

**Burley City Council**  
**Public Safety Committee Meeting**  
**July 8, 2021**  
**12:00pm**  
**City Council Conference Room**

Attendance

City Council Casey Andersen  
Undersheriff Jared Thompson  
Mayor Steve Ormond  
City Council Jon Anderson  
Fire Chief Shannon Tolman  
Carol Anderson  
Sheriff George Warrell  
Commissioner Kent Searle  
City Administrator Mark Mitton

**MINUTES**

1. Meet with Cassia County Sheriff and Commissioner Searle to Discuss Law Enforcement Contract.

The meeting started and the discussion was about budgets. It was explained that for the city the budget for payroll is for 52 weeks of pay, not for 54 weeks. There was an increase for dispatch figured in the budget for about an increase of \$13,000. It was explained that with the tax cuts by the state legislature that the vehicle had to be taken out of the budget. The numbers for this next year are still not confirmed. The city is still looking to get firm numbers from the Assessor.

It was stated that for the past three years, all the increase in the general fund goes to the Police contract. It was stated that this is not sustainable for the city.

It was reported that the Sheriff office needs a budget of 2.32 million to be able to give the officers the pay, training and equipment needed. The commissioner requested that the city look to see if they could help make up the difference. It was reported that in 1986 there were 15 officers on the street and now there are only 14 officers and with the growth of the city, it is not enough. They are short about \$130,000 from what they requested for the budget.

There was a lengthy discussion about vehicles and the need for every officer to have a vehicle so that they could properly perform their job and get to situations in a timely manner. It was explained that if every officer has their own vehicle that they are

responsible for, the vehicles are better maintained, last longer and are taken care of better.

The county explained that they are just limping by. The budget is very conservative, and they have many vehicles in the fleet that have over 100,000 miles on them. The county has rebuilt the engines, rebuilt the transmissions to make the vehicles last longer.

The city explained that the fire department also has not changed from the 1980's and there is more fireman needed also as the city has grown. It was stated that the county could buy their fuel from the city for the police cars, but they would need to pay the city for the cost of the fuel. This could help save the County some money. It was explained that the fire department too needed training and money and that the city was just getting by as well. It was suggested that the city could go to the taxpayers and ask for an increase to pay for the needs of the Sherriff's budget. It was suggested that the county look to a good outside auditor to help them find the money needed to come up with the extra funds needed for the Sheriff's budget.

There was a discussion about police officers training and pulling people over and having the person in the car calling all their buddies to come and they all show up and start filming the officer doing his job. There were a few scenarios discussed. The committee talked about the State Legislatures and how to get more money to the city and the county, as both are lagging in getting the funding needed to maintain departments and sources as both are growing and needs are growing.

There was a discussion about the lack of tickets that are being issued and this leads to lack of funds for the city, when speeding tickets and parking tickets are not issued.

## 2. Discuss Deputy Fire Chief Position.

There is a great need for the Deputy Fire Chief Position for the City. The discussion talked about how to fund this position and how this position would benefit the department and the city. The position would have to use an old vehicle in the fleet as the city is just getting by with the funds that are available.