

Public Safety Sales Tax Oversight Committee Meeting

Wednesday, April 2, 2014

Committee members in attendance:

Edward Carroll, Brian Grady, Bernie Herpin, Jake Jacob, Debbie Klisch, Dan Mullin (in at 4:40 pm), Ron Ruckdeschel, and Marjorie Smith

Committee members absent: Tim Cassibry, Glen Florea (Didn't Brian replace Tim? And we're only listed 10 members instead of the required 11. Should we indicate one vacancy?)

Others present: Deputy Chief Steve Dubay (CSFD), Deputy Chief Vince Niski (CSPD), Leslie Hickey (CSFD), Nancy McCauley (CSPD), Ken Hughlett (OEM), Katha Snow (CSFD), Joe Curro (CSPD), Ken Rankin (CSFD), Linda Herpin (Citizen), Welling Clark (Citizen)

Call to Order: D. Klisch called the meeting to order at 4:36 pm.

Citizen Comment: Welling Clark, former PSSTOC member, addressed the Committee on two points: 1) The ballot language regarding the CSFD's obligation to add two new aerial truck companies using PSST funding; and, 2) An offer to provide assistance to the Committee should it choose to pursue additional funding for public safety.

- 1) Mr. Clark noted the ballot language specifically states the CSFD will add two new aerial truck companies using PSST funding. To date, the CSFD has purchased two aerial trucks, but rather than staffing them at Station 17 and 19, one aerial was placed at Station 10 and the Heavy Rescue was moved to Station 17. This essentially created one new aerial company at Station 19 and the CSFD created the equivalent of a second company with the Heavy Rescue unit. Mr. Clark questioned whether or not this met the will of the voters.

L. Hickey advised this was discussed at a PSSTOC meeting in 2006 and, through an official vote, the Committee approved the CSFD's actions. L. Hickey will provide the minutes from the 2006 meeting at the May 14, 2014 meeting.

E. Carroll also pointed out that no specific deadlines are assigned to each project included with the ballot language allowing the CSFD to fund a second aerial company with PSST funding at a time in the future when it is operationally necessary.

- 2) Mr. Clark expressed his concern about the per capita number of sworn police and fire employees in Colorado Springs compared to the rest of the nation. He offered to help the Committee coordinate another effort to raise additional funding for public safety. D. Klisch asked Mr. Clark to send her an email outlining his ideas.

Approval of Minutes:

MOTION: E. Carroll moved to approve the minutes from the February 2, 2014 meeting as written. J. Jacob seconded the motion. There was no discussion and the motion passed 7-0-1 with M. Smith abstaining.

MOTION: B. Grady moved to approve the minutes from the October 9, 2013 meeting as written. E. Carroll seconded the motion. There was no discussion and the motion passed 7-0-1 with D. Klisch abstaining.

Business and Updates:

Nominations/Elections of Officers

MOTION: J. Jacob moved to nominate D. Klisch as Committee Chairperson. E. Carroll seconded the motion. There was no discussion and the motion passed 8-0 (Leslie – does the person being elected actually vote? If not, this would be 7-0-1;) There is nothing that says they cannot vote for themselves.

MOTION: E. Carroll moved to nominate J. Jacob as Committee Vice Chairperson. D. Mullin seconded the motion. There was no discussion and the motion passed 8 -0 (same question as above)

Updates including budget changes (Budget, Fire, and Police)

CSFD

- L. Hickey presented the sales/use tax and other financial reports;
- In response to a question from R. Ruckdeschel, L. Hickey explained that, although the Office of Emergency Management (OEM) no longer reports to the CSFD, the weather and flood alert system will continue to be funded with PSST funding through the CSFD.
- K. Rankin gave the following facilities updates:
 - The ventilation project at Station 5 is complete;
 - The ventilation project at Station 12 will begin by the end of May and should take two months to complete;
 - Shades in the stairwells at Station 21 have been installed;

- The geothermal compressor at Station 21 malfunctioned so a new heater was installed as backup;
- The Leeds Platinum Accreditation for Station 21 is still pending;
- The CSFD is planning a community garden near Station 21. It is working with the City Attorney's Office to develop a contract that can be used with the community.

CSPD

- N. McCauley advised a recruit class for 48 recruits will begin on April 21. Of these 48 recruits, 10 are funded by PSST.
- J. Curro reminded the Committee that 52 vehicles were purchased with 2014 funding; 26 of these are purchased with PSST funding. These vehicles should arrive in May.
- V. Niski explained that 100% the Motor Unit is using eCitation and that it is being tested in Patrol.
- V. Niski advised the CSPD completed its accreditation process in March. The assessors were impressed with the Colorado Springs community and its ability to provide the current level of services with limited resources.

Members Discussion

R. Ruckdeschel expressed concern about the OEM's ability to receive PSST funding since it no longer reports to the CSFD. J. Jacob asked if the CSFD would consider funding requests made by the OEM if it had public safety needs. Both L. Hickey and S. Dubay confirmed these types of requests could be submitted in the CSFD's budget.

Next Meeting Date

V. Niski requested a meeting in May so the CSPD could present an upcoming PSST-funded project to the Committee.

J. Jacob and E. Carroll also requested staff bring to the May meeting a list of accomplishments made toward all itemized project, personnel, operating, and capital outlay requests made in the ballot language.

The next meeting is scheduled for May 14, 2014 at 4:30 p.m. at the Police Operations Center

Adjournment

The meeting ended at 5:50 pm.

Notes: The minutes of the meeting were taken by N. McCauley. Any omissions or corrections should be brought to the Chairperson's attention at the next PSSTOC meeting.