

DRAFT MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC SAFETY COMMISSION FOR THE CITY OF HAYDEN, KOOTENAI COUNTY, IDAHO

Tuesday, December 2, 2025

Commission Meeting: 1:00 PM

Hayden City Hall Council Chambers, 8930 N. Government Way, Hayden, ID 83835

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 PM.

ROLL CALL OF COMMISSION MEMBERS

Present: Chair John Spencer, Vice-Chair Brian Harrison and Commissioners David Hagar and Raleigh Measom. Commissioner Meyer was absent at Roll Call and arrived at 1:05 and was preset for the remainder of the meeting.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chair Spencer led the pledge of allegiance.

ADDITIONS OR CORRECTIONS

None

1. CONSENT CALENDAR *All items on the Consent Calendar are Action Items*

A. Approval of June 3, 2025, Public Safety Commission Meeting Minutes

MOTION: Vice Chair Harrison motioned to approve the minutes. Commissioner Hagar provided the second. All members were in favor, none were opposed. The motion was approved.

2. VISITOR/PUBLIC COMMENT

City Council President Roetter thanked the Public Safety Commission for your time helping make Hayden safer. He then indicated his comments would be as a citizen not as a City Council Member. He indicated he has a concern about how taxes flow from the County to the Sheriff Department and worries that there is no accountability to the City based on his requests.

3. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. **ACTION ITEM** Review July – October 2025 Law Enforcement Reports

It was confirmed that Calls for Service are only for Citizen initiated requests as requested by Council. Any proactive calls should have been removed. It was also noted that animal control numbers are high. The animal control officers are employed by the Sheriff and if they are not available then a deputy handles the call.

B. Review Law Enforcement Services Contract.

Staff provided an update on negotiations with the county regarding the law enforcement services contract. Three primary issues are under review:

1. clarification of vehicles and equipment purchased by the city and reflected in Exhibit B;
2. authority of the sheriff to enforce city ordinances, with draft language under review by legal counsel; and
3. accountability and reporting requirements, which remain unresolved and are still under discussion with council and legal counsel.

- The county granted a 30-day extension of the current contract through the end of the year. County commissioners have expressed differing views on whether additional extensions will be offered beyond that period.
- The proposed contract cost is approximately \$1.193 million, covering five patrol deputies, one animal control officer, and one detective, with overhead costs of approximately \$341,000 included. Concerns were raised that overhead costs are not sufficiently broken down and may result in duplicative charges.
- Commission members expressed significant concern regarding accountability, transparency, and the ability to track outcomes of law enforcement activity, not minute-by-minute staffing. Discussion emphasized a desire for clearer reporting on results (e.g., arrests, citations, field interview cards, citizen contacts, clearance outcomes).
- Sheriff's Office representatives indicated that while detailed minute-by-minute tracking is not feasible, reporting could potentially be enhanced to summarize outcomes of deputy-initiated and citizen-initiated calls for service. A mock-up of a revised report may be developed for review.
- Overhead calculations were discussed. Staff noted they cannot independently verify the county's overhead methodology, which includes administrative support, facilities, vehicles, and other shared costs. The county asserts the proposed overhead rate reflects a reduced and conservative estimate.
- Several members raised concerns that the proposed staffing level represents a reduction from what voters were previously told levy funds would support, and questioned whether five deputies are sufficient for the city's needs.
- Staff cautioned against allowing the contract to lapse on January 1, citing potential impacts to ordinance enforcement and non-emergency public safety needs, especially during winter conditions.
- No formal decisions were made. Staff will continue working with legal counsel, council, and the county on contract language, particularly around accountability and reporting expectations, and will return with updates.

4. NEW BUSINESS

A. ACTION ITEM Approval of the 2026 Public Safety Commission Meeting Calendar

The Commission reviewed the proposed calendar and agreed quarterly meetings work knowing special meetings could be called if needed.

MOTION: Vice-Chair Harrison motioned to approve the 2026 Calendar as presented with quarterly meetings. Commissioner Meyer provided the second. All members were in favor, none were opposed. The motion was approved.

B. ACTION ITEM Election of Chair and Vice-Chair

Commissioner Hagar was nominated for Chair. Commissioner Hagar declined due to upcoming professional and personal changes which will require him to resign from the Public Safety Commission to avoid potential conflicts. Commissioner Meyer shared he would like more time as a commissioner so it was determined that Chair Spencer and Vice-Chair Harrison would retain their current positions.

MOTION: Commissioner Hagar motioned to continue with the current positions that we have on the commission for the next year. Commissioner Meyer provided the second. All members were in favor, none were opposed. The motion was approved.

C. ACTION ITEM Review the Request for Strategic Planning Proposal for Law Enforcement Services and Make Recommendations

Staff presented a draft request for proposals (RFP) to retain an independent, third-party consultant to develop a strategic plan for law enforcement services in the City of Hayden. The purpose of the

proposal is to proactively evaluate long-term law enforcement service options, anticipated cost increases over a 3–5 year horizon, and community expectations, and to provide objective information to support future negotiations with the county and potential public outreach or ballot measures.

The consultant would be asked to evaluate current and future service needs and deliver specified analyses and recommendations (outlined in seven deliverables), with emphasis on providing clear, data-driven information that can be communicated to both decision-makers and the public. Staff noted the intent is not to predetermine a shift away from contracted services, but to evaluate all available options, including continuation of the county contract versus establishing a city police department, and to establish informed expectations for service levels and costs. A target timeline of approximately six months was discussed as ambitious but necessary to support potential future ballot measure timelines and public education efforts.

Commissioners expressed general support for the proposal, noting the value of objective analysis, competitive compensation evaluation, full cost assessment (including technology and administrative needs), and the benefit of entering future negotiations with clearer data rather than assumptions. It was acknowledged that the effort would be data-intensive and require staff involvement, but commissioners agreed the analysis would be worthwhile.

MOTION: Commissioner Measom motioned to go forward with the strategic planning proposal process. Vice-Chair Harrison provided the second. All members were in favor, none were opposed. The motion was approved.

5. REPORTS

6. AGENDA ITEMS FOR UPCOMING MEETINGS

There may be a need to have a special meeting in January.

7. ADJOURNMENT ACTION ITEM

MOTION: Commissioner Measom motioned to adjourn the meeting. Vice-Chair Harrison provided the second. All members were in favor, none were opposed. The motion was approved.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:09 p.m.

Shawn Langenderfer, Deputy City Clerk