

LEWISTON CITY COUNCIL

WORKSHOP AGENDA

Tuesday, October 13, 2020

SESSION WILL BE CONDUCTED REMOTELY AND MEMBERS WILL ONLY PARTICIPATE ELECTRONICALLY. THE MEETING CAN BE VIEWED ONLINE AT <https://www.lewistonmaine.gov/2020cc>

Public Comment on any item appearing on the agenda may be sent to publiccomment@lewistonmaine.gov prior to or during the meeting, and all comments received will be forwarded to the City Council. People who would like to access the meeting by phone only may contact (207) 513-3121 for the access code before 4:30pm on the day of the meeting.

6:00 pm Workshop

WORK SESSION

1. Housing Committee Update – 45 minutes
2. Police Body Cameras – 45 minutes

LEWISTON CITY COUNCIL
WORKSHOP AGENDA
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2020
6:00 PM

1. Housing Committee Update (45mins)

Members of the Housing Committee will provide an update on the Housing Committees work year to date and present recommendations to address homelessness. The attached memo provides further details on the recommendations that will be discussed at this Workshop.

2. Police Body Cameras (45mins)

In June 2020, the Lewiston Police Patrol Union requested to have all patrol officers and detectives issued body worn cameras. The City Council responded by adopting a resolve directing the City Administrator to develop and present a plan for the purchase and policies governing the use of body cameras. Members of Police Department and a representative from Body Worn will present the features of the Body Camera program.



Economic and Community Development
Lincoln Jeffers
Director



To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council
From: Heidi McCarthy
RE: **Housing Committee Recommendations**
Date: October 13, 2020

The Housing Committee is an eleven-member committee charged with advising the City Council on the full range of housing issues facing the community with the goal of ensuring the quality and safety of the City's residential housing stock, expanding the diversity of housing options and types, and providing safe and healthy housing alternatives for current and future residents of every socioeconomic status. The Committee was formed to carry on the work started by the Rental Registration Committee. There is a one-year appointed position from the former Rental Registration committee to ensure a smooth transition.

The Committee reviewed council priorities and compiled a comprehensive list of housing issues to address. Through a ranking survey, they identified homelessness as both the most urgent issue facing our community and the issue which if addressed would have the most impact on the community. The Committee has consulted with several organizations and individuals who provide services to people experiencing homelessness and have identified gaps in resources and supports. The recommendations below have been crafted both with the status quo and unique needs of COVID-19 in mind.

Recommendations:

a. City of Lewiston's Role. We must first recognize that homelessness is a public health issue, and the result of systemic problems that create the conditions for homelessness. We must own this problem as a community, and approach it with a sense of collective duty. Furthermore, we must not treat unhoused people as criminals simply due to their lack of shelter. When an unhoused person seeks shelter in a public place, it should not be viewed as criminal behavior but rather a failing of our community to provide them better options. We must also call upon the state and neighboring communities to recognize their shared responsibility in addressing this issue. Lewiston must be part of the solution, but service centers are often leaned on too heavily to solve the needs of neighboring communities who do not provide any services to their unhoused people. The City of Lewiston must play an important leadership and partnership role in helping to shelter the unhoused persons in our community. We have the beginnings of a network of support, and we must develop our relationships with local partners to see this network enhance to meet the needs we face today. This support should include 1) staff participating in state and local meetings to understand how Lewiston can fit into a regional strategy to end homelessness,

2) using CDBG and CARES Act funding to fund services for the homeless, and 3) identifying resources available from Maine Housing to fund services for the homeless, which can be utilized by the City and other partners.

b. Hotels as Temporary Shelter. To fill the gap in our existing overnight shelter system, we should support all efforts to contract with one or more local hotels and motels and provide shelter until those unhoused persons can secure permanent housing. Research is finding that the privacy and stability offered by these living arrangements create much better conditions for the provision of casework, food, and other health services. We also understand the lodging industry to be suffering significant losses of revenue, and these programs can help them weather this economic downturn. This should remain our shelter strategy for unhoused persons indefinitely, until it can be replaced with something better.

