

Police Committee Meeting
On January 14, 2025
At 4:30 pm
At City Hall

Present: Monte Talkington, Bob Somervold, Pam Somervold, Randy Schmidt, Ryan Cherveney, Clint Haffner, Jason Lafayette, Mardi Reeves

For the record and for those of you in the audience, we have just convened a meeting of the Police Committee for the City of Belle Fourche. Today's date is February 11, 2025. Anyone who wishes to address the Committee should request acknowledgement through the Chairman.

1. Pledge of Allegiance
2. Motion B. Somervold, Second P. Somervold to adopt the agenda at 4:30 pm with an added discussion item 3.5. Motion Carried.

3. Public Discussion items: none

3.5 Discussion on continued heating issues in the Police Department building. Chairperson Talkington requests having the thermostats moved to better help the heating problems.

4. Chief's Report
 - YTD Blotter: attached
 - Staffing Update: Will be back to 14 officer positions after 2/18/25. There is another hiring pool to fill the 2 new positions this year.
 - 2015 Dodge Charger has broken down. If the repairs are costly, we will look at a surplus of the vehicle.

5. Code Enforcement Report: attached

6. Discussion on current and upcoming grants.

There has been a major freeze on many federal grants by the presidential administration. The current opportunities we were looking into for equipment have been frozen. We will continue to look into other options. Mardi Reeves has been applying for several grants through Homeland Security Office. We will know soon how many of those grants will be accepted.

7. Discussion on Axon body worn cameras.

The camera's have already been budgeted and will be on a 2 year payment plan of \$86,000 per year. We continue to look for additional funding opportunities for body worn and car cameras.

8. Code Enforcement Clint Haffner's recommendation to forward 922 State Street to the Planning and Zoning Commission for a review of their conditional use permit.

Motion B. Somervold, Second P. Somervold. Motion Carried.

9. Approval of Police Chief Ryan Chervený's recommendation that Dusty Merchen be hired as a full-time Non-Certified Police Officer for the Belle Fourche Police Department. It is further recommended that he be hired at \$26.52 per hour. His starting date will be after February 18, 2025.

Motion B. Somervold, Second P. Somervold. Motion Carried.

10. Informational: The Lion's property near the police department has been appraised and came in right at the \$41,000 asking price. There will be a meeting with the Lion's to discuss proceeding with the sale.

11. Motion B. Somervold, Second P. Somervold to adjourn the meeting at 4:56 pm. Motion carried.