

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

Tuesday, December 3, 2024

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 Scot Haug, Commissioners John Spencer, Stephen Hall, Brian Harrison and Raleigh Measom

## **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Chair Haug led the pledge of allegiance.

## **ADDITIONS OR CORRECTIONS**

None

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

A. Approval of September 3, 2024 Public Safety Commission Meeting Minutes

MOTION: Commissioner Hall motioned to approve the minutes from the September 3<sup>rd</sup> Meeting. Commissioner Harrison provided the second. All members were in favor, none were opposed. The motion was approved.

### **2. VISITOR/PUBLIC COMMENT**

Teresa Roth expressed concerns for Community Policing. She believes the real purpose is to federalize local police by offering grants.

### **3. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

A. **ACTION ITEM** Update on Reorganization with the Sheriff's Office

City Administrator Ailport shared this conversation started as a means to create more structure and accountability with the Sheriff's Department. The hope was to create a quasi Police Chief position. The sheriff office provided the cost associated with the current staff and then what it would cost to elevate one of the officers and we could then see about paying the difference. After reviewing the numbers it became apparent that adding a Lieutenant level/quasi Police Chief comes at a significant cost and is not something we can afford right now. We are going to have to be disciplined about what policing should look like.

Chair Haug shared that the costs are not one time and would require ongoing revenue and while everyone agrees that a Police Chief would be beneficial the cost is too high.

Commissioner Measom does not see that the expense will weigh out and confirmed the average years of service with our deputies is 6-8 years. He feels we are adequately staffed for the next two or three years. Leadership would help determine our needs.

Captain Smart indicated that the calls for service have changed and because of that more resources are needed. He would feel better with another six deputies.

Commissioner Harrison thinks having discussions about what we want now is a good thing as tomorrow will be too late.

Commissioner Hall agrees something needs to be done and would like to see this become a priority to look at funding mechanisms to help it happen.

Commissioner Spencer asked if we could look at a middle level staff and it was confirmed that a Lieutenant level is what is needed to be successful in the role as designed.

As the community grows Hayden will need to start looking at the bigger picture.

MOTION: Commissioner Spencer motioned to recommend to City Council that Law Enforcement be elevated within a two to three year time frame to support a leadership position and to prioritize funding law enforcement budget on a continual track for increases to support additional positions as the City grows. Commissioner Measom provided the second.

AMENDED MOTION: Commissioner Spencer Amended his motion to recommend to City Council that Law Enforcement be elevated as soon as possible to support a leadership position and to prioritize funding law enforcement budget on a continual track for increases to support additional positions as the City grows. Commissioner Hall provided the second.

All members were in favor, none were opposed. The amended motion was approved.

**B. ACTION ITEM Review of Community Policing Focus Areas**

Chair Haug brought back the Measure What Matters handout for additional thoughts and comments. He explained that it should be a living document that will change as needed and is meant to be a good foundation we can build on.

City Administrator Ailport shared that some of the areas noted are being piloted already for success. We are getting favorable feedback from citizens as we roll out items.

The commission discussed ways to get feedback and it was noted the citywide survey may have information about law enforcement or we could talk with business, have a booth at Hayden Days or go out in the community. There are lots of ways to get feedback.

Commissioner Harrison feels the information outlined is all beneficial but feels that 40% of the items listed will require a lieutenant to accomplish. Many of these items will take time to gain traction.

The commission decided to table this item until the next meeting. Feedback should be sent to City Administrator Ailport.

**C. ACTION ITEM Review of the City of Hayden Policing Webpage**

City Administrator Ailport shared the way the website currently looks. She is looking for thoughts that will improve or advance the site making it forward facing for the public.

There was discussion about recognizing deputies for their work and if the public calls the chamber for crime statistics. Should we let the Chamber of Commerce know maybe they can drive traffic to the website?

**D. ACTION ITEM Review Law Enforcement Reports**

Captain Smart indicated this is an ever evolving document that has been reviewed by the Mayor and we are open to suggestions.

The commission is happy with the report and appreciates that it is on one page.

#### 4. NEW BUSINESS

- A. **ACTION ITEM** Approval of the 2025 Public Safety Commission Meeting Calendar  
The commission is still scheduled to meet quarterly.

MOTION: Commissioner Measom motioned to approve the 2025 Public Safety Commission Meeting Calendar. Commissioner Harrison provided the second. All members were in favor, none were opposed. The motion was approved.

- B. **ACTION ITEM** Provide a Recommendation to City Council with options for Accountability with Law Enforcement Services Hours provided by Hayden Assigned Deputies

City Administrator Ailport shared this was requested by Council as an accountability component to the money given to the sheriff's office for the assigned deputies. The Measure What Matters document provides a reference that may be helpful.

Chair Haug shared that the memo provided was done from him as his opinion individually not as the Chair of this commission. He thinks it's important to measure what matters and what our citizens and crime stats are saying. Will officers want to work for Hayden if we start tracking?

Commissioner Spencer wants to be real cautious on tracking initiatives. He prefers other methods and is a fan of random audits. There needs to be a level of trust until proven otherwise. He believes a Lieutenant can also help with accountability.

Commissioner Harrison believes there are many metrics available to track that would provide the information Council is looking for. He agrees that there has to be trust and would be very leery to encourage tracking that others may be looking for.

Commissioner Measom has seen deputies that haven't stayed where assigned. In the past he used paper to track now it would be hard to do. He would look to a Lieutenant to provide this accountability.

Commissioner Hall sees value in the reports that are provided by the sheriff's department.

Captain Smart reminded the commission that the contract has to have give and take for the days when a deputy is called away and when many more deputies are required here. Some law enforcement for Hayden doesn't occur in the City. He challenged us to hold them accountable and bring concerns forward so he can look into them.

MOTION: Chair Haug motioned to recommend to the Council that the current metrics, such as monthly reports, and the Measure What Matters document are sufficient for meeting the accountability of law enforcement hours for Hayden assigned deputies and the commission would not support tracking deputies by electronic means. Commissioner Hall provided the second. All members were in favor, none were opposed. The motion was approved.

- C. **ACTION ITEM** Election of Chair and Vice Chair for 2025

Chair Haug shared that this would be his last meeting since he will be moving back to Post Falls.

MOTION: Chair Haug motioned to nominate John Spencer as the Chair. Commissioner Hall provided the second. All members were in favor, none were opposed. The motion was approved.

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

**5. REPORTS**

None

**6. AGENDA ITEMS FOR UPCOMING MEETINGS**

None

**7. ADJOURNMENT *ACTION ITEM***

The meeting was adjourned at 2:28 p.m.

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Shawn Langenderfer, Deputy City Clerk