

Minutes

Neighborhood Council District 4
Thursday, July 22, 2021
Heritage Baptist Church, 900 52nd Street North
630 p.m.

Council members present: Sandra Guynn, Gregg Matsko, Sue Ashley, Richard Ashley, and Stephen Louks

Other present: Jeremy Jones GFFR Fire Chief

Chair Sandra opened the meeting at 630p.m with Pledge of Allegiance.

New Business:

Jeremy Jones detailed some of the organizational changes which have occurred to offset budget deficiencies.

Mike McIntosh detailed proposals which the fire department has given to the City Council. First, compliance of annual SIC inspections. This change would restructure fees in an increasing tiered approach. Second, submitting inspection, testing, and maintenance reports would be done through an online portal allowing for collection and follow up through a third-party agency. Third, repeating false alarm activations would have fees assigned to encourage repeat offenders to correct the non-compliance. Fourth, adoption of IFC section 105 which would require permitting for items such as blast excavation.

Jeremy Jones followed this report by explaining hinderances to the fire department. The geographic footprint of Great Falls has doubled since the four fire stations were built. This is a crucial due to the industry recognized four-minute response time. The standard cannot be met with the current number of stations, location, and personnel. The current city average is 5:58 minutes from call to arrival. The operating budget of the fire department is 10 million dollars. To adequately cover the boundaries of the city, the fire department need two more stations. The current cost to supply a fire fighter is 77,000 dollars. The needed staff to supply two stations would be twenty-four more employees.

Petitions and Communications:

Larry S informed Sandra that the lot next to Coca-Cola has tall dry grass. The area is outside of the city so Sandra emailed Jim Larson with Cascade County and was informed that there is no county ordinance. The lot is owned by Messenger Company and a letter has been sent to them.

Also, a drunk airman sped through the trailer court and crashed into one of the homes. Sandra will discuss with the traffic department.

Other Business:

Neighborhood watch is asking for GFPD ambassadors from the NCs. Lt Otto is the contact. Sue Ashley has been chosen to be the NC4 representative.

Fireworks may be a topic of discussion for the Council of Councils. The city has asked for NC opinions about fireworks in Great Falls. The city has received many complaints this year.

Committee Reports:

Ice Cream social will be held September 12 from 2-4pm at Pinski Park. Ice cream bars will be supplied by Meadowgold and a list of related supplies will be coordinated by Sue Ashley.

Crime Mapping information was presented by Sue Ashley with the encouragement to view the information at crimemapping.com. Training of a NC4 member would be beneficial to fully use the website.

Old Business:

Gregg motioned to approve the May minutes, Dean second, all approved.

Sandra motioned to approve the June minutes, Gregg second, all approved.

Neighborhood Council:

Crimestoppers meeting will be held Monday at 4pm.

Adjourn:

Sandra motioned to adjourn, Dean second, all approve. Meeting adjourned at 9pm.

Minutes submitted by Stephen Louks, NC 4 secretary