

MINUTES
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL WORKSESSION
CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF YUMA, ARIZONA
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS - YUMA CITY HALL
ONE CITY PLAZA, YUMA, ARIZONA
October 1, 2019
6:00 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Nicholls called the Regular City Council Worksession to order at 6:00 p.m.

Councilmembers Present: Shelton, Watts, Thomas, Knight, McClendon, and Mayor Nicholls
Councilmembers Absent: Miller
Staffmembers Present: Interim City Administrator, John D. Simonton
Fire Chief, Steve Irr
Assistant Fire Chief, Dusty Fields
Fire Engineer, John Dunbar
Fire Captain, Nicholas Rico
C.I.P Manager, Larry Halberstadt
Arts & Culture Program Manager, Lindsay Benacka
Purchasing and Contracts Manager, Robin Wilson
Director of Public Works, Joel Olea
Various department heads or their representatives
City Attorney, Richard W. Files
City Clerk, Lynda Bushong

I. CANCER WITHIN THE FIRE SERVICE INDUSTRY

Chief Irr introduced Assistant Fire Chief **Fields**, Fire Engineer **Dunbar**, and Fire Captain **Rico** to provide a briefing on the state of cancer in the fire service industry and what the Yuma Fire Department (YFD) is doing to combat the risks for its employees.

Fields covered job-related chemical exposure and laws protecting firefighters as follows:

- Chemical Exposure
 - Multiple carcinogens
 - Polycyclic Aromatic
 - Hydrocarbons
 - Diesel Exhaust
 - Benzene
 - Asbestos
- Exposure Routes
 - Inhalation
 - Ingestion
 - Absorption
- What is commonly found in smoke?
 - Acetaldehyde
 - Acrolein
 - Benzaldehyde
 - Formaldehyde
 - Glutaraldehyde
 - Isovaleraldehyde

- Benzene
- Hydrochloric Acid
- Hydrogen Cyanide
- Cancer Presumptive Law History
 - Thirty-three states have presumptive law for cancer
 - Twenty states have broad language that can be interpreted to cover cancer experienced by firefighters
 - Thirteen other states have certain specific type of cancer coverage, Arizona being one of those states
- Occupational Cancers Covered by A.R.S. §23-901.01
 - Brain
 - Bladder
 - Rectal/Colon
 - Lymphoma
 - Leukemia
 - Mesothelioma
 - Respiratory Tract
 - Stomach
 - Testicular
 - Buccal Cavity and Pharynx
 - Esophagus
 - Large Intestine
 - Kidney
 - Prostate
 - Skin
 - Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma
 - Multiple Myeloma or Malignant Melanoma

Dunbar presented the following information on cancer reduction strategies and apparatus design changes that are taking place at YFD:

- Cancer Reduction Strategies
 - Reducing the risk involves taking a comprehensive, multi-step approach
 - The YFD Safety Committee has studied and implemented several changes to how YFD operates in order to reduce the risk of cancer
- Fire Apparatus Design Changes
 - New apparatuses are being designed to include 'clean cab' concepts
 - Smooth, non-porous surfaces
 - New exhaust design
 - Removal of breathing apparatus and firefighting gear from the cab
 - Automatic window closure
 - Handwashing station
 - Hot and cold water taps to wash off contaminants while on-scene rather than bringing them back to the station

Ricoh discussed changes that are being implemented on the fire ground to reduce the risk and probability of job-related cancers:

- Changes on the Fire Ground
 - Hood Exchange Program
 - On-Scene Wash Down
 - Decontamination with soap and water prior to leaving the fire scene while wearing full turn out gear and breathing apparatus
 - Shower and clean change of clothes back at the fire station
 - Fire wipes for cleaning firefighters' skin immediately after wash down
 - Use of breathing apparatus during the overhaul/investigative stage and smoldering phase

Irr concluded by presenting the following information regarding changes being made to YFD fire stations, annual health screenings, and challenges for the future:

- Changes to the Fire Stations
 - Since 1996 YFD has been installing diesel exhaust systems in all fire stations
 - Fire Station 4 remodel will address needed ventilation
 - Add positive pressure inside living quarters to prevent penetration of gasses
 - Fire Gear Washer Extractors
 - All fire stations need a washer extractor
 - Currently Station 4 and Station 5 do not have one
 - Station 4 is getting one with the remodel provided through a grant
- Annual Health Screenings
 - All employees are required to have an annual physical
 - Need to add better cancer screening to this process
- Challenges for the Future
 - Funding for outfitting second set of gear
 - Washer extractor for Fire Station 5
 - Enhanced physicals with best practice cancer screening
 - Cancer prevention is evolving and new information is learned every day

