



**CITY OF COOPER CITY
CITY COMMISSION**

**COMMISSION WORKSHOP
December 3, 2019
5:00 PM**

1. Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Ross opened the meeting at 5:00 PM and led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. Roll Call

Present were Commissioners Pulcini, Meltzer, Green, Curran and Mayor Ross.

3. Presentation by Interim City Manager and the BSO Negotiations Committee on the proposed BSO contract.

Interim City Manager Lynn said the intent is not to go through every aspect of the proposed contract. There are a few issues that need direction and those are not the only issues with the proposed contract. The proposed contract term is for 2024 with renewal options, two, five year terms with annual increase to 5% and increased benefits up to 9%. On the Police side there are 7 CSA's that would change to 6. Code enforcement would go from 4 to 0. No change to crime prevention programs or K-9's. There is a change of a reduction of deputy's by 2 that are the 2 current vacancies. Fire had a change in staffing for the fire rescue vehicle for one vehicle would go from 3 to 2. In the current contract, we are unclear as the intent in of the Sheriff's office is with us purchasing or replacing fire equipment. We need direction on that issue. Issues we need to resolve are to continue with negotiations with BSO. Should Code Enforcement be included in the BSO contract? In addition, maintenance and purchasing of fire rescues. Mr. Lynn said we do not have the capability to maintain fire vehicles in the City.

4. Public Comments (each member of the public is allowed to speak for four (4) minutes)

Joshua Giancarlo, 2506 Ambassador Ave, asked about input from the Public Safety Advisory Board and input from the residents. He also asked about projected costs and if we reached out to similar cities to compare costs.

Interim City Manager Lynn said we do not have final numbers.

Commissioner Meltzer thanked Mr. Giancarlo and wants to give direction to the Interim City Manager to get costs for Police and Fire.

Consensus was reached to give direction to the Interim City Manager for a cost assessment.

Commissioner Curran would like to see costs from other cities.

Commissioner Green said he would like us to continue to work with BSO. There is also concerns mainly with code enforcement but code continues to do their job as required by the law. His frustration is that we have been unsuccessful in gaining specific information needed for negotiation purposes. He would like documentation to be provided so both sides can work together.

Commissioner Meltzer said he wants to package all ideas and provide them to the Interim City He had asked for Police and Fire proposals. Other cities pricing and continue with BSO negotiations.

Commissioner Pulcini said he has concerns with leaving BSO as they are the best. He spoke on numbers and their costs per residents are lower than non-BSO cities. The crime rate is lower in BSO cities. We also have Cooper City in BSO with officers. He said we have a say when we elect the Sheriff. He does not believe this is a service that can be shopped around.

Mayor Ross said Captain Cates from Captain down BSO is the best. Issues arise with the top. He has concerns with the negotiations lasting over a year and still having no numbers. He also has concerns with documentation not being provided. He also asked about costs for in-house Code. He also asked about the quint and it being out of service for 8 months.

Mike Carvelli, 11013 Chandler Drive, thanked the Commission for the job they do. He asked about taking one EMT from a truck and having in house code enforcement.

Mayor Ross said responded that is what BSO has proposed for the truck.

Ray Hoecherl, 5813 SW 115 Avenue, said BSO has the best Fire and DLE. He would like to look at figures and give more input. He also spoke on concerns with two on a rescue. He does not want to lose services.

Andrew Gross, 5010 Regancy Isles Way, said that having a meeting at 5pm is not covenant for residents. He also said he believes that issues have to be on

both sides as there are no numbers. He spoke on concerns with removing a man from the truck and not having a ladder truck.

Commissioner Curran said the most important issue is having residents present. He does not support going backwards on the rescue truck.

Mayor Ross asked if the helicopters are flying at night.

Chief Hernandez said they are on a partial schedule.

Mayor Ross asked if they are a fully accredited police force.

Nicole Anderson, Undersheriff, said the accreditation was taken away, Sheriff Tony went to Board are they are up for review in 2020.

