



February 5, 2019 Public Safety Committee - Minutes

The City of Adel's Public Safety Committee met in the council chambers at Adel City Hall, 301 South 10th Street, Adel, Iowa, on February 5, 2019 at 6:30 p.m.

Selby called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m. Members present: McAdon, Ockerman, and Selby. Others: City Administrator Brown, Public Works Director Overton, Building Inspector Nichols, Police Chief Shepherd, and Fire Chief Nemechek.

McAdon motioned, seconded by Ockerman, to approve the June 30, 2018 minutes. Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion began on the City's disaster planning. The Multi-Hazard Emergency Operations Plan was last updated in June 2015 by former Chief of Police Jim McNeill. Overton replaced McNeill as the City's Emergency Manager. Ockerman stated that each department could update their contact information. The County's Emergency Management Coordinator may be a resource. Selby suggested looking into whether the City's plan could be in an app that sends out alerts. Brown will research and investigate updating the plan.

Overton noted that storm sirens cover most of the City, but there are areas with limited coverage. Overton will research the City's storm siren coverage map and the cost of new sirens.

Discussion moved to the City's open burn ban ordinance. Brown stated that most major cities near the Des Moines metro, including all in Polk County, do not allow open burning. Brown noted that there are few, if any, restrictions on open burning in the City, though there may have been more at one time. Nichols suggested restricting open burning to the backyard only during April, May, September, October, and November. McAdon stated she would support a full burn ban, as there are alternatives to dealing with yard waste (e.g., the City's yard waste collection from April through November).

Shepherd noted that enforcement may become difficult depending on the various restrictions. Nichols noted that development land could use wood chippers or haul away vegetation instead of burning. Overton stated that some discretion should be available for City-owned land. The committee asked Brown to bring several concepts back for consideration.

Discussion moved to the Fire Department items. Nemechek stated that he will be purchasing an iPad soon to access the County's new system. Ockerman asked Nichols to send commercial building plans and permits to the Fire Department to use in their pre-plans.

Nemechek stated that he had been reviewing the Fire Department's budget. Nemechek noted that he would like to prepare a future needs report for the next 1-5 years and the next 5-10 years. This report would include vehicle information.

Nemechek provided an update on the Fire Department's command vehicle and its engine issues. Shepherd stated that the Police Department's undercover vehicle could be given to replace the command vehicle if a new undercover vehicle were purchased. The committee agreed that the one-time cost of less than \$28,000 was reasonable. Brown will review this further and bring to the council.

With no other business, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:23 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

Anthony Brown
City Administrator