

Lancaster County Council Public Safety Committee

Tuesday, December 15, 2015

**County Council Conference Room
Council Administration Building
100 N. Main Street
Lancaster, SC 29720**

1. **Call to Order – Committee Chair Steve Harper** 8:00 a.m.
2. **Approval of the agenda** *[deletions and additions of non-substantive matters]*
3. **Minutes of the November 10, 2015 meeting – pgs. 2-5**
4. **Citizens Comments**
5. **Discussion / Action Items**
 - a. Possible Noise Ordinance revision. *Steve Willis – pgs. 6*
 - b. Grant position and Worthless Check Unit. *Solicitor Randy Newman – pgs. 7-8*
 - c. Purchase of Patrol Rifles. *Sheriff Barry Faile – pg. 9*
6. **Adjournment**

Anyone requiring special services to attend this meeting should contact 285-1565 at least 24 hours in advance of this meeting.

Lancaster County Council Public Safety Committee agendas are posted at the Lancaster County Administration Building and are available on the Website: www.mylancastersc.org



Members of Lancaster County Council
Public Safety Committee

Steve Harper District 5, Chairman
Bob Bundy, District 3
Larry McCullough, District 1

Minutes of the Lancaster County Council Public Safety Committee Meeting

101 N. Main Street, Lancaster, SC 29720

Tuesday, November 10, 2015

DRAFT

Council Members present were Steve Harper, Larry McCullough and Bob Bundy. Also present was Steve Willis, Debbie Hardin, John Weaver, various Department Heads and spectators. A quorum of the Lancaster County Public Safety Committee was present for the meeting.

The following press was notified of the meeting by e-mail or by fax in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act: Lancaster News, Kershaw News Era, The Rock Hill Herald, Fort Mill Times, Cable News 2, Channel 9 and the local Government Channel. The agenda was also posted in the lobby of the County Administration Building the required length of time and on the county website.

Call to Order

Chairman Steve Harper called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.

Approval of the agenda

Larry McCullough moved to approve the agenda as written. Passed 3-0.

Minutes of the October 13, 2015

Larry McCullough moved to approve the minutes of the October 13, 2015 meeting. Passed 3-0.

Citizens Comments

There were no citizen's comments.

DRAFT

Discussion / Action Items

Hosting an EMS Competition

Clay Catoe discussed hosting an EMS competition in Lancaster County in May of 2016. He reported that this would be a great way to promote Lancaster County and EMS while providing quality training through competition. He further reported that there would be no cost to Lancaster County. He stated that they have not ironed out all of the details yet, as this is usually, an outside event with a tentative area ready for inside should weather be an issue. Mr. Catoe mentioned possibly hosting the event at Walnut Creek in Indian Land. Councilman McCullough suggested contacting the church at Osceola, since they have a great family center as a possible location.

Larry McCullough moved to proceed with planning the event. Passed 3-0.

Animal Shelter options

Steve Willis informed the Committee that he went to Aiken County to visit their animal shelter to get some ideas on what we can do at our shelter. The following were some options:

- Use of an outdoor run for additional space (estimated cost for 50 runs \$454,000)
- Use pre-fab building model for cats
- Fundraising by use of naming rights for equipment and rooms. (This would require Council approval).

Mr. Willis also discussed that long term; we may want to think about moving the facility. We are land locked where we are and to build on to that facility may not be feasible. An option could be to relocate to the Public Works facility that is in planning stages.

Larry McCullough suggested talking with Joe Deal in Greenville County regarding a regional center. Shandy Everall, Animal Shelter Director, stated that she is presently collaborating with Chester and Chesterfield for services.

Public Safety Division Director Position

Steve Willis included in the agenda package the draft job description for the Division Director of Public Safety for information only. He stated that this position will be part of next year's budget request.

DRAFT

Sheriff's Office Career Ladder

Sheriff Faile reported that he is having problems filling vacancies with qualified candidates at the current salary levels. He reviewed the data of the surrounding counties salary information and would like to adjust the career ladder to be competitive. He suggested using the funding allocated to the four new deputy positions in this years budget to increase the salaries. He would then ask again for the four positions in the 2016-2017 budget year. Increasing salaries would be a recurring impact on the county budget. Sheriff Faile would like to implement the salary increases in January.

Larry McCullough suggested that the Sheriff go back three years, reviewing the history to show a trend that may help project future issues.

The Sheriff requested that this information come before the Administration Committee on November 19 and then to full Council in December.

MOTION was made by Larry McCullough to move to the Administration Committee with a favorable recommendation from the Public Safety Committee. Passed 3-0

School Resources Officers

Sheriff Faile updated the Committee on the School Resource Officers. The School District pays the officers; however, they are still under the Sheriff's jurisdiction. He stated that their role is not one of disciplinary action but law enforcement.

Executive Session

MOTION was made by Larry McCullough to move into Executive Session. Passed 3-0.

MOTION was made by Larry McCullough to move out of Executive Session. Passed 3-0.

County Attorney John Weaver noted that the Committee met in Executive Session to discuss a contractual matter and no votes were taken, no motions were made.

MOTION was made by Larry McCullough that the item presented to the Public Safety Committee in Executive Session be presented to the Administration Committee with a favorable recommendation of the Public Safety Committee. SECONDED by Bob Bundy. Passed 3-0.

