

1 **Minutes of the**
2 **Public Safety Committee Budget Review Meeting**

3 Bountiful City Public Safety Building
4 April 14, 2022 (4:00 p.m.)
5

6 Present:

7 Committee Members: Kate Bradshaw (Chair), Jesse Bell, Cecilee Price-Huish,
8 Kendalyn Harris
9 City Manager: Gary Hill
10 Assistant City Manager: Galen Rasmussen
11 Police Department Staff: Ed Biehler, Dave Edwards, Troy Killian, David Gill,
12 Kathy Lovoi, Chris Young, Nico Herrera
13

14 Official Notice of this meeting had been given by posting a written notice of same and an agenda at
15 the City Hall and providing copies to the following newspapers of general circulation: Davis Journal,
16 Standard Examiner, and on the Utah Public Notice Website.
17

18 Committee chair Kate Bradshaw called the meeting to order at 4:04 p.m., welcomed those in
19 attendance.

20 **PRESENTATION OF POLICE DEPARTMENT BUDGET**

21 Chief Ed Biehler provided an introduction of Police staff and then delivered an overview of
22 department operations and a description of the process of budget development which includes an
23 internal budget committee. Major roles and critical functions as noted in the tentative budget
24 document include:

- 25
- 26 • Enforce federal, state and local laws.
 - 27 • Provide public safety for residents and visitors.
 - 28 • Provide dispatch services for five police agencies and the fire district.
 - 29 • Lead in managing emergencies that arise within the city.
 - Records management for police operations

30 Fiscal Year priorities for Fiscal Year 2022-2023 include:

- 31
- 32 • Transition to CAD/RMS/Mobile Software from eForce to Spillman. An overview was also
33 provided on the environment of dispatching within the County at the current time. Over the
34 years there has been a political push to have centralized dispatch countywide. It was noted
35 that special service district models for this service tend to be more expensive than the current
36 model. Multiple dispatch centers can provide redundancy that provides a layer of safety in the
37 event of system failures and virtual consolidation would allow the benefits of central dispatch
without the downsides of physical consolidation. Cost for the CAD transition will be \$896,501

1 in total with \$230,595 as Bountiful City's share that will be further charged out equitably to
2 other entities that Bountiful dispatches for currently. Bountiful City's share of the Spillman
3 software will be \$277,284.

- 4 • Replace and train new supervisory staff.
- 5 • Continue countywide dispatching discussion.
- 6 • Complete Utah Chiefs of Police Accreditation program.
- 7 • Promote department employee wellness. This program includes a psychological assessment
8 visit for each employee. The program is grant funded (\$23,600) and is supported by a peer
9 resource component comprised of three employees from within the department.

10 Budget categories and line items of note were reviewed with explanations provided for larger
11 variances. The majority of increases in the personnel services categories are due to a cost-of-living
12 allowance of 3%, merit increases for those employees who are eligible, and market adjustments.
13 Operational cost increases in the budget include changes in insurance premiums, fuel costs, software
14 costs (which are now increasingly subscription based). A question was asked on why additional liquor
15 law funds were received. The Chief noted that this change is due to some legislative changes along
16 with increases in DUI cases worked and alcohol outlets in the city.

17 A review of operational statistics was made for calendar years 2019, 2020 and 2021. Major offenses
18 changed from 767 in calendar year 2020 to 852 in calendar year 2021 (11.1% increase). Arrests
19 decreased by a small amount between 2020 and 2021 (4.15% decrease was due mostly to a drop in
20 juvenile arrests stemming from legislative changes in which arrests can be made by officers). A
21 discussion then centered on referrals to the County Receiving Center (affiliated with Davis Behavioral
22 Health) for certain individuals arrested with observed drug issues. Referrals are voluntary and
23 successes have been seen with reduced repeat offenders being returned to the program. For those
24 being referred to the Receiving Center no charges are filed unless the referred individuals do not
25 follow through with requirements imposed by the County Receiving Center staff. A total of 75
26 individuals were taken to the Receiving Center in the past year.

27 In other statistics, accidents dropped 31.2% between 2020 and 2021. Reasons for the drop in
28 accidents are many but influenced by citations to some degree and visibility of law enforcement in
29 general. The focus of police has continued to be more towards assisting those in the community
30 rather than issuing ticketing citations. Officers assist with motorist concerns such as keys locked in
31 vehicles and responding to alarms. Police use of force dropped 12.5% (from 16 to 14 incidents)
32 between 2020 and 2021.

33 Questions were asked about experience so far with police vests. For those wearing the vests, the
34 experience is overall positive. An additional question was asked about Body Cams. The Body Cams
35 are used regularly but some cameras are reaching end of life and need to be replaced. Existing policy

1 on the use of cameras is that those cameras should be activated when an officer has any contact with
2 the public.

3 The capital budget was reviewed with the committee with fiscal year 2023 showing planned
4 purchases of replacement police vehicles and CAD/RMS systems.

5 The Committee members conferred on procedure for approving the Police and Metro Fire budgets
6 and decided to make one motion at the end of the meeting to consider all budgets for approval at one
7 time.

8 **PRESENTATION OF SOUTH DAVIS METRO FIRE AGENCY BUDGET**

9 Gary Hill was invited to present the budget request from South Davis Metro Fire Agency. Chief Dane
10 Stone was invited to attend but was unavoidably detained in meetings at the Fire Agency. Gary
11 proceeded with a review of the organization of the Agency and outlined the funding sources for fire
12 services which are in part from a property tax assessment and direct assessments to member cities
13 based on population. The Agency has its own board and is a separate legal entity. The City Managers
14 of member cities are the budget committee for the Agency. The major roles and critical functions of
15 the Agency were reviewed as follows:

- 16 • Fire protection services.
- 17 • Paramedic and emergency response.
- 18 • Wildland fire prevention and protection.

19 The assessment to member agencies will be a 7% increase. The cost-of-living allowance will be
20 proposed at 6.5% and the Agency provides merit increases for eligible employees. Due to the lead
21 time in obtaining replacement equipment, the Agency will be ordering equipment early. The effect of
22 the change in assessment to Bountiful for fiscal year 2023 will be approximately \$180,000. The pieces
23 of equipment scheduled for replacement are approximately 15 to 17 years old and the cost of the
24 replacement equipment is about \$900,000 per unit.

25 Committee member Price-Huish made a motion to accept the tentative budget submissions and
26 forward this recommendation to the full Council for the Police Department and South Davis Metro
27 Fire Agency as presented. Committee member Bell seconded the motion. Voting was unanimous
28 with Committee members Bradshaw, Bell, and Price-Huish voting “aye”.

29 The meeting adjourned at 6:12 p.m. on a motion made by Committee member Bell and seconded by
30 Committee member Price-Huish. Voting was unanimous with Committee members Bradshaw, Bell
31 and Price-Huish voting “aye”.