c. Increase Case Management. Case management is critical to helping unhoused persons achieve stability and permanent housing. Key to the success of the Wellness Shelter securing housing for the unhoused was offering social work services to connect people with available social services and address barriers to stable housing. Due to the nature of the shelter system described earlier, our community actually has fewer Emergency Shelter and Housing Assistance Program (ESHAP) navigators than would be expected for a community with our needs. Tri-County Mental Health Services, Safe Voices, New Beginnings, and Preble Street Homeless Veterans Program each have such navigators for the specific populations they support, but we need to see this expanded to meet the needs of those outside these populations. These navigators must be a part of ESHAP, meaning that they have access to all of the tools available to help an unhoused person obtain shelter. This is in addition to the mental health case work that many of these same people will require. Mental health support must also be expanded, but it is not the same as being an ESHAP navigator. Lewiston Police Department has also employed the practice of including a caseworker, through a program with Tri-County Mental Health, on many of their responses to mental health crises, including those relating to unhoused persons. This is an important practice and should be continued and expanded.

d. Enhance Day Shelter Facilities. Due to the new COVID-19 safety restrictions, there is currently no low-barrier day shelter or warming center in Lewiston, and this is of great concern as we approach the winter. Previously, the Wellness Shelter met this need. The City of Lewiston should lead an immediate assessment of existing city facilities, as well as nearby private facilities, to identify what space could adequately meet this need. The City should also immediately seek an experienced operator to manage this space, and facilitate the mobilization of resources to do so, including Cares Act and Maine Housing resources. The City should also approach specialized shelters, such as New Beginnings that offer limited day shelters to youth, and determine what resources or support is needed to enhance those services for this winter.

e. Public Bathrooms. The City should provide CDBG or Cares Act funding for a mobile public bathroom and shower facility until a permanent public bathroom can be provided. This facility should include sufficient staffing to ensure it is operated safely and well maintained. This service is necessary both for basic hygiene and to keep all persons safe in the unique circumstances of the global pandemic and should be vigorously pursued.

f. Supportive Housing. The City should encourage the development of more supportive housing that integrates case management and support with housing. This can be achieved both in transitional housing as well as permanent housing solutions. Maine Housing has funds set aside each year for this purpose.

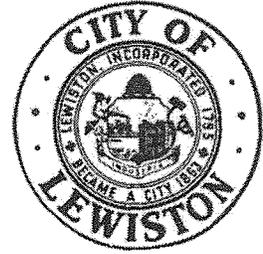
g. Permanent Overnight Low-Barrier Shelter. The need for a permanent overnight low-barrier shelter has been previously identified in the 10-yr plan to end homelessness. Such a shelter requires significant capital investment and operating experience to achieve. The City should be fostering relationships with potential partners who could develop and operate such a shelter in our community and with service providers who already operate such shelters in other communities to understand their recommendations and best practices. At the same time, we should be monitoring what can be achieved with enhanced day-shelters, case managers, and hotels as temporary shelter. The success of those programs may inform what needs there are for a low-barrier shelter and paths to sources of funding, staffing, and management.

h. Mitigate Evictions. Historically, Lewiston has the highest eviction rate in Maine. Evictions can have devastating impacts on the lives of tenants, and an eviction during this pandemic is especially destabilizing. Research by the Maine Affordable Housing Coalition has shown that most renters in Maine have been paying their rent but at the sacrifice of other essential items that are resulting in growing debt. This growing debt will eventually result in unpaid rent, if it has not done so already. We are also seeing a lack of action from the federal government to offer more relief to people struggling under these economic conditions. Lewiston simplifying their emergency rental assistance program was an important step towards addressing this problem. In addition to continuing Lewiston's local program, Lewiston should continue to advocate for state and federal programs that provide both emergency and long-term rental assistance to eligible renters, and also relief to small landlords who have incurred unsustainable losses during this crisis to help keep people housed while ensuring the landlord can financially support their building costs.



POLICE DEPARTMENT

Brian T. O'Malley
Chief of Police



September 18, 2020

To: City Manager Denis D'Auteuil

Fr: Chief Brian O'Malley

Re: Body Worn Cameras

In June 2020 the Lewiston Police Patrol Union requested to have all patrol officer and detectives issued body worn cameras in order to ensure the safety and integrity of officer and citizen interactions. On July 7, 2020, the Lewiston City Council responded to the Patrol Union's request by adopting a resolve directing the City Administrator to develop and present a plan for the purchase and policies governing the use of body cameras.

