

FIRE & EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES TASK FORCE
CITY OF TOWN & COUNTRY, MO
September 8, 2020
Longview Farm House
13525 Clayton Road, 63141
8:00 AM

Members: Alderman Ryan Mortland (Co-Chairman), Alderman Sue Allen (Co-Chairman), Mayor Jon Dalton (absent), Don Sanders, George Tarlas, Todd Solomon, Amber Walsh (via audio-conference)

OTHERS PRESENT:

City Administrator Bob Shelton, Communications and Administrative Assistant Morgan Kuepfert.

1. Call to Order

Alderman Sue Allen called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m. and the roll as noted above was taken. There was a quorum.

2. Approval of Agenda

Mr. Sanders moved approval, seconded by Mr. Tarlas. The agenda was approved.

3. Approval of August 21, 2020 Minutes

Alderman Allen called for any additions or corrections. Mr. Tarlas moved to approve the Minutes of August 21, 2020, seconded by Mr. Sanders. The Minutes were approved.

4. Discussion – Extension proposal

Alderman Mortland reviewed the extension offer with the Commission. The extension would take the contract through December of 2022, but notice is still required to the Fire District by December 2020. Alderman Mortland stated the Fire District was offering the extension to allow the City time to review level of service which was made difficult as a result of COVID-19 related budget issues. Mr. Shelton explained that the notice that is required by December 31, 2020 is for a one year extension, through December 31, 2022, but the agreement will still require a one-year notice after the extension/contract term, which would have to be given by December 31, 2021. At that time, the City would either have to opt out of a contract or propose a new contract for services to be provided after December 31, 2022. Alderman Allen briefed the Commission on discussions that were held at the Ways and Means Commission and noted that by September of 2022 the City will have a more stable idea of where we are financially. Discussion ensued relating to the terms of the contract, and Alderman Mortland stated the terms of the contract would remain the same. He also noted that if the Task Force

and ultimately the Board of Aldermen moves forward with the contract extension, the Task Force would continue to meet for strategic discussions. Following discussion, Mr. Sanders made a motion to recommend to the Board of Aldermen to accept the extension proposal. The motion was seconded by Mr. Tarlas. Upon a vote being taken, the motion passed unanimously.

5. Discussion/Reactions August 21st Chief Sadtler Presentation

Discussion ensued in response to the presentation given by Fire Chief Sadtler at the previous meeting. Mr. Sanders stated he believes the focus should be on response times and the factors that contribute to that, such as placement of equipment/houses. Alderman Mortland reviewed the tax options that the City has, and noted that Town and Country cannot enact a public safety sales tax since fire services are contracted.

6. Discussion – Other

Additional discussions followed regarding other funding options, including taxes. Aldermen Allen reviewed the recommendation the Ways and Means Commission forwarded to the Board of Aldermen.

Alderman Mortland queried the Task Force on any other information or data they would like to see. He explained that he anticipates this Task Force to discuss major priorities, funding, Town and Country's fire station and the needed improvements, etc.

7. Set next meeting date

The next meeting of the Task Force will be held October 13 at 8:00 AM at Longview Farm House.

8. Adjourn

At 9:21 AM, Mr. Sanders moved to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Solomon. The meeting was adjourned.