

April 18, 2022

The Board of Public Works & Safety met on Monday, April 18, 2022, at 10:00 a.m. in the Marion City Council Chambers. Present were Alex Huskey, Janice Adams, Cindy Cunningham, Brian Flynn, Linda Wilk, and secretary to the board.

Motion to approve the minutes for April 4, 2022- Brian Flynn; seconded Cindy Cunningham.
Motion carried.

City of Marion- Public Hearing

Janet Pearson: Good morning.

Board in unison: Good morning.

Janet Pearson: The properties you have on your list this morning are city owned vacant lots. The one is, the first one is 2804 S. Street for \$800. The second one is 920 S. Lincoln Boulevard for \$800. We are asking for your approval to get them sold and get them back on the tax rolls.

Alex Huskey: Are there any questions? Seeing there are no questions I would entertain a motion to approve selling these properties for \$800.

Motion to approve 2804 S. Gallatin and 920 S. Lincoln Boulevard for the sale price of \$800-
Cindy Cunningham; seconded Brian Flynn. **Motion carried.**

Linda Wilk: Just curious, how many, do you have any idea how many have been sold and how many are left.

Janet Pearson: I don't Linda, I am sorry.

Linda Wilk: That is okay.

Aisha Richard: I can email you that later.

Linda Wilk: Okay, that would be great. I just I feel like we are doing a really good job getting them back on the tax rolls.

Janet Pearson: Thank you.

Alex Huskey: Thank you.

Marion Fire Department- Active Shooter Policy

Fire Chief Paul David: Good morning board.

Board in unison: Good morning.

Fire Chief Paul David: Today we have before you a Mayday SOP. It has been a little modified. Any time especially when we hire new guys that is one of the important rules that we go over with them is the mayday call. It is kind of our life line to dispatch. Brandon had worked on this and we wanted to get a copy to you guys as well as to our dispatch center so that they are aware of what the procedures are. So Brandon do you want to elaborate on it or board if you have any questions Brandon will be happy to...

Assistant Fire Chief Brandon Eckstein: Any question over the acronyms, or what they may mean or? We are just trying to update the policy. Like Chief David said with dispatch changing from Marion City Hall down to Grant County Dispatch that way everybody is on the same page if something was to happen.

Linda Wilk: This says draft all over it but this is not new this is just updated.

Assistant Chief Eckstein: Yes, updated. And we continually we keep up with NFPA, OSHA, we always want to adopt when they come out with something new. We want to improve that continuously as it happens. Cause one thing may work for us and one thing may not work for us.

Linda Wilk: Right.

Assistant Chief Eckstein: So if we have to change it to better suite everybody we (inaudible)

Alex Huskey: So the question that I have. The changes that have been made uh first my first statement is any time you make a change in policy and want us to review it can you give a worked document with the changes in red so that we know what the changes are that way we can, and then secondly as it relates to the changes. I know you said you go with NFPA and OSHA from a risk management stand point other than the Board of Works are these policies compared with any other policy and are they reviewed by legal whenever there is a change?

Assistant Chief Eckstein: Uh legally no. Umm not on this one. We do have another one that we are going to present to you guys on the next Board of Works meeting. Over active shooters, violence (inaudible) um what the fire department and police department do together. Mayday is primarily what we need to do if one of our firefighters become trapped, runs out of air, entanglement. Um it is pretty much what the guys need to learn on what to do. Um if they are on the (inaudible) team or on the outside.

Alex Huskey: Yeah, and that is the reason why I asked if it is reviewed by risk management or legal because sometimes insurance companies have different things if we make a change and we

don't, they don't it doesn't comply with their insurance then our firefighters might not be eligible to be covered. I have seen this happen on a couple of occasions so that is the reason why I bring it up. So, just for future reference that is one thing that I recommend that we do. I know in smaller communities we don't think about those kinds of things sometimes we kind of write the policies as we you know have our experiences have shown but in today's world we're lawsuit's are happening more and more and then also you know big insurance companies are starting to look at these things that is just that is something that we may want to start doing. I always have any policy change reviewed by risk management or legal before I push it out.

Assistant Chief Eckstein: Okay.

Chief David: And Alex just to let you know I did bring up to in the department head meeting on the Lexipol deal, they are wanting to bid the entire city including the police, fire, and the city has a whole. UM ARP money does cover that. I brought that up in the department head meeting so. Trying to push for that a little more to see where we can come up with it. UM as I stated the cost of it just kept going up and up so we are looking into that as well. But the next policy that we have got coming before you next meeting that has been reviewed by the Judge Hunt as well.

Alex Huskey: Thank you. And I love that. If I need to be an advocate for that the Lexipol uh for using the ARP funds I think that is an excellent use of those funds. I think it's necessary in the days that we live we are living in now so it is one of those things where it is kind of like a new car. You don't buy a new car without a warranty right?

Chief David. Sure, yeah.

Alex Huskey: Thank you.

Linda Wilk: I just want to clarify. I don't think I have the Mayday policy. This is Active Violence Incident Operations. What you are discussing sounds (inaudible)

Chief David: That one should be next weeks or next agenda.