The Lewiston Police Department currently has cameras mounted in fifteen police cruisers used by the patrol division. The cruiser cameras were purchased from Watch Guard Inc. and are due to be replaced due to changing technology and replacement parts no longer being made to service our current stock of cameras. The police department uploads all of the videos from the cruiser cameras to a server; this server needs to be replaced in the near future at a cost of approximately nine thousand dollars.

Body Worn by Utility, WatchGuard Inc. and Axon Enterprise conducted presentations that were attended by police administration, the police department fleet manager and a representative of the police/detective union. These presentations included replacement of the cruiser cameras and supplying body cameras for all sworn members of the police department.

Body Worn by Utility provided unlimited cloud storage at no additional cost, replacement of damaged body cameras at no additional cost and it is the only body camera with numerous automated triggers to ensure that video is recorded. The patrol/detective union is in support of the selection of Body Worn to supply cameras to the police department. The City of Auburn has also chosen to use Body Worn cameras for their cruisers and they intend on purchasing body cameras for their officers from them as well.

The cost for the Body Worn 15 cruiser cameras and 80 body worn cameras is \$596,125. This is a five-year contract at \$113,825 per year. After 37 months all of the body cameras are replaced free of charge. I have attached a breakdown of all the cameras and their associated costs. A Body Worn representative is available to provide a presentation to the city council regarding their camera products.

Chief Brian O'Malley



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www.lewistonpd.org



Professionalism

Integrity

Compassion

Dedication

Pride

Dependability

To: Chief Brian O'Malley

09/15/2020

From: Tom Murphy

Reference: Body Cameras

Sir, after reviewing the presentations from the different vendors for the body cameras, the Patrol/CID Union fully backs the purchase of the body cameras from Body Worn. The overall package makes the most sense from price, Officer Safety features and usability. The equipment seems to be light years ahead of the competitors.

Union President,

Tom Murphy

Body Worn by Utility

Specs:

Platform is a Motorola G7 (cell phone)

Battery Life-Toggled Recording 18-22 hrs/Continuous Recording 15-16 hrs

Recharge-Cameras equipped with standard wall charger and 30 min fast charger

Style:

Camera slides into a case that affixes to the inside of the uniform, eliminating the potential of the camera being knocked off of the uniform.

Body Worn outfits all current uniforms to make compatible with camera, as well as provides new uniforms at no cost to the department.

Capabilities:

Immediate Video Playback-Devices automatically offload video to the CJIS cloud which can be reviewed instantaneously from AVaiLWEB

GPS-Body camera offers real time location of officers, as opposed to just the GPS location of the cruisers with most other body cam companies.

Example: Officer in foot pursuit; dispatch can advise assisting officers of exact location of initial officer.

GPS Google Maps History-GPS works with Google maps, and software allows to review map history.

Example: Citizen complaints of not enough officer presence in certain areas. History can provide how frequently/infrequently officers patrolled that neighborhood.

Automatic Activation Triggers:

All activations have a two minute pre-record

Holster Activation- Small sensor affixes to any holster, that immediately activates camera when duty weapon is removed from the holster.

Officer Down Alert-Notification if officer's position is prone for a period of time

Foot Pursuit Activation-Activates camera and GPS allows other officers to respond to accurate location.

Gun Shot Activation- Recognizes sound of gunshot and activates camera.

CAD Integration Activation-Dispatch can activate the camera.

Live Stream-Allows for live view of any situation.

Example: High risk entries, hostage situations, school shootings etc.

Real Time Communication-the camera is easily removed from the uniform to assist with suspect identification to other officers.

Example: Officer responds to a bank/store robbery and video surveillance shows suspect. Officer on scene is able to take a picture with the body camera and then share it to officers in search for the suspect

Avail Web- Share file where pics and videos can be directly uploaded to DA's office and provided to the press etc.

