

**MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC SAFETY COMMISSION
OF THE CITY OF SOUTH PASADENA
May 18, 2015 at 6:30 pm
Fire Department EOC Room, 817 Mound Avenue, South Pasadena**

Call to Order and Roll Call. Chair Janet Braun called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm. Commissioners Braun, Chang, Daigle, Daley, Lieberman and Wing were present. Also present were Police Chief Art Miller, Police Captain Brian Solinsky, Deputy Fire Chief Paul Riddle and Mayor Robert Joe.

Approval of Minutes. Upon motion duly made and seconded, the minutes of the meeting of the Public Safety Commission (the "Commission") held on April 27, 2015 were approved.

Public Comment. Mayor Robert Joe addressed the Commission to thank them for their service. He offered his thanks to the Commission for doing their homework and building a great working relationship with the City Council regarding public safety matters. He also praised Chief Miller and Deputy Chief Riddle for their cooperation and efforts in working with the City Council and the Commission on a myriad of issues. Commissioner Daigle commented on the strength of the Commission and the amount of work that has been accomplished in the past year.

Mayor Joe also commented on the status of South Pasadena as a host city to the World Games for the Special Olympics and offered information regarding upcoming events to be hosted by the City.

Council Liaison Comments. Chair Braun stated that Dr. Schneider believes that planning for the City's newly equipped Emergency Operations Center should begin. Assuming the City adopts the proposed 2015-16 budget, a total of \$200,000 of the needed \$300,000 will have been reserved by the City for the Emergency Operations Center. While a location for the EOC has not yet been identified, due to other ongoing City plans, identification of necessary equipment, supplies and other needs and associated costs can be identified.

Police Department Promotion. Chief Miller and all others present at the meeting congratulated Captain Brian Solinsky on his recent promotion to the rank of Captain earlier that morning. Mayor Joe was present at the promotion ceremony and provided many complimentary remarks about Captain Solinsky and his service to the city. Chief Miller commented that one officer in the Department recently left for a position in Vernon, and the Department is continuing its efforts to fill vacancies. He also commented that one of the dispatchers who has been a reserve officer will be hired to a full-time position.

2015-16 Budget Review and Capital Expenditure Plans. Deputy Chief Riddle distributed the Fire Department's proposed budget for the coming year, which shows an 8% increase from the budget adopted last fiscal year. Highlights included salary to line personnel as a result of recent salary negotiations and increased retirement contributions due to new actuarial calculations from the State. The Department's budget includes four supplements, including a request for a new rescue ambulance to replace the fully depreciated existing ambulance, defibrillators, \$25,000 for the CERT and Neighborhood Watch programs and new turn-out gear. Deputy Chief Riddle noted that as per the capital expenditure plan, the City would need to purchase a new engine next year (approximate cost of \$600,000). The City has begun to reserve funds for major equipment purchases for the Fire Department so that future vehicles can be purchased instead of leased. Deputy Chief Riddle also commented that a new Emergency Operations Plan for the city was due next year and that the City Manager has agreed that the cost for the Plan, approximately \$25,000, will be paid from the city's budget. The Commissioners generally discussed the need for a more city-specific plan than that developed for the prior 5 years. Deputy Chief Riddle also noted that two new firefighter/paramedics had been hired, and that all new hires to the Department are cross-trained as both firefighters and paramedics.

Chief Miller distributed the Police Department's proposed budget for the coming year, which shows a 10% increase from the budget adopted last fiscal year. Chief Miller noted that the budget contained more overtime due to 5-6 openings in the Department, and salary increases as a result of recent salary negotiations and increased retirement contributions due to new actuarial calculations from the State. The Department purchases two new patrol vehicles annually, and the Department is purchasing SUVs instead of sedans because they handle better, do not roll easily, and they can carry more equipment. Commissioner Wing also provided insight on the reasons many police departments are moving from patrol cars to SUVs. Chief Miller responded to questions regarding specific budget line items.

Chair Braun thanked Chief Miller and Deputy Chief Riddle for the budget presentations and candid responses to the Commissioners questions.

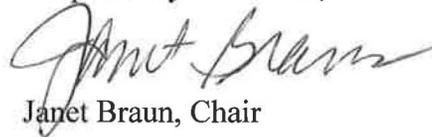
School Safety Officer Report. Chief Miller reported that the School Safety Officer had been visiting the South Pasadena High School approximately 13 times each month and the South Pasadena Middle School approximately 2-3 times each month. He sits in as a counselor on some hearings, finds students who are off-campus and finds kids on campus who don't belong and escorts them out. The School Safety Officer has been involved in a number of other issues related to property theft, fights, distribution of tobacco and other substances. Both canines have been involved at the schools. There have been 2 visits per month at the high school and an occasional visit to the middle school. Chief Miller reminded the Commission that one of the dogs, Barry, is a drug and patrol dog and the other dog, LeSue, is a bomb and patrol dog. He discussed a few of the recent successes the department has experienced from the use of the canines.

Staff Liaison Reports. Deputy Chief Riddle distributed the City 2015-16 Strategic Plan Update Summary. The City Manager had asked all staff liaisons to review the strategic plan update, which had been sent to all Commissioners prior to the meeting. Chief Miller did not have additional comments.

Commissioners' Comments. Commissioner Daigle asked about the South Pasadena Convalescent Hospital, and Chief Miller provided an update on its status.

Adjournment. The meeting was adjourned at 7:35 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Janet Braun".

Janet Braun, Chair
Public Safety Commission