Lori Green, 10518 Zurich St, asked what happens if we do not have a resolution in October. She also said she is a member of the PSAB and there were no numbers at the Boards meetings.

Interim City Manager Lynn said BSO has a requirement statutorily to provide services but not at the level we have now.

Ms. Green said time is of the essence. She said she heard a rumor that another municipality is interested.

Interim City Manager Lynn said no one has provided a proposal.

Ms. Green asked who is the negotiating team and how were they established.

Interim City Manager Lynn said the team includes City Attorney Jacob Horowitz, Assistant City Manager/City Clerk Kathryn Sims, Ryan Shrouder, Mr. Lynn himself and Finance Director Sherry Walker.

Ms. Green also spoke on lobby hours and the need for coverage.

John Bowman, 10248 SW 59 St, said he has been watching for 2 years and BSO is in turmoil. He said he did not see the backup on his iPad.

Lee Fudge Deputy general Counsel for BSO said he has been involved in negotiations for the last 18 months and they are negotiating in good faith. BSO requests to cut staff is not factual. The City asked them to remove 2 million dollars. He said the cuts equal 2.1 million.

Undersheriff Nicole Anderson said they were approached to cut the budget by 2 million dollars so the cuts were made with that request. Sheriff Tony received a letter in regards to the transition from the Interim City Manager. Ms. Anderson read the letter dated December 3, 2019. The letter said that transition was intended for the City to go back to Cooper City Police not for

continuing negotiations with BSO. The new agreement the City requested BSO decrease the budget by 2 million dollars. BSO presented cuts of 2.1 million. They have been negotiation in good faith and for the safety of the community, they cannot make any more cuts to staffing. Please notify me if the contracts have been accepted by the close of business on December 17, 2019. If not BSO will move forward in a transition plan. They do not want to have to do that and look forward to continue negotiations. She said they made cuts and they are all in for continuing to be our hometown police and fire service.

Mayor Ross said he has the proposed contract and the totals are blank. He wants to negotiate with numbers.

Ms. Anderson said that we need to bring everything to the table.

Mayor Ross said the numbers could not be explained for vacancy credits.

Ms. Anderson said she is a proud member of BSO for over 20 years and she wants to be on the positive end of what people think BSO is.

Mayor Ross said they positively want to negotiate towards a compromise. He also was upset with the deadline given by the Sheriff.

Commissioner Pulcini said he has not seen a contract.

Ms. Anderson said she gave information on the price given. She wants to get back to the table. She said also a transition is based on us transitioning to a new service.

Mayor Ross said that is his definition of a transition.

Commissioner Curran said his name plate means everything to him and he said for the last 2 years we all agree negotiations are not going the way they should be going. The contract should have been done months ago. He said we should have not dropped the millage so we can fund the BSO contract. He asked the Interim City Manager if there are any proposals from Davie.

Interim City Manager Lynn answered no.

Commissioner Curran said at the end of day we have residents that love BSO and they are second to none. He said it is time to look at numbers.

Commissioner Curran thanked Ms. Anderson and he hopes we can find a conclusion so BSO can continue to provide services for Cooper City. He works for the residents and he will do what is right for them. He wants BSO to be here in the community.

Commissioner Meltzer thanked Ms. Anderson. He also asked for a detail of the fleet in place on the fire side including the year it went in service, how long

it's been in service, expected life, replacement cost and annually maintenance costs per vehicle. As well as leasing options.

Commissioner Curran asked about the pension.

City Attorney Horowitz said it is an open issue.

Commissioner Curran wants it on the record that pension is an open issue.

City Attorney Horowitz said it is his understanding that has not been confirmed in writing by BSO that during the transition period that BSO will not make pension contributions they are obligated to make under the agreement.

Mayor Ross said he needs a comprehensive contract.

Commissioner Meltzer also would like to know how much we are paying each police officer by rank. As well, as fire.