Docking Stations-None

Contract Details:

Term-5 yrs

Data Fees-None

User Fees-None

Replacement Fees-None (body cameras warrantied through duration of contract)

Upgrades-Cameras are replaced every 37 months at no cost to the department.

Cost with in car systems: \$596,125

\$113,825 per year

Cost without in car systems: \$538,000

\$107,600 per year



WatchGuard

Specs:

V300 Body Worn Camera 128 gb with 1080P/Wifi/Bluetooth/Removable battery

Battery Life-12 hrs

Recharge-4 hrs

Style:

Camera affixes to the outside of the uniform.

Capabilities:

Record After the Fact-If you forget to activate you can retroactively record. You must initiate no longer than 30 minutes after incident, and only video (no audio) will record.

Detachable Battery- Detachable battery allows for on duty replacement of fully charged battery (added fee) without having to place camera in the fixed docking station to charge.

Wireless Upload-Data can be uploaded remotely back to the station when camera is placed in the in car docking station.

Docking Stations-Required

Contract Details:

Term-None

Replacement Fees-12 month body camera warranty -Included

5 year server warranty-Included

Extended Three Year Warranty-\$36,000

Body Cam Fees-\$495 per unit per year x 80=\$39,600

In Car Camera Fees-\$695 per unit per year x 15=\$10,425

Equipment Upgrades-None

Initial Purchase Cost: \$158,443.75

Extended Three Year Warranty: \$36,000

Total-\$194,443.75

Server Upgrade-\$9,000

In Car Camera Replacement-\$5,250 per cruiser (15):

\$78,750

Fleet/Information Technology Management Estimated Cost: 8 hrs per week

\$22.78 per hour x 8=\$182.24 per week/\$182.24 per week x 52=\$9,476.48 per year

\$9,476.48 per year x 5 yrs =

\$47,382.40

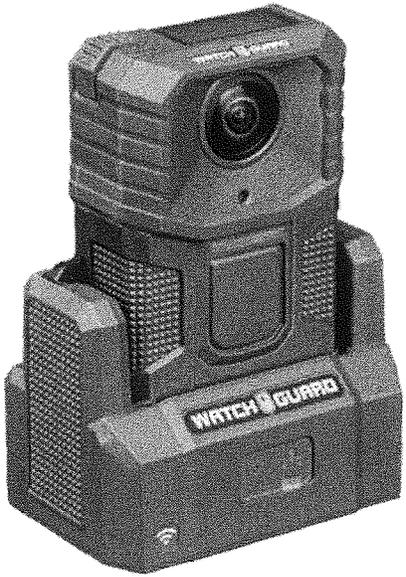
Yearly Software Maintenance/Firmware Updates/Cloud Storage Fees:

\$50,025 a year (4) =

\$200,100

Five Year Fee:

\$529,675.15



Axon

Specs:

Axon Body 3 camera is 1080P 64 gb and features enhanced low-light performance, reduced motion blur, and an LTE connection

Battery Life-12 hrs

Recharge-5 hrs

Style:

Camera affixes to the outside of the uniform.

Capabilities:

GPS- Body camera offers real time location of officers, as opposed to just the GPS location of the cruisers with most other body cam companies.

Automatic Activation Triggers: Axon Signal-pre event record up to 120 seconds

Holster Activation- Small sensor affixes to *only specific* holsters, that activates camera when duty weapon is removed from the holster.

Taser Activation- Camera activates when taser is removed from holster

Vehicle Activation-Lights and Siren activate body camera

Axon Aware+-Allows for live stream view of any situation and GPS locations.

Axon Citizen- App on your phone that allows you to email and correspond with
The public without displaying your personal phone number.

Capture Evidence Anywhere- App on your phone that allows you to take photos
and record interviews during an investigation.

Docking Stations-Required

Contract Details:

Term-5 yr

Replacements-New Body Cam and Dockings Stations every 2.5 years

Hands-Free Package Cost-appr \$135 per officer (80) per month (12) =
\$129,600 per year

Vehicle Modems for Cloud Access- \$1,000 per vehicle (15) =
\$15,000

Five Year Fee: (Doesn't include pending in car camera replacements)
\$663,000