Linda Wilk: Yeah, that is the one I have. I don't have the Mayday.

Brian Flynn: I don't have the Mayday either.

Aisha Richard: That is what you guys gave me.

Brandon Eckstein: I sent you the Mayday one too.

Aisha Richard: This is the one I got. I printed this the day you gave it to me.

Chief David: Okay.

Assistant Chief Eckstein: We are going to go from (inaudible)

Linda Wilk: When you said Mayday.

Alex Huskey: So I would suggest we table that discussion.

Chief David: We will bring two of them back to you next meeting.

Assistant Chief Eckstein: Well if you have the active shooter one

Chief David: But I am not sure, did you review that one. Judge Hunt did review that.

Aisha Richard: That is the one that was given to me for review so...

Chief David: Yep that is the one that Judge Hunt did review so if we want to get the Active Shooter one...

Assistant Chief Eckstein: Yes.

Linda Wilk: And is this the one, this one says draft all over it. So is this an update or is this a new.

Assistant Chief Eckstein: This is a new one with how the active shooters and the violence is changing periodically. Um there are things that are coming out every day. Like there is a new bearcat that they have a new deck on now. The swat team can take that bearcat out if they want to and they can hook up before they chose to and use it. So I mean it is changing every day. Um we are looking at ways to better protect the fire fighters in the long run, but some of those options are pretty expensive right now. So, we want to keep it open to where we can use this SOP but if we need to make changes later on we can to better serve the community and firefighters.

Chief David: We needed some type of guideline on that because we had an incident that we were involved with. The state police and Marion city police, county sheriff department. The one out east here on 500 so it kind of opened our eyes to say we got to get something in place because unfortunately is becoming more prevalent. Not necessarily in our area but across the nation as a whole.

Linda Wilk: Right.

Alex Huskey. Yeah.

Linda Wilk: So in asking this is this something you are doing in collaboration with the city of Marion police department? Will there be a comparable one or is this going to cover both departments. I know there are some specifics that would be just for firefighters.

Assistant Chief Eckstein: Chief Haley did review it but this specifically for our guys to where if we come into a situation we had a I was there on that standoff. The gentleman was still shooting

at browns and due to none of the guys having vests or a side arm I am the one that put my vest on took a side arm and went up there with that (inaudible). There was a small fire in one of the bedrooms so now this is a guideline to where if this was to happen again the guys know what the SOP is. God forbid if that happens again.

Alex Huskey: And I do like the fact that you are calling it an Active Violence Incident instead of Active Shooter. Um that the active shooter has come into question a lot lately because it denotes that a mindset that you are going in expecting to render lethal force and so I do like the fact that you are using that language.

Assistant Chief Eckstein: And we do have Chief Haley's approval for the Marion Fire Department and the Swat team or ERT team we are going to train together because that one incident was the first time (inaudible) in seventeen years and it is like how do we handle this one? It's we are going to start doing training together.

Linda Wilk: The only other comment I would have is kind of like how Alex said when you have changes you know letting us know what they are. I would look for the back of when you revised it. Like a date that it was revised because when you have draft all over it, it means draft. That would be helpful too.

Assistant Chief Eckstein: And that was my fault. Because when you are trying to figure out how to use some of these computer programs um this was the very first active violence SOP that we have had and we are still trying to make it safer for the community and the firemen.

Linda Wilk: Yeah, that is where the confusion continued to come in with the Mayday because the Mayday (inaudible).

Chief David: Okay, moving right along.

Alex Huskey: Next victim.

Brian Flynn: Is there anything special about the parts that are underlined? In this like 1.11 underlines fire department, fire marshal, personnel, (inaudible)

Chief David: Because we have the side arm, the fire marshal's do.

Brian Flynn: Okay.

Chief David: That way it highlights to our guys that the fire marshals will be the only ones.

Assistant Chief Eckstein: Like the initial action the unit actions on page 3 of 6. It says that under no circumstances are no fire department personnel (inaudible) to go to an incident scene (inaudible) hot zone. Usually the fire marshals will do that since we have the vests and we have a side arm.

Brian Flynn: I am just I was just really asking what is the purpose of underlining? Is that to highlight?

Assistant Chief Eckstein: For our guys to grab a hold of their attention.

Brian Flynn: Okay, there we go.

Assistant Chief Eckstein: That way it is like well I didn't see that. It is underlined so, it is supposed to grab their attention a little bit.

Brian Flynn: Right.

Linda Wilk: Maybe bold it also.

Brian Flynn: Thank you.

Linda Wilk: So do you need us to adopt or approve this?

Chief David: If everyone has read it. And approves of it that would be great then we can just bring the Mayday one at the next meeting.

Alex Huskey: I was going to say this is the one that we have had the opportunity to read so I would if you're boards pleasure I would let the record reflect that we are reviewing the Active Violence Incident and Operations Policy of the Marion Fire Department and I would entertain a motion.

