

**POLICE COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
August 19, 2013**

Call to Order

Chairman McIvor called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the Darien City Hall. In attendance: Chairman McIvor, Alderman Kenny and Alderman Belczak, Chief Brown, Deputy Chief John Cooper, Administrator Vana.

Public Comment and Communications

There were no public comment or communications presented.

Minutes

The minutes of the July 15, 2013, Police Committee meeting approved 3-0.

Video Gaming Survey Review

Alderman McIvor provided an overview of the video gaming review conducted by the city. Chief Brown reviewed the survey conducted on area communities asking if those communities had an increase of police activity related to gaming establishments. Chief advised that the communities that responded had no increase in police activity related to the gaming. Staff advised that the council previously discussed conducting a resident survey on video gaming. The committee determined that a survey on this issue may not be valid as it is not a validated scientific survey. In place of a survey the committee concurred to recommend sending information out asking for resident feedback, but not a questionnaire.

Firearms Simulator Purchase

Staff advised the FYE 14 police department budget includes the purchase of a firearms simulator specifically designed to provide judgment based shoot/don't shoot scenarios using a video library of scenarios that the firearms instructor can manipulate. This type of product, when combined with traditional live fire exercises, conforms to modern day firearms training practices. The plan is to eliminate two of the live fire practice sessions and replace them with sessions involving the judgment based training, using the simulator. The elimination of the two practice sessions will result in a cost savings for live ammunition and it is anticipated that the savings should pay for the system itself within the first three to three and one half years. The staff reviewed simulators from two different companies including:

TI Training Use of Force Simulator-Rural Law Enforcement Training Center	\$19,750
Tactical Weapons – Laser Shot Company	\$17,830

Staff recommended the purchase of the TI Training Use of Force Simulator RULETC due to:

1. Departments that actually use the two products stated the maintenance on the TL model was superior to the Laser Shot model.
2. The warranty on the TL simulator is 18 months, as compared to the Laser Shot's 12 month warranty.
3. The TI model simulator does not require a darkened room, whereas the Laser Shot model requires a darker room and requires recalibration with each start-up.
4. The TI model offers 2 laser inserts, while the Laser Shot system offers only one.

5. TI is expandable to allow up to six officers to operate in the same scenario as compared to Laser Shot's two.

The actual cost to purchase this product is \$40,000. A grant would pay approximately \$20,000 for this specific product leaving the balance due from the city of \$19,750. The budget for this purchase is \$18,115 from line item 40-4217.

The Police Committee approved the recommendation 2-1 to purchase the unit in the amount not to exceed \$18,950. Alderman Kenny voted not to recommend approval of the purchase since the amount exceeded the budget by \$1635. The committee did ask the Chief to contact the company and ask about any additional cost reduction that may be available.

Department Report

Chief Brown distributed a handout and discussed a 3 year history on residential burglaries and burglaries to motor vehicles. The Chief also reviewed the recent decrease in the number of 911 calls. The Chief gave an overview on a recent meeting held between the police department and multi-family property managers regarding crime free housing issues. Chief mentioned that the staff is looking into a formal crime free housing ordinance that will be a topic for the council goal setting session. Alderman McIvor asked to cover this item at the next police committee meeting. Alderman McIvor also asked the committee if they had items to discuss at the goal setting session they can raise those at the next committee meeting.

Adjournment

The Committee Meeting was adjourned at 6:50 p.m.

Approved: _____
Date

Alderman: _____
Joseph Kenny

Chairman: _____
Sylvia McIvor

Alderman: _____
Thomas Belczak