

**MINUTES OF MEETING  
PUBLIC SAFETY & PROTECTION COMMITTEE  
February 7, 2022**

**To view the meeting's video recording, please click the following link:**

[https://us06web.zoom.us/rec/play/JVZoJeNZDioGY\\_APhTRQ9PAIjSCvZh\\_K6CKY1maK4L\\_GarzhR5h1gi8W0DcLjkh9tzcv5NII2SL3eb9tH.IjegTJ5o8-nWP-5L?continueMode=true&\\_x\\_zm\\_rtaid=2w2OcYRcQyaFM97ITd7U9g.1644515838592.e97d77e89f0ab064d891d590fc59aed6&\\_x\\_zm\\_rhtaid=80](https://us06web.zoom.us/rec/play/JVZoJeNZDioGY_APhTRQ9PAIjSCvZh_K6CKY1maK4L_GarzhR5h1gi8W0DcLjkh9tzcv5NII2SL3eb9tH.IjegTJ5o8-nWP-5L?continueMode=true&_x_zm_rtaid=2w2OcYRcQyaFM97ITd7U9g.1644515838592.e97d77e89f0ab064d891d590fc59aed6&_x_zm_rhtaid=80)

(Meeting starts at 00:49:20)

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A meeting of the Public Safety Committee was held on Monday, February 7, 2022 via Zoom due to the Covid-19 Pandemic. The meeting was called to order at 7:37 P.M. by the Chair, Adrian Webber.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Adrian Webber, Chair; Abdul Osmanu, Vice-Chair; Betty Wetmore; Laurie Sweet; Justin Farmer; Cory O'Brien; Marjorie Bonadies

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** None

**PUBLIC INPUT:** None

**The following items were addressed:**

**1. Order authorizing intradepartmental transfer 2021-2022 Fiscal Year Budget –**

**Fire Department \$590,000- Multiple Accounts (from Reg. Salaries)**

-- Moved by Mr. O'Brien, seconded by Mr. Farmer. DISCUSSION: Chief Merwede explained this item and why he needs the transfer saying 10% of the workforce retired in November and then he entered into December down 18%. He had 20 employees out with the latest surge (of Covid) and was running down 30% of the workforce and he had to move folks around and call people in. Mr. Farmer asked how many vacancies he was looking to fill. Chief Merwede said there are 16 openings but that they're holding up promotions right now to save money. He said they received 4 recent appointments from the Fire Commission and that 2 were sworn in today and the other 2 on May 27<sup>th</sup> after academy. Ms. Wetmore said she doesn't understand why we're not hiring. She wants our Fireman, Policeman, and our Town to be safe and she thinks all these hours put a strain on our men and women.

A vote was taken and the item passed unanimously.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 7:52 P.M

Respectfully submitted,

Kim Renta, Clerk  
for Adrian Webber, Chair