

Public Health & Safety Committee

Tuesday, September 12, 2023, at 5:30 PM in the ROE Conference Room

Overseeing the Sheriff, Emergency Management, Coroner and Animal Control.

Present were Mark Dietrich, Brent Fischer, Barbara Fletcher, Steve McQueen, Mark Sorenson. Also attending were Ambulance and EMS Director John Simon, Assistant Ambulance Director Jessica Frese, Sheriff Tony Grootens, Chief Deputy Patrick Frazier and Coroner Scott Graham.

The meeting was called to order at 5:38 PM.

Christina Passmore asked to address the Committee. She discussed issues stemming from the death of Mike Renzulli in March of 2023. She wishes to obtain his remains and has been told by Coroner Graham that she is not legally entitled to them, as he has living children. She claims that Coroner Graham does not return calls to her, her lawyers or Mr. Renzulli's insurance company. Coroner Graham states that he sent the requested information to the address given, though Ms. Passmore states that the insurance company has not received it. Christina Passmore has obtained the services of James Ingraham (217) 222-7420. The Committee recommends that the States Attorney's Office contact Mr. Ingraham. Ms. Passmore requested to be placed on the agenda for the October meeting.

The bills were reviewed and appeared to be in order.

A motion to approve the minutes of the August 15, 2023, meeting was made by Brent Fischer and seconded by Mark Sorensen, motion carried.

Department Reports

Emergency Management/Ambulance-Director John Simon

There was no EMS report.

Director Simon discussed changes to the Union contract and stated that the increase in wages would require an increase in the tax levy. .

The new EMT academy is filled and going well.

Coroner -Scott Graham

For the Month of August 2023

68 reported deaths

5 autopsies

1 abandoned remains

30 cremation permits issued

0 suicides

Sheriff – Sheriff Tony Grootens

Jail: 3 New Hires

Average Jail Population was 117

Sheriff's Department:

There were 4 departures from the Department.

Old Business

None

New Business

New Squad Car-

Sheriff Impound Lot- The Sheriff is planning to expand the present lot and would like a line item in his budget for impounded cars. It would include a storage and an admin fee.

Sheriff E-Citations- The Sheriff would like these earmarked for the Sheriff's Department. This has already gone before the Finance Committee.

Appointments

None

Executive Session: A motion was made by Steve McQueen and seconded by Mark Sorenson to enter an Executive Session to discuss a Sheriff's Personnel Issue. Motion Passed.

A motion was made by Brent Fischer and seconded by Steve McQueen to return to Regular Session. Motion Passed.

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 10, 2023, at 5:30 PM in the ROE Conference Room.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara J Fletcher

Chairman, Public Health, and Safety Committee