

MILFORD CITY COUNCIL
MINUTES OF MEETING
September 26, 2011

A Meeting of the Police Committee of Milford City Council was held in the Joseph Ronnie Rogers Council Chambers of Milford City Hall, 201 South Walnut Street, Milford, Delaware on Monday, September 26, 2011.

PRESIDING: Vice Chair Katrina Wilson

IN ATTENDANCE: Committee Member Councilman S. Allen Pikus

Police Chief Keith Hudson and Recorder/City Clerk Terri Hudson

Called to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:22 p.m. by Vice Chair Wilson.

Police K-9 Dog

Chief Hudson reported that at the last Delaware Police Chiefs' meeting, it was announced that FEMA has made some grants available through DEMA's WMD (Weapons of Mass Destruction) Working Group. Applications are being submitted to the group and will be awarded on a first come, first serve basis. One of the qualifying items is canine dogs.

Chief Hudson informed the committee that he has considered purchasing a second dog for several years. He emphasized the vital role that police dogs play in the department. Trained dogs can be used for a variety of assignments including the search for drugs, people and bombs. Their current canine is cross trained for patrol and drug detection.

If he is able to obtain the funding, he feels the timing is right. In addition, to the department having an available car, this dual purpose dog would be crossed trained for patrol and explosive detection. He said that unfortunately, bomb threats have become a regular occurrence over the past few years at the schools and at Walmart. When that occurs, they contact Dover Air Force Base for their assistance.

When asked if any officers are interested, Chief Hudson said he does not want to post the position until he receives council approval and notification that the grant was approved. Because of the funding on a first come, first serve basis, the application was submitted with the understanding that should council disapprove, he would withdraw it.

The department has always had only one canine. Those dogs have been very successful in detecting illegal drugs, tracking individuals and are always ready to protect their handler and other officers in dangerous situations. The second dog would provide some relief to their current canine who is basically on call all the time. In addition, one group of shifts has an advantage because the canine typically follows their schedule. The second dog would almost guarantee a canine every weekend and most nights.

He emphasized that if the grant is denied, he would not pursue the purchase of the second dog.

Mr. Pikus moved for approval of the submission of the application to purchase a second canine dog and that Chairman Morrow present the matter to city council at the October 10th meeting, seconded by Ms. Wilson. Motion carried.

With no further business, Mr. Pikus moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Ms. Wilson. Motion adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Terri K. Hudson, CMC
City Clerk