Motion to adopt the SOP for Active Violence Incident Operations- Brian Flynn; seconded Cindy Cunningham. **Motion carried.**

Marion Fire Department-Hiring of a firefighter

Chief David: Then next on the agenda I believe it is the hiring of one firefighter. We do have a position open. We would like to post that and get it filled as soon as possible. It keeps you guys in the loop.

Alex Huskey: Sure. Where do you post these positions?

Chief David: Facebook, the city's web page, and we will be looking at running an ad in the Chronicle-Tribune as well and or the News-Herald.

Alex Huskey: Additional questions comments or concerns? And lastly before we approve this one. Who, do you have a policy around diversity, equity and belonging?

Chief David: Yes, I am certain we do.

Alex Huskey: How is that policy utilized in recruitment or advertising for positions? Do you know?

Chief David: I don't. I know that we are an equal opportunity employer. Of course and I can research that a little bit more Mr. Huskey and get back with you on that.

Alex Huskey: Thank you sir.

Chief David: mmm hmm

Alex Huskey: Any additional questions? Alright I would entertain a motion for the posting for firefighter position.

Motion to approve that we approve the hiring of a firefighter but I definitely would like to see that diversity- Janice Adams; seconded Linda Wilk. **Motion carried.**

Marion fire department- Promotion of Maintenance Private

Chief David: Adam Trexler filled that spot of Maintenance Private. He was promoted recently to that spot and a Maintenance Private basically takes care of some of our in house needs that need to be done like plumbing and things like that. So, it is someone that is well rounded and a handyman atmosphere as well so Adam fit that bill. We had two persons apply for it and Adam fit the bill on that. I did also want to mention that not sure if you are aware of it or not but we got our ISO rating dropped again. For insurance and what they do is they look at the fire department, the water department, and they look at dispatch and comprise these numbers. When I was first chief our ISO rating was a 5. When I was chief the first time. I had a goal in mind to get us down to a 4 at minimum. We were able to accomplish that and now ISO came back and through the centralized dispatch and working with the water department and ourselves we are now down to a 3 so, that is a win-win for everybody. It should effect insurance premiums. Do your research on the ISO and you will see where that will reflect. We believe on particularly um business and uh homeowners, or any property owner's in town so seeing that through. It was a big task. There is a lot of paperwork, a lot of uh meetings with people and we also see other areas and highlighted what we can improve on. Brandon's working on a deal right now for um fire hydrant testing that ae privately owned. I know that sounds crazy that there are privately owned hydrants in town but they don't test those and that marks against us. We can gain several points by that. Hopefully, I won't be here to see it. But hopefully that next time we get that ISO rating down to a two which will be a major, major step. So we are proud of the accomplishment and I just wanted to share that with you all today.

Cindy Cunningham: Congratulations.

Chief David: Thank you.

Alex Huskey: How often are those ratings reviewed?

Chief David: They are about four years, yep.

Alex Huskey: So you are saying you don't plan on being here in four years,

Chief David: I can assure you I will not be here in four years. But is has been a great journey. We will talk about that the closer it gets.

Assistant Chief Eckstein: I would like to just add on Chief David's behalf. The ISO rating of 3 there is only 3500 departments nationwide that have received the class three ISO. So that shows the hard work and dedication he and Chief Plank and Eddie Overmyer and the water department and dispatch has gotten us to that point. Especially when there is only 3500 departments nationwide that is a class 3.

Cindy Cunningham: That is fantastic.

Chief David: Thank you.

Alex Huskey: So if the ISO rating goes up after he leaves I am going to blame you, you know that.

Assistant Chief Brandon: Well, (inaudible) no, I am just kidding. I have worked with Chief David for the last 17 years ever since I came on and we are working hard side by side to continue to grow for the betterment of the department and the community and he wants to get to 2 so I am working my hinny off to get us to a 2 so..

Alex Huskey: Okay, thank you. And, last question. Who are the two individuals that applied for the Maintenance Private position?

Chief David: Ben Heincker was one and then Adam Trexler was the other.

Alex Huskey: Okay, Ben Heincker.

Chief David: Yes, sir.

Alex Huskey: Thank you.

Chief David: uh huh,

Alex Huskey: Anything else for fire chief? Okay thank you very much.

Cindy Cunningham: Thank very much. Again, congratulations, that is fantastic.

Linda Wilk: Yeah.

Chief David: Thank you very much.

Alex Huskey: Well I guess we need to affirm that promotion right?

Linda Wilk: We need to affirm the promotion?

Alex Huskey: For Maintenance Private. We did not affirm it yet.

Linda Wilk: You need a motion to affirm that?

Alex Huskey: Yes.

Motion to affirm the promotion of Maintenance Private Adam Trexler-Linda Wilk; seconded Brian Flynn. **Motion carried.**

Public Comment

No public comment

PAYMENT OF THE BILLS- April 18, 2022

Motion to approve payment of the bills for April 18, 2022- Brian Flynn; seconded Janice Adams. **Motion passed.**

Alex Huskey: Now, I would entertain a motion for adjournment.

Motion to adjourn- Cindy Cunningham

Meeting adjourned.

Alex Huskey- President
Board of Public Works & Safety

ATTEST:

Aisha Richard- Secretary
Board of Public Works & Safety