. Currently, the department has 21 Explorers in the program. Five former Explorers are now with

- the department as firefighters.
- In addition, the department budgeted a substantial amount of money to cover vacation and sick bank hour cash outs for retiring members. Brief discussion on funding accountability for these funds.
 - The second reading is on the consent calendar for next week.
 - Chief Croom was asked about billing for EMS supplies. If the ambulance provides treatment but does not transport, the department does not bill for services. If the ambulance does transport to a hospital, there is a charge for the transport and supplies.
 - For a transport, you would be billed a base rate plus mileage to the hospital. The average bill is \$1,100. At this rate, the department does not cover its costs.
 - The department is required to accept a flat fee from Medicare and Medicaid for all transports.
 - Chief Croom was asked if the recruit who did not finish the Fire Academy was counted as one of the three staff members to be hired next year. Yes, this position remains open and will be filled next year. Of the eight recruits initially hired this year, five were to fill existing vacancies and the other three were over hires for the 2024 budgeted personnel.
 - Station 156 will be located in the Cobblestone Ranch area. The location selected is based on response times (6-minute travel). The department has submitted pre-application paperwork for the project. The property is currently zoned as open space and may need to be re-zoned.
 - When will the station open? The station should be operational in late 2025 to early 2026.
 - Any obstacles with this location? The land is near the McMurdo Gulch flood plain. The site has been evaluated and it has been determined that there should be no impact. In addition, the Parks Department was looking into using this location for a trailhead and parking lot. This could provide an opportunity for joint partnership for this location.
 - Will this site have a traffic light? Only an emergency signal light.
 - Chief Croom was asked if there would be fireworks for Starlighting. Yes, unless the moisture content changes.

Police Department Report

[PS 2023-032](#) CRPD September Report

Attachments: [CRPD September Report](#)

- Commission members were emailed a copy of the Police Department's September report prior to today's meeting.
- The remodel of the Police Department is finished. Several additional offices were added next to the Courtroom and additional locker room and fitness area spaces.
- The department is progressing with its hiring process to fill seven vacancies. The candidate field is down to nine candidates.
 - Opportunity to hire laterals. Lateral hires would only need 16 weeks of field training.
 - Applicants with no experience would attend the academy in January and would not be online for about ten months.
- The department is finishing its recruitment video.
- Commander Varela was asked whether the recent activity at the motel on Wilcox Street was a training exercise. No, it was a real incident. Brief comment about broadcasting information on social media. The department tries to put out as much information as possible without hindering operations.
- Commander Varela was asked how much follow up occurred after the 7-11 crash. There were five or six agencies involved with the incident. Douglas County Sheriffs is the lead on investigations. There are two investigations with this incident and CRPD is involved in both.
 - Using cameras around town, Castle Rock dispatchers were able to provide real time information to field officers.
 - Brief discussion on command actions.
- Commander Varela was asked if homeless people have the right to camp in open spaces. Camping bans have been found to be unconstitutional but we can ban camping near waterways. Commander Varela then spoke about the Heart Program.
 - A full time officer manages the unhoused. The officer knows people by name and knows the location of camps here in Town.
 - Part of the Heart Program is to educate the community.
 - County Commissions meet monthly to discuss the unhoused.

New Business

- The Philip S. Miller grant recommendations will be presented to Council next week.

Old Business

N/A

Adjourn

Mr. Hammelman made a motion to adjourn the meeting; Ms. Beck seconded the

motion. All were in favor.

The meeting adjourned at 3:50 p.m.

The next Public Safety Commission meeting is scheduled for December 7, 2023 at the Fire Department.