

Police & Fire Comm. Meeting

Tuesday Dec. 4th

Present: Committee members David Voss, Alana Tucker, Kitty Zech & Chairman Jim Sunderhaus. Others present Police Chief Emmett Stone, Fire Chief Bob Klein, Safety Service Director Tom Braun, Councilperson Gayle Griffin, Councilperson Amy Richter, and Debbie Slaughter

Purpose of the meeting was to update the committee on the current status of both the Fire & Police departments & prepare council for what both the Police & Fire Departments will look for in the 2019 budget in regards to personnel.

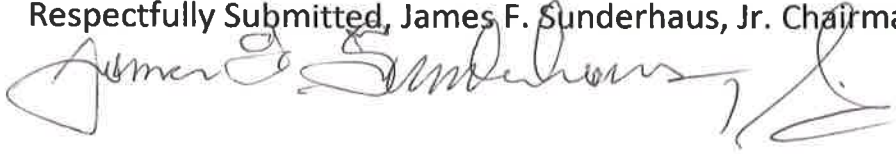
Meeting was called to order @ 6:33 pm by Chairman Sunderhaus

Both Chief Stone & Klein gave those in attendance a bleak picture looking down the road. The number of runs continues to increase & available personnel are stagnant or declining in the part time group. This is especially true in the ranks of our part time police. This also due to societal factors where police work isn't seen in a positive light thus shrinking the number of individuals pursuing this field as a career. Chief Stone is approaching real issues with our inability to recruit & retain part-time officers.

While the problems on the Fire Dept are not as immediate Chief Klein is aware of the storm clouds ahead. Once again the ability to employ & retain part-time personnel will be more difficult because of competition for this pool of folks. Most notably is the fact that the City of Harrison is now paying part-time personnel up to \$25.00 dollars an hour. Fire Departments are after the same group and essentially the part-time folk's chase down that hourly wage as they receive no other benefits like the full time employees. We currently are not competitive with that hourly wage & it will become much more difficult to hire new & retain part-time personnel as we move forward.

The committee suggested that the Chief's bring forth as many scenarios as possible to address the issues when the Finance Committee begins meeting on the budget. Meeting was adjourned @ 7:25 pm

Respectfully Submitted, James F. Sunderhaus, Jr. Chairman

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "James F. Sunderhaus, Jr.", written in a cursive style.

Kitty Zech

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kitty Zech", written in a cursive style.

Alana Tucker

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Alana M. Tucker", written in a cursive style.

David Voss

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "David W. Voss", written in a cursive style.