

**JOURNAL OF COMMISSION WORK SESSION
December 2, 2014**

City Commission Work Session
Civic Center, Commission Chambers

Mayor Winters presiding

CALL TO ORDER: 5:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL: City Commissioners present: Michael J. Winters, Bill Bronson, Fred Burow, Bob Jones, and Bob Kelly.

STAFF PRESENT: City Manager; Deputy City Manager; City Attorney; Directors of Fiscal Services and Public Works: Fire Chief; Police Chief; Assistant Fire Chief; Fire Marshal; Human Resources Manager; and the Deputy City Clerk.

**** Action Minutes of the Great Falls City Commission. Please refer to the audio/video recording of this meeting for additional detail. ****

1. PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no comments from the public.

2. CITY UPDATE – FIRE DEPARTMENT

Fire Chief Randy McCamley introduced Assistant Fire Chief Steve Hester, Operations Division, and Fire Marshal Dirk Johnson, Fire Prevention Education Enforcement Division.

Fire Marshal Johnson and Assistant Fire Chief Hester provided and discussed a PowerPoint Fire Department update presentation.

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Goals;<ul style="list-style-type: none">◦ Prevent fires,◦ Ensure Fire Protection System are Reliable◦ Protect the Means of Egress to Allow for Occupant Escape• This work is the first in the fire protection sequence.<ul style="list-style-type: none">◦ No fires mean no response by firefighters◦ Fires are smaller held in check or extinguished◦ Occupants are warned early and escape safely◦ Firefighter risk is lower when there is a fire• Fire Investigation – determine origin and cause and prosecute arson <p style="text-align: center;">Fire Protection/Prevention</p> <p style="text-align: right;">2</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• How are we doing?<ul style="list-style-type: none">◦ Inspections focus more in line with the Bureau's goals◦ 2400 inspections conducted annually◦ All new construction and large renovation in compliance with current fire code◦ Fire alarm, and fire suppression system oversight has been overwhelming◦ New Deputy Fire Marshal <p style="text-align: center;">Fire Protection/Prevention</p> <p style="text-align: right;">3</p>
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- Fire Marshal Forward
- working to bring existing facilities up to code and
- ensure new facilities are built to code
- ensure proper inspection and maintenance of fire protection systems

GFFR Fire Marshal Office

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- Goals
 - Take care of ourselves and each other
 - Meet the emergency and non-emergent needs of the community
 - Arrive on scene safely and in time to make a difference
 - Take advantage of changes of technology and practice to meet the future needs of the community

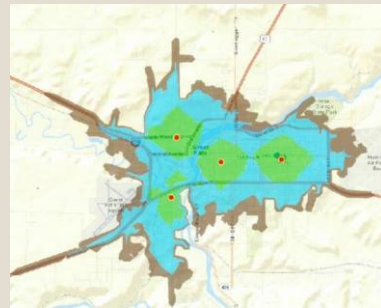
Fire Operations

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- How are we doing?
 - Workers compensation claims are lower
 - Fitness program
 - Early return to work program
 - Practice and procedure
 - National Institute Safety and Training Studies
 - Improved personal safety equipment
 - Aging apparatus
 - Aging Self Contained Breathing Apparatus
 - Increase travel distance = increased response time
 - Increased call volume = increased response time
 - Improvements in radios communication

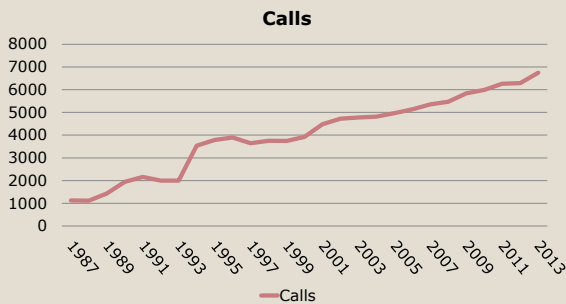
Fire Operations

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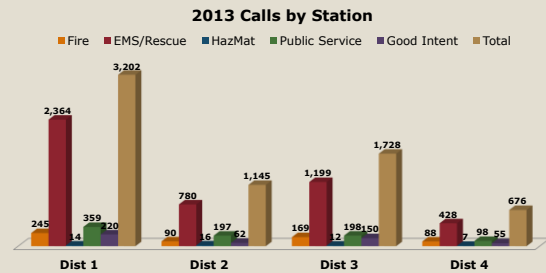
Fire Operations

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Fire Operations

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Fire Operations

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- Operations

- Improve response times by
 - Adding another response unit allowing first due crews to respond within their assigned district
 - Improving travel distance by building a strategically located station based on community develop & planning growth projections
- Apparatus replacement program
- Innovate response protocol and procedure to get the right resources assigned to each call.

GFFR Operations Forward

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Fire Marshall Johnson noted the current Fire Prevention Bureau priority is getting fire code violations up to code.

Fire Marshall Johnson agreed to join Mayor Winters on the KNIX radio program the following Tuesday, 8:30 a.m. to discuss fire safety.

City Manager Greg Doyon discussed City expansion and the possibility that impact may exceed the capability of current resources. He also discussed the importance of moving development forward in a smart, strategic way.

Assistant Chief Hester noted in 1988 there were 68 firefighters; that number was later reduced to 60. No additional firefighters have been added to date.

Manager Doyon discussed the potential cost of a new fire station, including staffing and one fire truck.

The consensus of the Commission was to direct staff to explore the scope of a feasibility study that would provide residents a comprehensive look at future needs based on growth, current assets and operations, and current personnel, and provide that information to the Commission for consideration.

Mayor Winters believes a fire academy would provide residents a view of the needs of the Fire Department.

Chief McCamley believes the Fire Department reflects the community's investment in public safety. He noted the four existing fire stations were built in 1969. At the time, the City was approximately 16 square miles; it has grown about 10 square miles since that time. He discussed the current number of firefighters and the current number of calls for service. He also discussed the City's ISO rating.

The Commission expressed appreciation to Chief McCamley for his service to the City.

3. DISCUSSION OF POTENTIAL UPCOMING WORK SESSION TOPICS

City Manager Greg Doyon provided and discussed a handout Master Work Session Topic List.

Commissioner Kelly suggested that an airport representative be scheduled for a future Work Session presentation.

ADJOURN

There being no further discussion, Mayor Winters adjourned the informal work session of December 2, 2014, at 6:26 p.m.