

CITY OF SPARTA
PUBLIC SAFETY MINUTES
November 6, 2023

PRESENT: Robert Arnold, Kevin Brueggeman, Jim Church, Matthew Hoffland, David Kuderer

ABSENT:

ALSO PRESENT: Mark Sund, Todd Fahning, Emilee Nottestad, Booker Ferguson

Jim Church called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

A motion was made by Kevin Brueggeman and seconded by Matthew Hoffland to approve the consent agenda consisting of the minutes of the October 2, 2023 regular meeting, the Police Department’s monthly report for September and monthly bills. Motion carried 5-0.

Upon proper payment of fees, the following new and temporary Operator License applications were approved on a motion made by Matthew Hoffland and seconded by Kevin Brueggeman. Motion carried 5-0.

New:

April Wright Christina Benish Caleb Ard Lisa Wegner

Temporary:

Toni Wissestad John Ambro Bryan Davis

A motion was made by Matthew Hoffland and seconded by Kevin Brueggeman to approve the Temporary “Class B” License for Sparta Rotary Club at Kriskindlmarkt located in Booth #4 of Mueller Square to sell wine on November 24, 25; December 1, 2, 8, 9, 15 and 16, 2023. Motion carried 5-0.

A motion was made by Matthew Hoffland and seconded by Kevin Brueggeman to approve the Temporary Class “B” License to Sparta Youth Hockey Association located at 1121 E Montgomery Street to sell fermented malt beverages on December 2, 15, 16, 17, 23, 2023; January 12, 13, and 14, 2024; and February 9, 10, 11, 16, 17, and 18, 2024. Motion carried 5-0.

Chief Emilee Nottestad stated that the police department currently uses police reserves as crossing guards and as traffic control during parades. She stated the city needs to grant authority for these roles through an amendment to our ordinance. Also added was language adding parking enforcement to their duties. This will allow them to enforce the city’s two-hour parking areas that has negatively affected downtown businesses.

A motion was made by Robert Arnold and seconded by Matthew Hoffland to approve amending the ordinance for Police Reserves to act as crossing guards and traffic control. Motion carried 5-0.

Matthew Hoffland asked Chief Nottestad the status of the police department's staffing shortage. She stated staffing has improved, as Officer Fisher has returned from deployment, two officers finishing up field training, and a few officers who will be starting field training. The department is still short in officer staffing, but she has seen improvement.

Todd Fahning stated the house located at 804 N Benton Street has been demolished and the site has been cleared. He stated they started working on 817 Central Avenue today.

A motion was made by Kevin Brueggeman and seconded by Matthew Hoffland to adjourn at 5:37 p.m. Motion carried 5-0.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jennifer Lydon
City Clerk