

PUBLIC SAFETY AND HEALTH COMMITTEE REPORT
Wednesday, June 16, 2010 10:00 AM – 11:00 AM
Council Chambers, 140 West Pine Street, Missoula, Montana

Members Present: Dave Strohmaier, Pam Walzer, Roy Houseman, Bob Jaffe, Jon Wilkins, Lyn Hellegaard, Dick Haines, Renee Mitchell, Ed Childers.

Members Not Present:

Others Present: Mike Painter, Jason Diehl

I. ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS

1. Approve Minutes from [June 9, 2010](#) . Minutes approved unanimously.

II. PUBLIC COMMENT

III. CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

1. An ordinance amending section 2.36.010 and repealing section 2.36.040 of MMC pertaining to the Bureau of Fire Prevention to revise references to the fire code enforced by the bureau to provide consistency with Chapter 15.08 ([memo](#)).—Regular Agenda (Jason Diehl) (Referred to committee: 06/14/10) **(REMOVE FROM AGENDA)**

Motion: The committee recommends the city council set a public hearing on July 12, 2010, to consider an ordinance amending section 2.36.010 and repealing section 2.36.040 of Missoula Municipal Code pertaining to the Bureau of Fire Prevention to revise references to the fire code enforced by the bureau to provide consistency with Chapter 15.08

Jason Diehl indicated that the ordinance amendment is basically a 'housekeeping issue'. He discovered a reference to the old Uniform Fire Code in the City Code. This reference needs to be changed in order to reflect fire code updates enacted earlier this year.

Jon Wilkins moved to set the public hearing, and he asked if there were any more fire code changes on the horizon.

Jason Diehl did not believe that there will be any more changes to the fire code.

Dave Strohmaier recommended July 12th for a public hearing.

Jason Diehl stated that July 12th would work fine.

The vote to set a public hearing for July 12th was unanimous.

IV. REGULAR AGENDA ITEMS

2. Consider the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Memorandum of Understanding and application ([memo](#)).—Regular Agenda (Mark Muir) (Referred to committee: 06/14/10) **(HELD IN COMMITTEE)**

Dave Strohmaier stated that a representative from the Police Department was unable to attend, so the agenda item to Consider the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant MOU and application will need to be rescheduled.

3. Fire Department Update – (Mike Painter) **(HELD IN COMMITTEE)**

Mike Painter stated that his depart is in the process of finishing up the 2009 Annual Report. We went on to discuss the MFD's wildland fire program. He provided an informational

[handout](#) for the committee. He described the Missoula Fire Department Wildland Fire Committee. He described wildland training programs.

Dave Strohmaier asked Mike to describe a 'red card' and the 'pack test'.

Mike Painter described 'red card' and the 'pack test'. He also described the training course 'Standards for Survival'. He described working with cooperator agencies. He discussed public educational programs. He discussed burning permits. He described the Cooperative Fire Management Plan and mutual aid agreements. He discussed the Missoula Wildland-Urban interface. He discussed the MFD Fuel Mitigation and Defensible Space program

Jason Diehl discussed the funding for the Fuel Mitigation and Defensible Space program.

Dave Strohmaier asked if the Fuel Mitigation and Defensible Space program is being conducted on private or public land, and he inquired as to who was performing the mitigation work.

Jason Diehl responded that the mitigation work is primarily being performed on City open space and park land. There was one project conducted on private land.

Pam Walzer asked if the defensible space consultations were conducted primarily for private landowners.

Jason Diehl replied that the defensible space consultations were indeed conducted primarily for private landowners. He provided an overview of the program.

Dave Strohmaier asked about how the program is publicized.

Jason Diehl indicated that at this point the program should probably be publicized.

Mike Painter indicated that information about the program is located on the Fire Department's web site. He then proceeded to discuss historical wildfires in the Missoula area. He discussed the processes that fire managers use leading up to and including fire season. Mike described some of the apparatus that the Fire Department has at its disposal.

Dave Strohmaier asked for an overview of the process that is implemented when a fire occurs in the Missoula urban-wildland interface.

Mike Painter provided an overview of that process, and he provided examples.

Bob Jaffe inquired about liability issues involved with the mutual aid agreements.

Mike Painter described how the liability issue is addressed.

Bob Jaffe noted that the mutual aid liability arrangements for the Fire Department differ significantly from the mutual aid liability arrangements for the Police Department.

Mike Painter thinks that there are different legal requirements for Law Enforcement.

Jason Diehl described some specifics of the mutual aid agreement with the County.

Dave Strohmaier indicated a desire to look into the differences in the liability issue between Fire and Police.

Pam Walzer asked about training.

Mike Painter described some of the training partnerships.

Pam Walzer feels that liabilities differ between Fire and Police due to the different command structures and culture.

Mike Painter illustrated some of the differences between Fire and Police.

Dave Strohmaier asked Mike if the Fire Department currently has the equipment it needs for wildland firefighting.

Mike Painter replied that he thinks that the MFD is adequately equipped. He described the high expense of replacement apparatus. He mentioned grants.

V. HELD AND ON-GOING AGENDA ITEMS

1. Police Department Update – Ongoing in Committee. (Mark Muir)
2. Health Department Update – Ongoing in Committee. (Ellen Leahy)
3. An [ordinance](#) amending Missoula Municipal Code Chapter 6.09 entitled "Missoula Cat Ordinance" section 6.09.010 through 6.09.090 to amend definitions, to limit the number of cats over the age of four months that a person, family, or household can harbor, keep, or maintain to five and to enact other general amendments. [\(PS&H\)](#) (Returned from Council floor: 01/12/09)
4. An [ordinance](#) amending Missoula Municipal Code Title 6 entitled "Animals" generally amending Chapter 6.04 entitled "Animals Running at Large" and Chapter 6.08 entitled "Dogs and Pet Shops," increasing the fee when an animal is impounded and establishing a fee for a boarding kennel license. [\(PS&H\)](#) (Returned from Council floor: 01/12/09)

V. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 10:35 AM. Submitted by Gregg Schonbachler.