

FIRE & EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES TASK FORCE
CITY OF TOWN & COUNTRY, MO
June 3, 2021
Via Zoom Videoconference
8:00 AM

Members: Alderman Ryan Mortland (Co-Chairman), Alderman Sue Allen (Co-Chairman), Don Sanders, George Tarlas, Todd Solomon, Amber Walsh

OTHERS PRESENT:

City Administrator Bob Shelton, Communications and Administrative Assistant Morgan Kuepfert, West County Fire Chief Jeff Sadtler, Deputy Fire Chief Dave Frazier

1. Call to Order

Alderman Ryan Mortland called the meeting to order at 8:01 a.m. and the roll as noted above was taken. There was a quorum.

2. Approval of Agenda

Ms. Walsh moved approval, seconded by Mr. Sanders and approved.

3. Approval of May 13, 2021 Minutes

Mr. Walsh moved to approve the minutes, seconded by Mr. Sanders and approved.

4. Discussion and recommendation on service options

A draft of the Fire and EMS Task Force report was distributed to all Task Force members. Mr. Shelton reviewed the process the Task Force took and all statistics, data, and other information that was reviewed. Each scenario was reviewed individually and pros/cons were discussed.

Option 1: status quo except returns staffing to six. Ms. Walsh inquired if one additional staff member would impact response times, to which Chief Sadtler responded it will not.

Option 2: build one new fire station and close and reuse or sell the current station. It was noted during discussions that this option would improve some response times, but some areas would experience longer response times as a result. Alderman Mortland suggested adding a dollar amount to the "Benefit" category as a result of the sale of the current station.

Option 3: build one new station and continue operation of existing station for a total of two stations.

Option 3 “Light”: continue operation of current station, build or house limited equipment and staffing at an additional site. Chief Sadtler noted that the Fire District would recommend a pumper over an ambulance if this option was selected.

Option 4: City builds and operates two new station and contracts for services. After discussion it was recommended to note on the report that the current station would no longer be utilized, and to add a dollar amount for the sale of the current station.

Option 5/6: proposes to voters to be annexed into Fire District. After discussion it was recommended to note on the report that the funds currently used to contract for fire services would be freed up for other City services, and that a resident of Town and Country would be eligible to run for a seat on the Fire Board.

Discussion ensued on how to proceed. It was the consensus of the Task Force to not recommend options 1, 2, 3 or 3 “Light”. Further discussion was held relating to annexation and the taxes for the same. Chief Sadtler noted that any tax rate changes would go to the voters before any changes could be made.

Following discussion, Mr. Sanders moved to recommend options 4 and 5/6. The motion was seconded by Mr. Tarlas. Upon a vote being taken, the motion passed with Alderman Allen voting Nay.

5. Next Meeting Date

No additional meetings are scheduled at this time.

6. Adjourn

At 9:30 a.m., Mr. Sanders moved to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Tarlas and approved.