Discussion

- It takes about 30 minutes for gear to be cleaned with the washer extractor, but there is no dryer so gear must air dry and is typically dry by the next day (**Knight/Irr**)
- The washer extractor is essentially a heavy-duty washer, and the dirty water drains into the sewer system (**Watts/Irr**)
- Best practices are continually evolving, and it is likely that things which are commonly done today will be unheard of 20 or 30 years from now (**Watts/Irr**)
- Regarding testing, the key is to figure out which tests are most important to detect the types of cancers that are most likely to affect firefighters (**Watts/Irr**)
- Documenting exposure and having policies in place regarding exposure is essential when dealing with industrial claims (**Shelton/Irr**)
- A complete set of gear costs about \$7,000, and it is estimated that YFD needs approximately \$150,000 to ensure all firefighters have a second set of gear (**Shelton/Irr**)
- Typically when responding to a residential or a commercial fire, firefighters from four or five stations will respond and a fresh crew will be rotated in as needed; if the crews need to be on scene for an extended period of time, additional staff will be called in to cover those stations (**McClendon/Irr**)
- Firefighting gear is made of cloth and can get impregnated with the chemicals present during a fire and then off-gas, which is why turnout gear has been relocated to outside of the cab (**Thomas/Irr**)
- Stations that do not have a washer extractor need to take their gear to another station to be cleaned; grant opportunities are being sought to provide a washer extractor for Station 5 (**Thomas/Irr**)
- There is not currently a cancer screening process in place; cancer screening will be added to the Request for Proposal for the contract to provide annual physicals (**Thomas/Irr**)
- Whether a firefighter who develops cancer returns to work is between them and their health care provider; a firefighter who is unable to return to work could potentially qualify for medical retirement through the Public Safety Personnel Retirement System (**Thomas/Irr**)

II. PROJECTMATES INTEGRATED PROGRAM MANAGEMENT SOFTWARE OVERVIEW

Halberstadt provided an overview of the Projectmates Integrated Project Management Software (Projectmates) as follows:

- Projectmates is a web-based project management information system which contains a variety of tools to ensure consistency during all phases of project delivery
 - Modules includes document management, schedule management, construction management, cost tracking, a capital planning module which will be used for Fiscal Year 2021, and a robust analytics and reporting module
- The software allows up to 75 user seats, so all of the City's project managers and most of its design engineers have access to the system
 - Access is also provided to the City's trade partners – design firms, construction companies, etc. – so everyone can have access to the same set of documents and communication tools

Halberstadt presented a brief demonstration on the overhead screens of the various modules and functions available in Projectmates.

Discussion

- Projectmates will be used as a planning tool for upcoming Capital Improvement Programs (CIP), replacing the Excel spreadsheets or Access databases previously used (**Mayor Nicholls/Halberstadt**)
- Currently Projectmates is mainly a tool that has been implemented by the Engineering Department, but seats are available for the City's Job Order Contractors and consultants (**Watts/Halberstadt**)
- Projectmates can track punch lists that are due to the City once the City takes over a project or building (**Thomas/Halberstadt**)
- While Projectmates is used primarily for CIP projects, inspectors are using the software to store photos and log information on development projects (**Thomas/Halberstadt**)
- It may be possible to use the software to track inspections that need to be completed prior to the beginning of the next phase of a private construction project (**Thomas/Halberstadt**)

III. PARKS & RECREATION MURAL UPDATE AND STORYCORPS 2019 MOBILE TOUR

Benacka presented updates on the following:

- Eltono Mural
 - The mural by Paris-born artist Eltono will be painted on the south-facing wall of the Art Center
 - Eltono, whose work is known for its bright colors and geometric shapes, is anticipated to begin painting on October 9th and the mural may take up to two weeks to complete
 - Time permitting, Eltono is also interested in painting on some of the City's trash enclosures
 - The mural has been entirely privately funded by the McKivergan Foundation, which also funded the Momo mural project
- StoryCorps 2019 Mobile Tour
 - The Art Center will be partnering with KAWC, Yuma's local National Public Radio station, to host StoryCorps from November 20th through December 21st
 - An Airstream trailer housing a mobile recording studio will be parked at the back of the Art Center up against the Momo mural

- A trained StoryCorps facilitator will help pairs of citizens create a 40-minute recording which will be provided to the participants and archived in the Library of Congress through the American Folklife Center

Benacka also noted that YumaCon will be taking place on October 5th at the Yuma Civic Center and Tribute of the Muses, Yuma's annual community art awards, will take place on October 11th at the Art Center.

IV. REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA OF OCTOBER 2, 2019

Motion Consent Agenda Item B.5 – Bid Award: Hazardous Waste Transport and Disposal (award a one-year contract with the option to renew for four additional one-year periods at an estimated annual expenditure of \$77,000.00 to: Actenviro, Laveen, Arizona) (Bid #2019-20000163) (Public Works)

Discussion

- The actual annual expenditure will depend on the amount of waste that will be received during the Household Hazardous Waste events as well as what the City will need to dispose of throughout the course of its normal operations (**Knight/Wilson**)
- Household Hazardous Waste drop-off takes place four times per year and is available at no cost to the citizens of Yuma (**Knight/Wilson**)
- The Household Hazardous Waste events have been taking place for at least 25 years (**Shelton/Olea**)
- The next event will be held on October 12th (**Watts/Olea**)
- The Household Hazardous Waste program is funded through the environmental fee that is charged to the City's solid waste customers; the environmental fee also pays for the annual Neighborhood Cleanup program (**Mayor Nicholls/Olea**)

V. ADJOURNMENT/EXECUTIVE SESSION

There being no further business, **Mayor Nicholls** adjourned the meeting at 7:19 p.m. No Executive Session was held

Lynda L. Bushong, City Clerk

APPROVED:

Douglas J. Nicholls, Mayor