

Journal of Commission Work Session 2 Park Drive South, Great Falls, MT Civic Center Gibson Room 212 September 4, 2018

1. Call to Order - 5:30 p.m.

CITY COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT: Bob Kelly, Bill Bronson, Owen Robinson, Tracy Houck and Mary Sheehy Moe.

STAFF PRESENT: Deputy City Manager Chuck Anderson; Fire Chief Steve Hester; Police Chief Dave Bowen; Sergeant Rob Beall; Officer Jacob Smith; City Attorney Sara Sexe; and Deputy City Clerk Darcy Dea.

2. Public Comment.

Shyla Patera, 1013 7th Avenue NW, commented that the ADA Transition Plan is becoming a huge part of the City. With regard to the Natatorium, Ms. Patera commented that she hopes that an accessible option would be considered.

Brad Livingston, 2704 Big Ranch Road, expressed appreciation to the Public Works Department for its efforts with regard to replacing the Gore Hill water tower. Mr. Livingston urged the Commission to consider adding an emblem of the City to the tower, and noted that he could work with businesses for donations.

3. Police and Fire Department Updates on Equipment and Programs - Chief Bowen & Chief Hester.

Sergeant Rob Beall reviewed and discussed the attached PowerPoint presentation that included: the history, basics, systems, and mission priority list of the Unmanned Aerial System (UAS).

Deputy Manager Chuck Anderson received clarification that FLIR is Forward Looking Infrared Radiometer.

Mayor Kelly received clarification that the UAS FLIR camera searches for heat signatures which can identify only one person at a time.

Commissioner Houck received clarification that the UAS Unit is not available for private hire, and that it is a public safety piece of equipment.

Referring to the UAS, Commissioner Moe received clarification that it is difficult for the FLIR camera to see through glass. She expressed concern with the privacy rights of citizens. She further expressed concern with the potential militarization of the Police Department by receiving military surplus equipment from the Police

Community Foundation.

The Montana Highway Patrol is the only other agency in the state that has a UAS.

Referring to the privacy rights of citizens, Sergeant Beall explained that policy requires the UAS to operate at least 400 feet above ground level baring the execution of a search warrant, or a search and rescue operation.

Fire Chief Hester reported that the Fire Department was focusing on safety upgrades, and grant money was used to purchased radios, as well as replacing apparatus.

The Commission proceeded to the outdoor demonstration at 6:20 p.m. and returned at 6:45 p.m.

4. Discussion of Potential Upcoming Work Session Topics.

None

5. Adjourn.

There being no further discussion, Mayor Kelly adjourned the informal work session of September 4, 2018 at 6:45 p.m.

Program overview

GFPD UAS UNIT

History

- Unit began operation in the Fall of 2017
- 7 remote pilots, two more to be trained
- Two Models
 - DJI Matrice 200
 - Phantom 3 Pro
- Supervised by Sgt. Beall/Sgt. Munkres
- Overseen by the PSB

The basics...

- Each pilot is FAA certified, aircraft are FAA registered
 - Required for gov't use of a UAS.
- Deployment requires approval of the SC of a unit supervisor.
- Completely response based, not used for traffic enforcement or proactive work.
- Comply with FAA Part 107
 - Waivers
- Comply with MCA and applicable case law

UAS Systems

- DJI Matrice 200
 - 4k Camera
 - FLIR Camera
 - Commercial grade unit



- Phantom 3 Professional
 - Training/backup unit
 - 4k camera



Missions

- In-progress calls involving a threat to the safety of any person
- Search and rescue operations
- Searches for fleeing criminal suspects
- Crime scene operations
- Surveillance of criminal suspects
- Requests to support other government agencies
- Public relations or photo flights

To date...

- 17 missions total
 - 5 Crime Scene Documentation
 - 5 Search and Rescue
 - 4 Investigative
 - 2 HRU callout support
 - 1 Public Relations







