



Public Safety Commission Meeting Minutes

Chairperson Dan Smoker
Vice Chair Kerstin Keough
Nate Marsh
Janet Peterson
Carl Smith
Steve Thayer
Mike Wells
Chrissy Williams

Thursday, February 4, 2021

3:00 PM

Virtual Meeting. For more information,
contact fire@crgov.com

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.

The Public Safety Commission meets monthly at the Town of Castle Rock Fire & Rescue Headquarters or Police Department.

Call to Order and Attendance

Chairperson Smoker called the meeting to order at 3:05 p.m.

Present 7 - Janet Peterson, Vice Chair Kerstin Keough, Chairperson Dan Smoker, Chrissy Williams, Nate Marsh, Steve Thayer, and Mike Wells

Not Present 1 - Carl Smith

Attendance 4 - Norris Croom, Jack Cauley, Deborah Stanley, and Laura Cavey

Approval of Meeting Minutes

[PS 2021-004](#) Public Safety Commission meeting minutes - Jan. 7, 2021

Attachments: [PSC 01-07-2021 Minutes](#)

Ms. Peterson moved to approve the January 7, 2021 minutes. Mr. Marsh seconded the motion; the motion carried.

Yes: 7 - Peterson, Vice Chair Keough, Chairperson Smoker, Williams, Marsh, Thayer, and Wells

Not Present: 1 - Smith

Fire Department Report

[PS 2021-005](#) CRFD December Report

Attachments: [CRFD December Report](#)

- Chief Croom introduced the new Council Liaison, Councilmember Laura Cavey, to the Public Safety Commission members. Councilmember Cavey gave commissioners a brief background of her experience.
- Commission members were emailed a copy of the Fire Department's December report prior to today's meeting.
- COVID numbers are decreasing. As a result, the COVID medic unit (152) has been taken out service.
 - Most staff members have received their COVID vaccine. We

- have 13 members who have declined the vaccine. The vaccine is not mandatory.
- Still closely watching incident rates. Incident rates in Douglas County increased this week.
- The State has changed the metrics on the color dial. It is possible that we may move to yellow, which would allow 5 star restaurants to operate at higher capacities. We will know more tomorrow, February 5, 2021.
- The Fire Department's Master Plan is with the Town Manager.
 - The department is planning to meet with both the Town Manager and the Town's Finance Department to explore alternative revenue streams.
- After a hiatus last year, the department is restarting its SCBA replacement program and bay door modification project at Station 154 and 155.
- This past Tuesday night, Town Council approved the purchase of two new brush trucks.
 - Council approval was required due to the total price for the two vehicles.
 - The department was scheduled to purchase one of the trucks last year, but the purchase was placed on hold due to unknown economic conditions.
 - One of our Wildland Lieutenants and our Senior EVT are currently in Boise advising factory representatives on our specifications.
 - We may encounter issues with acquiring truck chassis's because of factory shut downs last year. Manufacturers are seeing lag times of up to one year. We are working on getting delivery by year end.
 - What is the status of the Town's budget? November's sales tax numbers were positive. Preliminary December numbers are looking good as well. The Town is expecting to finish out 2020 above projections. This year's budget is very conservative.
 - Chief Croom explained the budget process for purchasing Fleet vehicles.
 - The Town amortizes its replacement costs, allowing us to spread the cost out over multiple years.
- Chief Croom was asked about this year's wildfire potential. Predictions for the next couple of months show temperatures above normal and moisture below normal. We are seeing extreme drought conditions in Douglas County. If moisture levels don't improve, the State could be in for an early and pretty significant fire season - Chief Croom.
 - Each station houses either a Type 6 or a Type 3 brush truck.
- Chief Croom was asked what the department does with its retired apparatus. It depends on the department's needs. We will be taking one of our current brush trucks, modifying it, and then placing it in service with Logistics. The other will go to the Town's Fleet Division

- Chief Croom.

- The Fleet Division will put the second truck up for auction. Because our vehicles are so well maintained, they are sought out by other departments.
- Is a purchase offer ever extended to smaller surrounding departments? Yes, we have given some departments the opportunity to purchase our vehicles without going through auction.

Police Department Report

[PS 2021-006](#) CRPD December Report

Attachments: [CRPD December Report](#)

- Commission members were emailed a copy of the Police Department's December report prior to today's meeting.
 - The year-end statistics for persons crimes, including domestic violence, was down in 2020.
 - The 2020 year-end statistics for property crimes did not change much over 2019.
 - The year-end statistics for motor vehicle theft increased 74% in 2020.
 - This is in line with nationwide trends across the country.
 - The Police Department is asking the community to spread the message "lock your vehicle, don't leave valuables in the open, remove fobs from unoccupied vehicles".
 - The department created a video with this message for social media.
- The Police Department has seen a significant upward trend (78% increase) in online reporting.
- The department has one open position in Dispatch.
 - We have received 77 applications for the position.
 - Many of the applicants have previous experience in dispatching and are from all over the country.
 - We have worked to make our department a desirable place to work and value all positions.
- The department hired seven officers last October and is currently over staffed by two positions.
 - Departments across the country are currently having a difficult time hiring and keeping employees.
 - Chief Cauley was asked if over hiring puts the department over budget. Chief Cauley replied -
 - These over hired positions have never impacted the budget in the past.

- The department has never made it a full year with excess employees. Normally, the department finishes the year at 80% staffing.
 - It takes up to twelve months to post, hire and train a new employee, which is a long time to be short officers.
 - The department would find funding somewhere in its budget to cover the costs, if there were no vacated positions by the end of the year.
- Chief Cauley was asked about the officer involved shooting back in December. Chief Cauley told commission members there is a team of officers from other agencies conducting an investigation of the incident. Once they have completed their report, it will be provided to the DA's office.
 - Once the report has been reviewed by the DA's office, the DA's office will discuss the findings with CRPD. The DA will also post the report on their website.
 - The department is expecting a decision from the DA in another month.
 - As part of our effort to be as transparent as possible, CRPD placed a video about the incident on its webpage.
 - Did Senate Bill 217 complicate things? No - Chief Cauley.
 - Can a link to the video be sent to commission members? Chief Cauley will send the link via email.
 - Was the family contacted prior to the releasing of the video? Yes, they were notified through their attorneys - Chief Cauley.

New Business

- Jose Guerrero resigned from the Commission in January. Are there plans in place to fill the vacancy? We have decided to wait until May to fill the vacancy when we have the annual recruitment process - Chief Cauley

Old Business

N/A

Commissioner Comments and Questions

- A commission member asked about resuming in-person meetings. Chief Croom - We are following state guidelines. New metrics are expected tomorrow, which may change restrictions.

Adjourn

Ms. Peterson made a motion to adjourn the meeting; Mr. Wells seconded the motion. All were in favor.

The meeting adjourned at 3:38 p.m..

The next Public Safety Commission meeting is scheduled for March 4, 2021 at 3:00 p.m. This will be a virtual meeting hosted by the Police Department