

**BOARD OF WORKS
PUBLIC SAFETY
FRIDAY, JULY 31, 2009**

Mayor James Fleck – Present
Attorney Lindsey Grossnickle – Present
Deputy Clerk Treasurer Sally Wherry – Present
Walter Crowder – Present
Roger Seymoure – Present

The Columbia City Board of Works met in regular session with the Police and Communications departments. Mayor Fleck was presiding.

PROPERTY AVAILABILITY – STORAGE ISSUES Mayor Fleck reported the City had an opportunity to purchase some property that had come up for sale by City Hall. He inquired if there were any space needs within City Hall currently and asked for input.

Mike Peterson advised they restructured about 24 months ago to create space. He advised they also have satellite offices at the high school and the hospital.

Terry Wherry explained from the dispatch aspect he felt their space was ok and did not see any immediate needs. He suggested the only thing they possibly might do was to change the way the window dispatch area was set up.

Roger Seymoure questioned if they accumulate evidence that requires more storage as time goes by. Chief Petersen advised depending on the felony there is no termination date and every case report has to be kept for 75 years. He advised their bay space was a problem since they were now sharing with maintenance. He reported he had been working with Attorney Grossnickle about trying to get the pole barn on the Wayne Waste site.

Chief Petersen advised their immediate space needs they have adapted to with the satellite offices.

Roger Seymoure advised any time space or property becomes available adjacent to your building you seriously have to look at the long term because it may not be there again.

Mayor Fleck reported the house available was the one across the street next to the city employee parking lot. He advised he had the house analyzed in terms of cost to take it down and make a parking lot that would provide 14 – 16 spaces. He also suggested in the short term maybe the City could lease the house.

Informal discussion followed regarding the downtown parking issues as well as the possibility of the involvement of the Redevelopment Commission.

Mayor Fleck asked for some feedback from the Board over the next couple weeks. Roger Seymoure felt that particular area would be good for a parking lot. Mayor Fleck agreed.

SPEED ENFORCEMENT - CORRIDOR Walt Crowder reported as he was traveling on the east coast there were signs indicating fines were be doubled in certain areas for speeding. He advised he was looking at the corridor and trying to slow things down on US 30. Chief Petersen advised they had no control on US 30 and the state would determine the signage. Walt questioned who controlled the ordinance on US 30 from a speed perspective. Attorney Grossnickle advised it would be the state. Walt mentioned he was just trying to think of creative ideas to help public safety.

BUDGETS Walt Crowder questioned budgets for the remainder of the year and if they were on target. Terry Wherry advised Communications and IS were on target. Chief Petersen advised he was going to have to move some money around due to the new law on safety vests but would still be in the black.

Walt questioned the Taser program and where they were at with it. Chief Petersen reported they had 3-4 officers who did not have one yet, excluding the Reserves.

Walt questioned if there had been any insight on the Hybrid cars. Chief Petersen advised everything was real shaky on squad cars right now. He stated so far the Crown Vic has held through but there was a car company trying to get a market share that all they do is make squad cars.

SPEED STUDY ON BUSINESS 30 Chief Petersen distributed a copy of the speed study that was done on Business 30 by the American Legion. He reported cars traveling into town did well in lowering their speed but car's traveling out of town the speed seems to be higher.

Walt Crowder felt it was hard not to pick up speed going down that hill and questioned if there was value to increasing the posted speed in that area to 40 or 45 mph. Chief Petersen advised generally police use increases in decreased areas to enforce. He suggested before going any further reading the stats to see where the averages were. He stated in his opinion if the speed was raised people would be doing 55 or 60 mph.

Walt asked that Chief Petersen and Captain Anspach present a recommendation on what their thoughts were.

Having no further business to discuss the meeting was adjourned.

Mayor James Fleck

Attest:

Deputy Clerk Sally Wherry