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**COUNCIL POLICE & FIRE COMMITTEE  
MEETING MINUTES**

**Wednesday, September 15, 2010 - 5:30 p.m.**

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1. CALL TO ORDER

The Council Police & Fire Committee met on Wednesday, September 15, 2010, at 5:30 p.m. in the Council Chamber at Rockledge City Hall, 1600 Huntington Lane, Rockledge, Florida.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Joe Lee Smith, Councilman/Chairman  
Richard K. Blake, Councilman  
Kimberly Prosser, Councilwoman

MEMBERS ABSENT: NONE

STAFF PRESENT: James P. McKnight City Manager  
David A. Henderson, Assistant City Manager  
Joseph E. Miniclier, City Attorney  
Ronald D. Krueger, Chief of Police  
Richard E. Allen, Fire Chief  
Representatives of New World Systems

With a quorum present, the meeting was called to order by Chairman Smith at 5:30 p. m.

2. UNFINISHED BUSINESS - NONE

3. NEW BUSINESS

A. Discussion: Weapons Safety Ordinance (City Attorney)

City Manager McKnight reviewed the reasons behind this ordinance being prepared and presented, and then asked City Attorney Miniclier to review the same. Mr. Miniclier provided an overview of the ordinance, outlining the reasons for it, the exclusions in it, and the penalties provided. The ordinance received support from the committee members present, such that at the conclusion of the discussion, Councilman Blake offered the following motion:

**That the Police & Fire Committee of the Rockledge City Council recommends to the City Council that the proposed Weapons Safety Ordinance be brought forward for enactment by the City.**

The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Prosser, whereupon it passed unanimously by a vote of 3.

City Attorney Miniclier left the meeting.

B. Discussion: Firebreaks

Fire Chief Allen reviewed a slide presentation entitled “Wildland Fires – Issues & Concerns” wherein he identified the current firefighting plan for the various areas of the City remaining undeveloped. He spoke to the issues that had been brought out as a result of the Cruickshank Sanctuary fire earlier in the year, and reiterated the desire of the department to improve communication and inter-departmental training. He noted his appreciation to the Police Department and to the Fire Departments of the surrounding area as they worked to aid the Fire Department in traffic and fire control.

There was a period of discussion and clarification on the issue and its impact on the residents of Rockledge; no action was required and the agenda item was considered closed.

Item D was heard at this time out of order

BREAK AT 6:15 p. m. – RECONVENE AT 6:40 p. m.

C. Discussion: Records Management System (New World System) (Taken out of Order before Item D)

City Manager McKnight reviewed the issue surrounding the need to upgrade the records management and dispatching communications software utilized by the Police Department. The current system, purchased about 1988, has served the City well, but has not been upgraded to meet the demands or capabilities of current computer technology. Chief Krueger reiterated the comments made by the City Manager, and added that in his short time here as Chief he has realized that the Department is staffed with a great group of people who desperately need new technology to become more efficient and effective. At that point he introduced various members of the Police Department and had them review the steps necessary for the completion of a report or incident in the current system.

As this concluded the presentations by members of the Police Department, representatives of New World Systems began an overview of their system, and contrasted it to the system that had just been illustrated. Interconnectivity with the City of Cocoa was also discussed, which would improve the investigatory aspects of the computer system through faster comparison of similar crimes in the adjoining community. It became apparent that this system was highly effective, that it would facilitate investigations and information retrieval while improving report writing and recordkeeping. City Manager McKnight expressed his support for the system, and recommended it be forwarded to the full Council for a presentation and further action. On that basis Councilman Blake offered the following motion:

**That the Police & Fire Committee of the Rockledge City Council recommends to the City Council their endorsement of the concepts presented by New World Systems, and recommends a Full Council Workshop to be held in October 2010.**

The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Prosser, whereupon it passed unanimously by a vote of 3.

D. Discussion: Red Light Cameras (discussed prior to Item C above)

City Manager McKnight reviewed the “Red Light Camera” report that had been received, and what it meant in regard to potential revenues. He noted there were a few intersections of concern, and that the company had agreed to re-do the survey so that we can receive a more complete picture, given that the construction on U. S. #1 is complete and school has resumed.

In support of the use of cameras as a Police investigative tool, Chief Krueger noted that the pictures taken at intersections with the cameras could serve as an aid to Police, in that, pursuant to the occurrence of a crime, a recording may have been made of a vehicle that may have gone through the intersection even if no traffic infraction had occurred.

City Manager McKnight closed the discussion by reporting that the City would be receiving an improved report soon, and the item should be returned to this committee within the next 60 days.

4. ADJOURN

There being no further business to discuss, the Chairman declared the meeting adjourned at 7:42 p. m.

Submitted by:

David A. Henderson  
Assistant City Manager