

Safety and Well-being Committee Summary Minutes

Tuesday, October 13, 2015 1:30 PM City & County Building, Room 391

Committee Members: New, Chair; Kniech, Vice-Chair; Clark; Flynn;

Kashmann; López

Committee Debra Bartleson

Staff:

Council Members

New, Kniech, Clark, Flynn, Kashmann, Lopez, Herndon, Black

Present:

Members Absent: None

Bill Requests

BR15-0753 Approve amendments to the intergovernmental agreement with Denver Health to reflect new funding levels and other necessary adjustments for 2016 including expending \$61,156,300 for Denver Health & Hospital Authority services and receiving funds of \$1,838,769 for City services provided to Denver Health & Hospital Authority (CE60436-26).

Shaun Sullivan, City Attorney's Office; Bob McDonald, Environmental Health; Elbra Wedgeworth and Peg Burnette, Denver Health & Hospital Authority

Laurel Delmonico, Budget & Management, stated that the filed ordinance request was inaccurate and that \$1,838,769 is being received by the City from Denver Health (DH). Robert McDonald, Environmental Health, stated that the Operating Agreement (OA) between Denver Health and the City delineates the services that Denver Health and the City will provide to one another. (See Attachment.)

Shaun Sullivan, City Attorney's Office, highlighted key changes in the OA, noting

that Section B-13, Child Welfare Division, added psychology and medical staff.

Councilmember Flynn questioned if savings from Medicare will continue to be experienced by DH. Peg Burnette, DH, said that due to the Affordable Care Act, they believe they will see future savings and those savings will be reinvested into ongoing improvements at the hospital.

Councilmember Kniech noted a \$30 million payment for the medically indigent and questioned if that payment would result in excess and if so is the annual payment adjusted if the payment is an overage. Ms. Burnette explained that the payment schedule is outlined in the OA and if the payment drops it is a discussion the hospital staff would need to have as those monies do impact their bottom line. Currently, the gap is \$13 million.

Councilmember Black asked if the medical examiner location is being relocated. Mr. Sullivan said the recent move is permanent for 10 years.

Councilmember Flynn noted that it looks like there were sizeable increases for paramedic and/or safety-related costs. Ms. Delmonico explained the increases were due to the expansion of the airport and for fire services provided by the City of Englewood to Denver Health as a result of the new contract.

A motion offered by Flynn, duly seconded by Kashmann, that this item be moved forward carried by the following vote;

AYES: Herndon, New, Kniech, Clark, Flynn, Kashmann(6)

NAYS: (None) ABSENT: (None) ABSTAIN: (None)

Presentations

1 Denver Police Department: Body Worn Cameras policy discussion

Chief White, Chief Quinones, Chief Murray, Commander Archer; Denver Police Dept.

Chief White, Denver Police Dept., provided an overview of the initial work on establishing policies for Body Worn Cameras (BWC) and he explained as they get more into the details of BWCs the more unanswered questions they have. He stated that it is the department's intent to issue a total of 800 BWCs starting from sergeants' level to police officer ranks. He also believes that off-duty officers should have cameras. The annual costs for sergeant level and below for camera and data storage (upgrades) is \$529,572.

The Chief noted that policy considerations include how storage is handled, chain of custody issues, and how off-duty processes would work. For off-duty policies, it

also includes policy activity chores and how to compensate them for utilizing the equipment and time for conducting chores to finalize the use of the equipment. It would cost approximately \$250,000 to have all officers have docking stations at their home. In addition, the discussion about how the funding would be structured in future years and if dedicated staff would be needed to manage the off-duty camera program. Chief White said they would be ready to implement the plan for on-duty camera use in November 2015, but off-duty policies they need more time to address the issues of compensation and protocols.

Chief White explained that workload would also increase for other staff such as prosecutors, detectives, etc. as well as staffing to comply with CORA requests. He added that he thinks it would be cost effective to have officers dock the equipment at their home.

Councilmember Lopez expressed some concern regarding technology bandwidth as it relates to privacy and hackable problems. Chief White said the policy will include language of how the docking procedures will work and how the information is saved. Chief Murray, DPD, said the protection of information in the camera is built in and information is uploaded into the cloud.

Councilmember Kniech asked if the costs for equipment include the additional officers planned for the academy classes or will there be a supplemental for the additional equipment later. Chief White said the budget is for 800, with additional requests to be made later. The Councilwoman questioned what the plan is for video retention. Chief White stated that the retention will follow case law determined by the standard for HALO camera videos. Commander Archer, DPD, noted that non-evidentiary material is held 30 days. Councilwoman Kniech questioned how those guidelines integrate with the Independent Monitor review and she suggested that DPD add more clarity about camera retention and information-sharing and to also include a policy re-evaluation process. Chief White stated the plan is to re-evaluate the policies.

Councilmember Clark voiced concern about officers taking home equipment and the perception of tampering and equity for other employees for costs related to direct wiring of equipment at home. Chief White reiterated that no one will be able to tamper with the camera and equipment and he stated that they are pulling together a working committee to work on all issues related to BWCs.

Councilmember Herndon asked how businesses hire for off-duty. Police staff noted that there were 57,000 off-duty shifts in the past year; less than 1,000 and more than 700 separate employees who worked these shifts which includes church functions, weddings, etc. Chief White said the BWC contract is for five years and includes one upgrade; but more upgrades and additional costs should be planned.

Councilmember Kashmann asked how long it takes to upload information. Chief White said there are 12 hours of memory; and the amount of information in the equipment determines the length of time it takes, but should take approximately 4

to 6 hours at maximum.

Councilmember Herndon asked about the legality of business owners owning the docking station. Chief White said that is a question for attorneys and that the city would own the information obtained from off-duty video, not the business owner.

Councilmember Kniech asked that the Independent Monitor evaluate the amount of days that information is needed after 30 days retention protocol.

Councilmember Flynn suggested having a BWC demonstration at Committee.