

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

3 Bountiful City Public Safety Building
4 April 23, 2024 (4:00 p.m.)
5

6 Present:

7 Committee Members: Jesse Bell (Chair), Cecilee Price-Huish (left at 5:02 p.m.),
8 Matt Murri
9 Other Council Members: Kendalyn Harris, Richard Higginson, Kate Bradshaw
10 City Manager: Gary Hill
11 Assistant City Manager: Galen Rasmussen
12 Police Department Staff: Ed Biehler, David Gill, Andrew Smith, Priscilla Ipina,
13 Cody Keith, Ryan Sanborn
14 Other City Staff: Greg Martin, Jessica Sims, Charles Benson
15

16 Official Notice of this meeting had been given by posting a written notice of same and an agenda at
17 the City Hall and providing copies to the following newspapers of general circulation: Davis Journal,
18 Standard Examiner, and on the Utah Public Notice Website.
19

20 Committee chair Jesse Bell called the meeting to order at 4:03 p.m., welcomed those in attendance.

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

22 Gary Hill presented the budget for the City’s participation in the South Davis Metro Fire Agency. Chief
23 Stone was unable to attend due to another commitment and was excused from attendance. Funding
24 for the Agency comes from paramedic revenue, a property tax levy, and member entity assessments.
25 City managers from all member agencies form an administrative budget committee of the agency. For
26 FY2025 there is a proposed 3% increase in the member assessment (\$80,812 additional from
27 Bountiful). No major changes are proposed in the fire budget.

28 A question was asked as to whether increases each year will continue. Gary noted that the Fire
29 Agency does not have any revenue sources with a natural growth rate so periodic increases in the
30 membership assessment must be made to sustain Agency operations. Increases are usually aligned
31 with the growth in general fund revenues of each city.

32 **PRESENTATION OF POLICE DEPARTMENT BUDGET**

33 Chief Ed Biehler provided an introduction of Police staff and then asked Lieutenant Andrew Smith to
34 deliver an overview of department priorities and operations. Additionally, a handout was distributed
35 showing Police statistics for 2021 through 2023. Chief Biehler mentioned that the statistics reported
36 for the 2023 calendar year are not complete in some categories. This is due use of a new reporting
37 software and the inability to retrieve 2023 statistics from the prior software platform. This condition

1 may result in some categories being reported artificially low. Major Offenses have dropped from 852
2 in calendar year 2021 to 643 in calendar year 2023. Arrests have decreased from 877 in calendar year
3 2021 to 446 in calendar year 2023. A discussion of other related statistics was also held. Lieutenant
4 David Gill provided a demonstration of the software used to track the use of force and vehicle pursuits
5 along with the related procedures for this area of practice for the police.

6 A review of budget line items was made by Chief Biehler with highlights on certain personnel services
7 categories and operations and maintenance areas for each sub department. There were some
8 adjustments in line items from the Police main budget to other smaller sub department budgets to
9 better reflect needs for items such as training and other operations and maintenance items. A
10 discussion was held on the effect of new legislation requiring school guardians or officers in schools.
11 Chief Biehler noted that school districts are responsible for the decision of which option to use.

12 The largest budget increase for Police is within the E911 sub department. Bountiful is budgeting to
13 dispatch for two additional Davis County cities after January 2025. The capital request of the Police
14 department includes funding for capital needs to accommodate additional dispatching responsibilities
15 along with other department priorities.

16 Committee member Murri made a motion to accept the tentative budget submission of the South
17 Davis Metro Fire Agency and Bountiful City Police Department and forward this recommendation to
18 the full Council for adoption as presented. Committee member Bell seconded the motion. Voting was
19 unanimous with Committee members Bell, and Murri voting "aye".

20 The meeting adjourned at 5:19 p.m. on a motion made by Committee member Murri and seconded by
21 Committee member Bell. Voting was unanimous with Committee members Bell, and Murri voting
22 "aye".