

Public Safety and Criminal Justice Committee Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: Monday, November 26, 2018

Convened: 11:02 A.M.

Adjourned: 12:43 P.M.

Committee Members Present:

Council Member B. Adam McGough, Chair
Council Member Philip T. Kingston, Vice Chair
Council Member Jennifer S. Gates
Mayor Pro Tem Casey Thomas
Deputy Mayor Pro Tem Adam Medrano
Council Member Sandy Greyson
Council Member Kevin Felder

Committee Members Absent:

Other Council Members Present:

Council Member Omar Narvaez

AGENDA:

Call to Order

1. October 22, 2018 PSCJ Committee Meeting Minutes

Presenter(s): Council Member B. Adam McGough, Chair

Information Only:

Action Taken/Committee Recommendation(s):

A motion was made to approve the October 22, 2018 meeting minutes.

Motion made by: CM Greyson

Item passed unanimously:

Item failed unanimously:

Motion Seconded by: CM Kingston

Item passed on a divided vote:

Item failed on a divided vote:

2. Public Safety Dashboards

Presenter(s): Chief U. Renee Hall, Dallas Police Department, David Pughes, Executive Assistant Chief, Dallas Police Department, Ted Padgett, Chief of Staff – Assistant Chief, Dallas Fire-Rescue

Information Only:

Action Taken/Committee Recommendation(s):

Staff briefed the committee on the October 2018 Public Safety Dashboards for the Dallas Police, Fire-Rescue, and the Court and Detention Services Departments. The dashboards are intended to provide a comprehensive snap shot of performance measures, critical areas of concerns and staffing levels each month. Chief Pughes noted an error on the Year to Date Crime Report, Homicide Offenses is listed at 16.5% clearance rate the correct number is 79%. The FY 17-18 hiring number is listed at 7 currently, DPD is at 29 with 81 possible future hires. The Committee inquired about DPD hiring goals; applicant flow is the same as last year, but more hiring needs to be done. DPD plans to publicize higher starting salary beginning in January 2019 to obtain additional applicants. DFR Chief Padgett highlighted the Optimal Ambulance Unit Hour Utilization Rate has decreased 52.20% from October 2017.

Motion made by:

Item passed unanimously:

Item failed unanimously:

Motion Seconded by:

Item passed on a divided vote:

Item failed on a divided vote:

3. Security Assessment of City Facilities

Presenter(s): Gary Lindsey, City Marshal, Dallas Marshal's Office

Information Only:

Action Taken/Committee Recommendation(s):

City Marshal, Gary Lindsey, briefed council on the process to select a consultant that will assist the City in analyzing the security needs of City facilities/structures. The briefing outlined the use of resources from the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), City staff, and a Security Consultant. Approximately \$1 million was included in the 2018-2109 budget for a facility security survey, a mail/package screening device and one security position. DHS has conducted security assessments and will train City staff to conduct surveys on facilities and public venues managed by the City. This partnership allows City staff to perform assessments in-house, which saves money to implement needed security improvements and enhancements. Staff recommendations include partnering with DHS to conduct two security assessments and training city staff and advertising a request for proposals for a security consultant to save money.

Motion made by:

Item passed unanimously:

Item failed unanimously:

Motion Seconded by:

Item passed on a divided vote:

Item failed on a divided vote:

4. The New Vice Unit

Presenter(s): Paul Stokes, Assistant Chief of Police, Dallas Police Department

Information Only:

Action Taken/Committee Recommendation(s):

Assistant Chief Paul Stokes briefed the committee on the New Vice Unit. He provided an overview of the history, actions to date, overarching philosophy, unit structure and key focal points of the new unit. The Unit was disbanded in November 2017 and a newly structured Vice Unit, consisting of 21 members, will begin on November 28, 2018 with new Standard Operating Procedures training plan and philosophy. Units are made up of two squads of enforcement detectives on rotating shifts focusing on street-level prostitution, human trafficking, and gambling locations. A licensing squad will focus on financial investigations (money laundering), as well as process all license applications for dancehalls, sexually-oriented businesses and billiard halls. Committee members asked about the differences in previous training and about the previous unit. No previous vice members will be allowed to join the new unit as DPD is striving for a new holistic approach.

Motion made by:

Item passed unanimously:

Item failed unanimously:

Motion Seconded by:

Item passed on a divided vote:

Item failed on a divided vote:

5. Fire Watch Procedures

Presenter(s): Deputy Chief Christopher Martinez, Dallas Fire-Rescue, Ted Padgett, Chief of Staff – Assistant Chief, Dallas Fire-Rescue

Information Only:

Action Taken/Committee Recommendation(s): The City of Dallas has received numerous questions and concerns related to Fire Watches and has an opportunity to review and potentially amend the existing protocols. Deputy Chief Christopher Martinez briefed the committee on the history of DFR Fire Watch operations, the associated Fire Watch fees directed by the City Council, Fire Watch procedures for index cities, and proposed option and recommendations. DFR personnel has conducted fire watch activities since 2000, with fees last being increased to \$150 in 2014 and are reexamined annually. Proposed Fire Watch options include a rate change (reduce the hourly Fire Watch fee based on a reduced level of cost recovery) or use alternative fire watch personnel.

DFR recommends option number one: DFR recommends a rate reduction limited to no less than 50% of the full cost recovery, and a consistent approach with the least liability to the City and adheres to the specific requirements of the International Fire Code.

Next steps include creating an amendment adopted by council to change the current structure code. Staff will come back to council within 30 days with language.

Motion made by:
Item passed unanimously:
Item failed unanimously:

Motion Seconded by:
Item passed on a divided vote:
Item failed on a divided vote:

6. Committee Action Matrix

No questions were asked regarding the Committee Action Matrix.

7. Upcoming Agenda Items

Presenter(s): Chief U. Renee Hall, Dallas Police Department

Information Only:

Action Taken/Committee Recommendation(s): CM Greyson expressed concern with the backup material. The recommendation is that council award the contract to the only proposer, however, there are three proposers listed in the agenda information sheet. Staff noted the language was not clear. The only proposer refers to the individual who won based on the process. Due to the significant cost difference staff was asked why proposer one was chosen rather than the other two less expensive options. Staff responded when the individuals presented the group that won was able to provide a metric formula that ultimately affected the team’s decision. DPD currently has 2.7 million in confiscated funds, CM Greyson expressed concerns from funds taken from individuals who have not yet been convicted.

Motion made by:
Item passed unanimously:
Item failed unanimously:

Motion Seconded by:
Item passed on a divided vote:
Item failed on a divided vote:

8. Briefing Memo

Presenter(s): Chief U. Renee Hall, Dallas Police Department

Information Only:

On November 16, 2018 City Manager, T.C. Broadnax, provided a Citizen Review Board (CRB) Memo regarding a series of town hall meetings to gather input will take place over the next 90 days and results will be documented and presented to the Public Safety and Criminal Justice Committee for review and approval. Chair McGough asked staff to provide a full list of working groups and individuals who participated in the research and developed recommendations to improve the current CRB.

Motion made by:
Item passed unanimously:
Item failed unanimously:

Motion Seconded by:
Item passed on a divided vote:
Item failed on a divided vote:

APPROVED BY:

ATTEST:

B. Adam McGough, Chair
Public Safety and Criminal Justice Committee

Victoria Cruz, Coordinator
Public Safety and Criminal Justice Committee
