

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE
Meeting Minutes
April 9, 2024
Town Council Chambers

Members Present:

Denise Bowden, Chairwoman
Jay Savage, Councilman

Members Absent:

J. Arthur Leonard, Mayor

Staff Present:

Michael T. Tolbert, Town Manager
Tyler, Greenley, Police Chief
Bryan Rush, EMS Director

Call to Order

Councilwoman Bowden called the meeting to order.

Public Participation

There was none.

Agenda Adoption

Councilman Savage motioned, seconded by Councilwoman Bowden to adopt the agenda as presented. All present were in favor and the motion was carried.

Drug Kit Exchanges

EMS Director Rush reported in length on the change in the drug kits. He stated that this means ambulance crews will no longer exchange their drug boxes at the Virginia hospital. It will be done at the pharmacy. He also stated that they will have to apply for a certificate based on the drugs necessary. He explained the licensure and steps.

Town Manager Tolbert stated that the DEA and FDA are shifting the liability to the actual agencies. They will have to get certified to handle the drugs, and they will have to store the drugs in locked cabinets. They are incurring all the liability for loss, misuse, or stolen drugs.

EMS Director Rush stated that they've always been culpable for stolen or lost drugs, but now are falling in the chain.

Town Manager Tolbert asked if the FDA or DEA suggested any procedures to help out.

EMS Director Rush is sure they will issue a manual.

Councilwoman Bowden asked if the DEA and FDA know they will receive applications from the different agencies and prepared.

EMS Director Rush advised they do. He added that this came about in 2017. He stated that at the street-level EMS, there have been no violations. However, there will be a violation at the hospital level exchanging medications with EMS the way they do. He also stated that there could still be a 1 for 1 exchange, med for med. He doesn't feel it'll be in the regional concept because each department will have to get their CRC and licenses. He would like to plan for the worse case scenario if they fail at all of their attempts. He further explained that each agency would have to buy a Pyxus machine which is climate controlled. He described how CVFC could have this. The DEA would inspect, and once approved, the medications could be ordered. He discussed how the medications would be ordered and costs for the Pyxus machine and medications to stock the machines. He discussed the details of having a Pyxus machine. They are hoping for a 1 to 1 exchange and feels they will be in good shape. He suggested billing for specific meds to recoup the costs.

There was discussion.

EMS Director Rush advised that Riverside has a foundation with money to help. Tidewater EMS is working on something similar and may be able to inject money which would help until they get a better plan. They hope for a 1 for 1 exchange.

They further discussed the box exchange, drug expirations, a disposal service for expired medications.

EMS Director Rush advised that currently with the out-of-state transport, there is a 1 for 1 exchange with a Pyxus machine. The Pharmacy Board meets May 2nd, he plans to attend this meeting if possible.

Comments

Councilwoman Bowden expressed her confidence in EMS Director Rush. She also asked about the breakdown in traffic control near the Visitor Center and possible communication with NASA.

There was further discussion, and the Committee feels NASA should be responsible and do something about this.

Town Manager Tolbert advised he attends a quarterly meeting with NASA and the next one is next week to discuss all the issues between NASA and the Town. He will bring this matter up.

Councilwoman Bowden also stated that one of the Town's Ordinances are to remove grass clippings from the road. She asked Chief Greenley if it would hurt to remind the Officers to look for this.

Chief Greenley advised he would send a mass email to the Officers to pay attention to this and it will be brought up at the next meeting.

There were brief comments.

Councilman Savage expressed his appreciation for everything EMS Director Rush and Chief Greenley does.

Closed Meeting in accordance with Sec. 2.2-3711 (A) 1 of the Code of Virginia for the review and assignment of specific personnel.

Councilman Savage motioned, seconded by Councilwoman Bowden to go into a closed meeting in accordance with Sec. 2.2-3711 (A) 1 of the Code of Virginia for the review and assignment of specific personnel. All present were in favor and the motion was carried.

Certification of Closed Meeting in accordance with Sec. 2.2-3712 (D) of the code of Virginia.

Councilman Savage motioned, seconded by Councilwoman Bowden to certify that to the best of each member's knowledge:

- 1. Only public business lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements was discussed and**
- 2. Only such public business matters as were identified in the motion by which the closed meeting was convened were heard, discussed, or considered.**

All present were in favor and the motion was approved.

Adjournment

Councilman Savage motioned, seconded by Councilwoman Bowden to adjourn the meeting. All present were in favor and the motion was approved.