

JOINT MEETING MINUTES
Special Meeting at City of Clarkston
Clarkston WA 99403
City of Asotin
City of Clarkston
Asotin County Fire District #1
November 21, 2013

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Warren called the Joint Meeting to order at 6:00p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

CITY OF ASOTIN

ROLL CALL: Mayor Bonfield, Joe Appleton, Greg Fry, Jennifer Bly

Excused City of Asotin Councilmember's – Bob Van Pelt, Mervin Schneider

CITY OF ASOTIN

STAFF PRESENT: Tiffany Rogers, City of Asotin Clerk/Treasurer, Bill Derbonne, City of Asotin Police Chief, Jane Richards, City of Asotin Attorney, Noel Hardin, City of Asotin Fire Chief

ASOTIN COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT #1 STAFF PRESENT: Noel Hardin, Asotin County Fire Chief District #1
Ken Klug, Fire Commissioner

CITY OF CLARKSTON
ROLL CALL: Mayor Warren, Terry Beadles, William Provost, George Nash, Clee Manchester, Kelly Blackmon

Excused City of Clarkston Councilmember's – Larry Baumberger

CITY OF CLARKSTON
STAFF PRESENT: Vickie Storey, City of Clarkston Clerk/Treasurer, Joel Hastings, City of Clarkston Police Chief, Steve Cooper, City of Clarkston Fire Chief, Todd Richardson, City of Clarkston Attorney

PRESS: KLEW TV, Lewiston Morning Tribune

AUDIENCE: Jim Sargeant, Jim Griffin, Doug Bly, Vivian Bly, Oscar Bly, Tina Davidson, Jane Risley

INTRODUCTIONS:
The local agencies introduced themselves.

DISPATCH CONTRACT DISCUSSIONS:
Mayor Warren stated that Asotin County Commissioner Brian Shinn would not be in attendance.

Mayor Warren would like to choose another date for a joint meeting to occur between City of Asotin, City of Clarkston, Asotin County Fire District #1 and Asotin County Commissioners. Noting that the City of Clarkston and the City of Asotin have regular council meetings on the 2nd and 4th Monday of the month, therefore those evenings would not be available. Mayor Bonfield suggested, December 2nd, 3rd, or 4th as tentative dates. The time of 6:00pm was chosen to ensure the work day has been completed and not to interfere with meetings such as stormwater and budget meetings. Mayor Warren will make contact with the Asotin County Commissioners.

Mayor Warren discussed the issue of the Whitcom Dispatch Contract and the extra charges.

Mayor Bonfield stated the City of Asotin does not believe the City of Asotin owes what Asotin County is requesting. The City of Asotin has the option to contract with Whitcom directly.

The question was asked, does the City of Asotin, the City of Clarkston and Asotin County Fire District #1 need to contract with Asotin County? Do the cities want to look else where for dispatch services?

Asotin County Fire Chief, Noel Hardin stated it is tax dollars from all the cities that are contributing to allocate for dispatch services. There are also state allocations, wireless and wireline fees that are paid for E-911 services that are collected. It seems like the cities are paying twice. Once through the contract and twice through the wireless and wireline fees.

City of Asotin Police Chief, Bill Derbonne stated he has an estimate for dispatch services from Nez Perce County.

City of Asotin Councilmember, Greg Fry stated the cities have not received the answers to any of the questions the cities have been asking.

City of Asotin Councilmember, Joe Appleton stated the City of Asotin is willing to pay their fair share of calls received, but the spreadsheet that was given to the cities looks like it is a justification of money that was already spent that was not included in the contract.

City of Asotin Attorney, Jane Richards stated the City of Asotin has not paid due to not knowing the call volume and the dollar amount to pay on that aspect. Also, Whitcom has been paid for services through the City of Clarkston and Asotin County. City of Asotin Police Chief, Bill Derbonne stated the dollar amounts that are due have changed several times. The City of Asotin has been given different explanations and that is another reason the City of Asotin has not paid. He stated he has asked for Public Record Request and to date they have not been satisfied.

City of Clarkston Attorney, Todd Richardson asked the question, Where are we going in the future? What do we do next? He stated if the county was here, we would be able to ask the three entities what need to be paid on the pro-rata shares on each entity and everybody be treated the same. He stated two Commissioners are out of town on official business and Commissioner Shinn has chosen not to be in attendance.

City of Asotin Attorney, Jane Richards showed the spreadsheet that was given to the City which includes the extra costs for dispatch. As she was describing the numbers and not sure exactly what the county wants the City of Asotin to pay, she stated any future Interlocal Agreements and/or sub-contracts should not include extra costs. The City of Asotin wants to pay only for call volume.

Mayor Warren agreed if there is a new contract with Asotin County, the contract has to be clear.

Asotin County Fire Chief, Noel Hardin stated Whitcom call volume is a very clear number. However, Whitcom is not responsible for any infrastructure in Asotin County.

City of Clarkston Fire Chief, Steve Cooper stated the entities have already sent a letter requesting an amendment to the existing contract. The contract is clear as to what is to be paid. It's the other costs that are in question.

City of Clarkston Councilmember, Terry Beadles asked about proposing two separate agreements. One for Whitcom Dispatch Services base off of call volume and one for other costs.

City of Clarkston Attorney, Todd Richardson stated having specific goals, questions and/or points to convey to the Asotin County Commissioners to move forward to achieve a goal for all three entities to work together for the good of all our citizens.

If the Asotin County Commissioners do not want to meet, the three entities want a back up plan. The group would still like to meet and develop a committee to look at other dispatch options.

City of Clarkston Councilmember, William Provost stated the Whitcom contract can be settled fast based on call volume and resolve that issue now. The negotiations should be directed about what else should be included in the costs the entities pay to Asotin County. Asotin County will have to give specifics as to why mapping and other items should be included in the contract.

City of Asotin Mayor Bonfield asked the City of Asotin Councilmember's if they were ready to go forward with dispatch negotiations. They all stated yes.

City of Asotin Councilmember, Greg Fry asked what do the cities do with the past contract?

City of Clarkston Attorney, Todd Richardson thanked Mayor Bonfield for bringing this situation to the attention of the City of Clarkston. Mayor Bonfield stated, extensive research was conducted from Asotin City Attorney Jane Richards, City of Asotin Police Chief Bill Derbonne and Councilmember Bly.

Conclusion: City of Clarkston Mayor Warren will hand deliver a letter inviting the Asotin County Commissioners to choose a date between December 2nd, 3rd, or 4th. Meeting to start at 6:00pm at the City of Clarkston Council Chambers to discuss amending the current contract regarding a letter that was sent September 11, 2013.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion to adjourn the meeting made by City of Asotin Councilmember Appleton. Seconded by City of Clarkston Councilmember Blackmon. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 6:50PM.

Mayor, Vikki Bonfield

Clerk/Treasurer, Tiffany Rogers

