Cuyahoga Falls City Council Minutes of the Public Affairs Committee

July 24, 2017

Members: Vic Pallotta, Chair

Adam Miller Jerry James

Mr. Pallotta called the meeting to order at 7:24 p.m. All members were present.

The minutes of the April 17, 2017, May 1, 2017, June 5, 2017 and June 26, 2017 Public Affairs Committee meetings were approved as written.

Legislation Discussed:

Temp. Ord. B-60

Discussion:

Temp. Ord. B-60

An ordinance amending Section 129.01 of Title Five, Part One of the Codified Ordinances, relating to authorized staffing of the Police Department, and declaring an emergency.

Police Chief Davis stated that the Police Department's Community Service officer who was working full time retired in April. The Community Service Officer is basically a utility worker who does some of the jail details, runs evidence to the lab and handles the Department's fleet. The one Community Service officer was primarily working day shift and no weekends. Temporary Ordinance B-60 would allow the Police Department to hire part-time Community Service officers. In straight hours, they could have 4,400 hours versus the 1,800 that they're getting on full-time hours. These officers would work on weekends as well as the day shift. The Police Department met with the union and had talks about it. The union was provided a job use and MOU to place into the contract that they voted on and signed allowing for this. The union sees the value in this, because it frees them up for their work. The other part-time workers employed by the Police Department work in records, evidence work and typing of reports or sending out different reports. Having that number on sometimes has been detrimental, because they may have a good worker that, for whatever reason, needs to work less hours, but they're still counting towards their number even though we have budgeted. This ordinance will allow for job sharing and a little more flexibility with splitting some jobs allowing them to better serve the citizens.

Mr. Pallotta asked what other duties Community Service Workers perform. Chief Davis stated that they can issue parking tickets, direct traffic and handle some of the animal complaints. They do a lot of jail work. Mr. Pallotta asked if they complement the Reserve Officer force. Chief Davis stated that Reserve Officers have full-time jobs, so the number of hours they can give the Department is minimal. There are some Reserve officers who may apply for this. This frees up their officers that have been doing these duties and doing these jobs and keeps them out in the street and answering calls.

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Mr. James moved to bring out Temp. Ord. B-60 with a favorable recommendation, second by Mr. Miller. Motion passed (3-0).

Mayor Walters stated that, to follow-up on the great police work, it was almost a year to the day when Officer Ted Davis was attacked on Broad Boulevard. He invited Council, the press and the public to attend, on Monday, July 31st, a sign hanging at the Honorary Boulevard site where they will be honoring Officer Ted Davis and then follow up with a presentation at Council at 6:30.

The meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.