DRAFT

Adjournment

Bob Bundy moved to adjourn. Passed 3-0.

Respectfully Submitted:

Approved by the Public Safety Committee

Debbie C. Hardin
Clerk to Council

Steve Harper, Chairman

Agenda Item Summary

Ordinance # / Resolution#:	Discussion Item
Contact Person / Sponsor:	Steve Willis
Department:	Admin
Date Requested to be on Agenda:	Public Safety – December 15, 2015

Issue for Consideration:

I am working with Doug Barfield to draft a noise ordinance revision for Councils consideration. Greenville County has a provision exempting businesses, except those where alcoholic beverages are consumed on the premises, from their noise ordinance.

Furthermore, this article is specifically not applicable to any lawfully established business or industry in Greenville Lancaster County with the exception of business establishments where on-site consumption of alcoholic beverages occurs or is permitted.

Points to Consider:

Does Council desire to consider a similar provision in the draft ordinance?

Businesses do make noise and neighbors can find such objectionable.

If the noise ordinance is too strict it could cause some businesses to close.

Would we want this to cover only fixed site businesses versus mobile businesses such as landscaping firms?

Funding and Liability Factors:

N/A

Council Options:

Include or exclude such a provision in the ordinance.

Staff Recommendation:

With suitable restrictions, possibly based on time of day, include such a provision.

Committee Recommendation:

To be determined.

Agenda Item Summary

Ordinance # / Resolution#:	Information Item
Contact Person / Sponsor:	Randy Newman
Department:	Solicitor's Office
Date Requested to be on Agenda:	December 15, 2015

Issue for Consideration:

Grant position recently received and Grant positions applied for.

Also need council approval to start a Worthless Check Unit

Points to Consider:

These grant positions are funded and operated through the Solicitor's Office. This is for information only.

Per state law (copy attached) Council must consent to the creation of the Worthless Check Unit.

Funding and Liability Factors:

N/A

Council Options:

Approve or reject the request for the Worthless Check Unit.

Staff Recommendation:

Approve the request.

Committee Recommendation:

To be determined.

ARTICLE 7

Worthless Check Unit

SECTION 17-22-710. Establishing unit; fee schedule; administrative costs; disbursement of funds collected.

(A) A circuit solicitor may establish, under his direction and control and with the agreement of the county governing body, a Worthless Check Unit for the purpose of processing worthless checks and to assist the victims of these cases in the collection of restitution. The fee schedule is:

- (1) fifty dollars for checks up to five hundred dollars;
- (2) one hundred dollars for checks five hundred one dollars to one thousand dollars; and
- (3) one hundred fifty dollars for checks one thousand one dollars or greater.

(B) An amount equal to the allowable administrative costs contained in Section 34-11-70(c) must be added to the fee. All fees collected by the Worthless Check Unit in accordance with the fee schedule promulgated pursuant to this section must be deposited into a fund known as the Worthless Check Fund maintained by the county treasurers of the counties comprising the circuit, other than court costs and an amount equal to the allowable administrative costs contained in Section 34-11-70(c) which must be remitted to the treasurer for deposit in the county general fund. All funds collected and deposited into this fund must be applied first to defray the costs of operating the Worthless Check Unit with the balance to be used by the solicitor to pay the normal operating expenses of his office. Withdrawals from this account may be made only at the request of the solicitor. The funds generated pursuant to this section may not be used to reduce the amount budgeted by the county to the solicitor's office. The solicitor shall maintain an account for the purpose of collecting and disbursing restitution funds collected for the benefit of victims' worthless checks. The Worthless Check Unit shall disburse to the victim all restitution collected as a result of the original complaint filed. If the victim cannot be located after a reasonable time and diligent efforts the restitution due the victim must be transferred to the general fund of the county.

HISTORY: 2008 Act No. 353, Section 2, Pt 11B, eff July 1, 2009.

Agenda Item Summary

Ordinance # / Resolution#:

Contact Person / Sponsor: Sheriff Barry Faile

Department: Sheriff's Office

Date Requested to be on Agenda: 12/15/2015

Issue for Consideration: Immediate purchase of 58 Patrol Rifles which will equip all deputies with a rifle.

Points to Consider: The dangers faced by our deputies continue to grow. Criminals are becoming more violent and persons with mental health issues are encountered daily. Deputies here and around the country are often thrust into situations violent individuals who are better armed than we are. Patrol rifles will give the deputies the ability to respond to violent situations like active shooters, barricaded subjects, and hostage incidents with the appropriate level of armament. Rifles allow deputies to have more ammunition, engage targets from greater distances, and make deadly force engagements with more precision. They are necessary so that the deputies can better protect themselves and the citizens from violent individuals.

Funding and Liability Factors: We have included the request for the 58 rifles in the 2016/2017 budget proposal.

We currently have 53 rifles in use at the agency. We have acquired them through our own budget, grants, and the government surplus (10-33) program. We cannot afford to purchase the required remaining number without assistance.

We are obtaining quotes now but estimate the cost of the rifles to be \$50,000. Additional costs include the ammunition to train the deputies with the rifles. We estimate approximately \$6,800 to cover the cost of the ammunition.

Council Options:

Recommendation: