

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Town of Estes Park, Larimer County, Colorado, July 27, 2006

Minutes of a Regular meeting of the **PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE** of the Town of Estes Park, Larimer County, Colorado. Meeting held in the Town Hall in said Town of Estes Park on the 27th day of July, 2006.

Committee: Chairman Newsom, Trustees Blackhurst and Eisenlauer
Attending: All
Also Attending: Chief Richardson, Administrator Repola, Deputy Clerk Schares
Absent: Chief Dorman

Chairman Newsom called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.

POLICE DEPARTMENT.

Wireless Citation Project – Request Approval. Chief Richardson stated the Police Department applied for, but did not receive, an \$80,000 federal grant with a 40% match for a wireless/automated citation package. Therefore, staff investigated purchasing a system for the same cost as the grant match amount of \$32,000. Advanced Public Safety's wireless/automated citation system is the only system authorized to integrate into the current Larimer County Records Management System. The system would create a paperless system for criminal and information reports reducing the Police Department's paper reporting by 20%. The system would integrate software within the records management systems, auto populate data into several reports, and include a mag-swipe reader and thermal printing unit for the patrol car or handheld unit. Automating the citation process would increase efficiency and accuracy. Staff recommends purchasing the wireless citation package including training and two handheld wireless units from Advanced Public Safety. Staff will provide Administrator Repola with the account number. Following discussion, the **Committee recommended approval to purchase the wireless citation package from Advanced Public Safety as outlined above in the amount of \$37,709.56.**

Acquisition of an Emergency Response Vehicle through Federal 1033 Program - Request Approval. Chief Richardson stated during special enforcement activities the Police Department has historically relied on the Larimer County Sheriff's Department for assistance. An Emergency Response Team was created due to lengthy response time of the Sheriff's Department. This team is in need of a command vehicle for safer operations and effective planning of special enforcement activities and special events. The Federal 1033 program allows civilian law enforcement access to military and federal surplus equipment at no cost. A one-ton unequipped box truck is currently available for acquisition. Staff recommends acquiring the truck and equipping it with emergency and communication equipment, seating, storage, a generator, air conditioner and exterior lighting during the next two years. One-way airfare for two staff members is needed to pick up the vehicle in Texas, if the vehicle is found to be in satisfactory condition after review of a vehicle history report. Following discussion, the **Committee recommended approval to acquire the one-ton unequipped box truck for use as an emergency response vehicle contingent on the vehicle's condition.**

Reports:

1. Pit Bull Study – Chief Richardson reported State law on pit bulls has not changed regardless of the outcry for reform. No dog bite cases were reported to the Police Department between January and June; however, 3 dog bite cases occurred in July. Specifics on the incidents are not available although all three incidents have involved local dogs. Chief Richardson stated a maximum fine of \$300 with possible restitution can be charged per incident.

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2. Community Assessment – Officer Hulme presented a community assessment on burglaries in Estes Park. Although the Town's statistics for burglaries are lower than the overall State statistics, it is still an issue that should be addressed. Burglaries account for 15-20% of crimes in Estes Park with the majority occurring downtown due to poor lighting, lack of security systems, and improper locks. Officer Hulme suggested lighting and security, along with safe money management, zone policing, and security surveys could decrease burglaries. Security surveys would be conducted by a trained Crime Prevention Officer to identify vulnerable areas and make suggestions to increase security. Property owners could be educated through brochures, classes, Police & Business in Partnership (PBIP) notices, Estes Park Chamber of Commerce, and community meetings.
3. Missing Person Search Results – Chief Richardson stated the missing Nepalese student was found safe. During the search the Police Department incurred \$5,067 of unbudgeted expenses. The Fire Department incurred \$1,600 in expenses.
4. Zone 3 Initiative – Officer Allen stated the Police Department received a complaint regarding visibility at the intersection of Dry Gulch Rd. and Big Thompson Ave. Officers Marciniak and Allen reviewed the complaint and contacted the owner of Sombrero Stables to request trailers be parked away from the intersection. Officer Marciniak also suggested moving the stop line closer to Big Thompson Ave. Staff will review the possibility of moving the line and will continue to monitor the area.
5. 2nd Quarter NIBRS Statistics – The Police Department has seen a significant decrease in juvenile arrests due to a majority of cases being referred to Restorative Justice.

FIRE DEPARTMENT.

Reports:

1. Status of the Fire District – Administrator Repola stated the Firewise Coalition is awaiting a hearing date in District Court to acquire approval of the ballot question on the upcoming general election. There is currently a call for candidates to serve on the Fire District Board of Directors. Candidates must be a registered Colorado voter residing in or owning property in the District.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Trustee Newsom stated the "Do Not Enter" sign for the Children's Parking Lot is not visible to cars traveling west to east. He also suggested striping the turn lanes at the intersection of Elkhorn Ave. and Moraine Ave. Staff will look into options for enhancing visibility of the sign and contact CDOT regarding the possibility of adding striping.

Trustee Eisenlauer commented the bike situation has improved on the Riverwalk; however, she suggested placing "No Bicycle" signs on the sidewalks along Elkhorn Ave. Administrator Repola stated "Share the Road" signs would be placed in several locations in Town to increase awareness of bicyclist.

There being no further business, Chairman Newsom adjourned the meeting at 9:26 a.m.

Suzy Schares, Deputy Town Clerk

* **Editor's Note:** Upon review of the minutes Chief Richardson restated the report on the Pit Bull Study to state: State law on pit bulls has not changed regardless of community concern requesting reform.