

Public Safety Commission Meeting

May 1, 2023

Commissioners Present: Jason Crews, Phil Nava, Stephanie Dickinson

Staff Present: City Manager Mager

Public Present: Angela Dare, Winona Pitts, Scott Frazer, Lin Glen, Kit Mann, Elise Scafani

Meeting Called to Order at 7:01PM.

No Public Comment

Commission approves the agenda as presented.

1. Leash Law Discussion: City Manager Mager explains that the City Council has asked the Public Safety Commission to research options for a leash law in the City of Blue Lake.

The Commission discusses the item and appoints Commission Nava and Commissioner Dickinson to an Ad-Hoc Committee to research the issue and bring back information to the next commission meeting.

2. Community Safety and Preparedness Program: City Manager Mager provides an update on the program and informs the commission that the date has been pushed back due to factors including impacts to Red Cross availability due to recent County disasters. When a date has been agreed to by the Red Cross, the event(s) will be advertised to the public. CERT member Kit Mann informs the commission that CERT has a trainer that can conduct community first aid as part of the preparedness programming.
3. Red Cross Update: No Red Cross representative in attendance.
4. Security Patrol Update: City Manager Mager provides update on the status; currently still conducting research.
5. Tabletop Exercise Update: City Manager Mager provides an update; Kit Mann (CERT Representative) requests that the exercise take place after June 7<sup>th</sup>.
6. Public Safety Work Plan: The Commission discusses wildfire preparedness; Commissioner Dickinson will provide information back to the Commission on public service announcements that could be provided to the public at the next meeting.
7. Future Agenda Items:
  - a. Leash Law Update
  - b. Tabletop Exercise
  - c. Public Service Announcements
  - d. Security Patrol Update
  - e. Community Preparedness Event Update.

Motion to Adjourn at 8:20PM-Commissioner Nava/Crews

June 5, 2023 Public Safety Commission Meeting

1. Commissioners Present: Jason Crews, Phil Nava, Judi Giuntini (Quorum Established)

Absent: Stephanie Dickinson, Julia Oliveira

Staff Present: City Manager Mager

Public Present: Kent Sawatzky, Erin McClure, Elise Scafani, Justin Nyob

2. Meeting Called to Order: 7:05PM
3. Motion to Approve the Agenda: Nava/Giuntini

Public Comment:

Kent Sawatzky: You may want to amend your agenda to table the meeting minutes.

4. Approve Meeting Minutes from May 1, 2023-Tabled to the July meeting as minutes were not complete prior to the meeting.
5. Public Comment:

Kent Sawatzky: Comments on the Blue Lake levee and occupancy of the Skinner Store; Prasch Hall may need sprinklers

Public Comment Closed.

6. Dog Ordinance and Leash Law Recommendation: Commissioner Nava states that he was concerned when he heard that a City Councilmember tried to take action on a leash law without hearing the recommendation of the Public Safety Commission. The commission was asked by the City Council to research the issue and bring back a recommendation and he wants to be given a chance to complete the task.

Commissioner Crews provides a report on the work that the ad-hoc committee conducted and the findings that they made regarding a leash law. The committee reviewed Arcata's ordinance and Trinidad's recent community letter. The letter reinforced their leash law, including noticing landlords that they need to remind tenants that dogs need to be licensed. Trinidad is adding additional services to their security contract to enforce leash laws and will be posting additional signage. Commissioner Crews states that Commissioner Dickinson is recommending that the City adopt a leash law.

Commissioner Nava: Provides a report on his research, including talking to the City of Ferndale who stated that they have a leash law and haven't had a dog issue in 17 years. Commissioner Nava recommends the adoption of a leash law; having an ordinance in place will help in the event of a civil or criminal action.

Commissioner Giuntini: Agrees with the recommendation that a leash law be adopted.

Commissioner Nava: Recommends installing signage in City limits.

Commissioner Giuntini: Recommends mailers to all water customers.

Commissioner Crews: Likes the way Trinidad structured their notice and law

Commissioner Giuntini: Recommends additional penalty for unlicensed dogs.

Commissioner Crews: Will present the commission's recommendation at the City Council meeting in June.

Public Comment:

Kent Sawatzky: Comments on City employees being trained as dog catchers.

Elise Scafani: At the last Council meeting I suggested that we draft a leash law prior to hearing the commission's recommendation; it may not have been the right way to go about it and I hope to get more help from the commission.

7. Safety Preparedness Sundays: City Manager Mager provides an update on the proposed "Safety Sunday" training schedule. June 25, 2023 is the proposed date for the first training, but it depends upon the availability of a Red Cross trainer. If the date is confirmed, staff will send out marketing material to inform the community.

Public Comment:

Kent Sawatzky: I can call Billy Honsal to get OES here.

8. Red Cross Update: No update available.
9. Security Patrol: City Manager Mager provides an update on the security discussions and the Sheriff Department services