

**Adopted Minutes
Special Council Meeting
April 18, 2006**

Mayor Johnson called a Joint Council/Planning Commission Meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Public Safety Training Room, 3400 Plymouth Boulevard, on April 18, 2006 at 7:30 p.m.

COUNCIL PRESENT: Mayor Johnson, Councilmembers Hewitt, Slavik, Bildsoe, Stein, Willis, and Black.

ABSENT: None.

STAFF PRESENT: City Manager Ahrens, Police Chief Goldstein, Community Development Director Hurlburt, Park and Recreation Director Blank, Administrative Services Director McGann, Captain Franz, Lieutenants Webb, Plekkenpol, and Lindman, Support Services Supervisor Cox, Financial Analyst Kohn, Fire Chief Kline, Deputy Fire Chief Hurr, Captains Evenson and Dreelan, Public Safety Education Specialist Cwayna, and City Clerk Paulson.

Police Staffing Study

Police Chief Goldstein presented the police staffing study. Based upon the results of the study, there are two staffing proposals that staff has assembled for the Council to consider. The first proposal would be a "proactive model" where the following items would occur:

1. Initiate a proactive policing unit comprised of two additional officers (2007).
2. Hire a crime analyst to assist with POP and crime prevention (2007).
3. Hire one additional clerical position to cover overnight considerations/mandates (2007).
4. Hire additional officers/investigator based on preferred staffing indices (2008 and beyond)

He stated the second proposal would be a "reactive model" where the following items would occur:

1. Hire one additional clerical position to cover overnight considerations/mandates (2007).
2. Hire additional officers for the patrol division on a pre-determined schedule based on preferred staffing indices (2008 and beyond).
3. Promote one additional investigator with backfill (2008).

Police Chief Goldstein stated it's a very time consuming process to undertake this type of study yearly. Therefore, staff would like some type of direction to know what the Council's preferences are. He commented that a proactive approach would make the department more effective. He stated this more of an organizational policy decision.

The majority of the Council stated that they also prefer a proactive model, but there are a number of factors, such as levy limits, increasing gas prices, that affect the budget every year, as well needs for other City departments.

Fire Staffing Study

Fire Chief Kline and Deputy Fire Chief Hurr presented the Fire Department staffing study.

For current and future needs of the Fire Department, the following items were suggested:

1. Shore up weekly duty crew which would require the addition of a full-time firefighter (2007)
2. Expand weekend duty crew to include coverage 15/7 which would require the addition of a full-time supervisor and a full-time firefighter.
3. Open Fire Station IV in 2010 and consider 24/7 duty crew operation.

Mayor Johnson commented that the funds that would've been used for the construction of a fourth fire station were used for the addition to the Public Safety Building. Therefore, if the fourth fire station were a priority, it should've been communicated earlier. She suggested that that staff explore the possibility of partnering with a neighboring city, such as Maple Grove, Hamel, for a joint fire station.

Adjournment

Mayor Johnson declared the meeting adjourned at approximately 10:45 p.m.



Sandra R. Paulson, City Clerk