

CITY OF PROSSER, WASHINGTON
601 7TH STREET
BENTON COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES
CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING
TUESDAY, APRIL 3, 2012

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Warden called the Special Meeting of the Prosser City Council to order at 4:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Council Members Elder, Everett, Troemel, and Hamilton were present. Council Members Rainer, Taylor, and Becken requested an excused absence.

COUNCIL ACTION

RESOLUTION NO. 12-1390 RATIFYING AND CONFIRMING THE ORDERS ISSUED IN CONNECTION WITH A STATE OF CIVIL EMERGENCY (10" WATER MAIN RUPTURE)

A motion was made by Council Member Everett, seconded by Council Member Hamilton to adopt Resolution No. 12-1390 ratifying and confirming the orders issued in connection with a state of civil emergency (10" Water Main Rupture). Motion passed 4 YES, 0 NO, 3 ABSENT (Rainer, Taylor, Becken).

SECOMM FACILITY TOUR

Jim Barber, Southeast Communication Center (SECOMM) Manager provided Council with a handout outlining the purpose and overview of the SECOMM organization. Mr. Barber and Chris Skinner, City of Richland Police Chief/Director of Benton County Emergency Services (BCES) discussed staffing, current hiring process, budgeting and a review of user agencies. Discussion ensued regarding call statistics, Public Safety Testing, and equipment. Doug deGraaf, BCES Information Systems Manager explained the maintenance and equipment replacement program and discussed the core equipment listing. There was discussion regarding the Next Generation 9-1-1 (NextGen) technology and necessary upgrades.

At 4:30 p.m., Chief Skinner provided Council a tour of the Emergency Operation Center (EOC) and explained how the security card lock system for the building works including parking lot security and cameras. Additionally Chief Skinner provided an overview of the work stations and discussed how a typical call into the center is handled. There was discussion regarding caller identification, location accuracy, and general cellular phone issues.

At 4:35 p.m., Council proceeded to the SECOMM Dispatch Center, adjacent to the EOC. Mr. Barber provided an overview of the Dispatch Center work stations. Mr. Barber discussed workload, minimum staffing requirements and on-duty supervisors. There was discussion regarding software, call volume, fees associated with radio equipment and radio frequencies. Chief Skinner discussed consolidated records systems, law agency requirements, and system compatibility. Discussion continued regarding an average Dispatcher's total compensation and an overview of typical workloads. Council inquired if additional staffing would be necessary to absorb Prosser's call volume if Council chooses to contract dispatch services. There was discussion regarding hiring opportunities for Prosser Dispatchers and recruitment preferences. Further discussion ensued regarding the Franklin County and the City of Pasco and whether or not SECOMM could absorb the additional call volume and the staffing opportunities that would be made available if that contract was agreed upon. Chief Skinner advised that in the event that Council chooses to contract with SECOMM, the Dispatchers would ride along with Prosser Police Officers to familiarize themselves with Prosser's unique geography.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the City Council at this time, the Regular Meeting of the Prosser City Council was adjourned at 5:30 p.m.

Attest:


City Clerk Rachel Shaw




Mayor Paul Warden