Ms. Anderson said we would get estimated costs as senior positions will be more.

Commissioner Pulcini said the wording on the contract said costs would increase up to 5% but the issue is we didn't have how much the costs, finally we obtained them. He would like a breakdown to determine to verify actual costs.

Ms. Anderson said if we sit down and ask for costs and not a reduction of a certain number.

Commissioner Pulcini said he is not at the table.

Ms. Anderson said the City's needs to update them. However, we need both teams together.

Chief Hernandez said on May 1, 2019 BSO gave Assistant City Manager Sims a price. Since then we have worked down from the number. BSO does not want to reduce service but a budget was set. Its not just BSO with a lack of clarity. \$25,059,420 was the number given and that number was decreased by the City negotiation team.

Commissioner Pulcini stated that number did not include pensions.

Chief Hernandez said that is accurate. That was a contract price.

Commissioner Pulcini said that is the amount we budgeted for.

Deputy Chief Gregory Holness spoke on lease options and they are here to work in a collaborative options. He said he encourages a city lease the

Sheriff's office itself cannot enter into a lease. He also spoke on the costs of vehicles.

Commissioner Curran said the equipment we have now could last a year.

Chief Holness answered that is correct.

Commissioner Curran spoke on stages for each item. He also would like to know about buying from Weston.

Mayor Ross asked if we continue to negotiate with BSO.

Consensus is yes.

Mayor Ross said should Code Enforcement be included in the BSO contract?

Consensus was to both leave them in and get numbers on the City taking Code Enforcement.

Mayor Ross asks about maintenance and purchase of fire vehicles.

Mayor Ross said he heard Chief say he is willing to sit down and look at all options.

5. Commission Discussion

6. Additional Public Comments (each member of the public is allowed to speak for an additional two (2) minutes)

Andrew Gross, 5010 Regency Isles Way, asked why its listed to cut the third man on a vehicle. He wants direction on that issue.

Consensus was reached to not cut paramedics.

Jennifer Goldfarb, 11869 SW 55 St said the City's number one concern is safety and they do not want cuts. She spoke on cutting in access. She said the negotiating team needs to report to the Commission. She also said we need to look at what Code will cost in house.

Ryan Shrouder, said the negotiating team can't go to the Commission unless it's at a Workshop. He said he there is issues with contractual language.

Mayor Ross said he is optimist that we will receive numbers.

Mr. Shrouder said Parkland covers their lobby from 9:00 AM to 9:00 PM Monday through Friday with two service aids. With six service aids we are offered 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM. He said we are not trying to cut services but pension issues occur.

Commissioner Pulcini asked for a list of points that Mr. Shrouder thinks is important.

Undersheriff Anderson said Parkland does not have the same number of calls for service as Cooper City. She also said the Captain is responsible for a minimum number of 6 for staffing.

Mr. Shrouder said our current contract said we should 20 in a 24-hour period and that does not happen.

Ray Hoecherl, 5813 SW 115 Avenue, asked where the pension issue is arising.

Bob Kalausner, said all the pension costs we have is for service already preformed. There are 3 plans affected. The idea is the plan needs to have enough money to pay all these people until death.

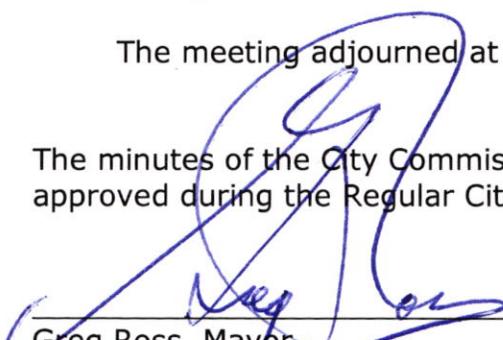
Lee Fudge said it was requested by the negotiating team to remove pension from the current contract and the last 15 BSO did pay the costs. It is the City's pension.

Mayor Ross said BSO and the City of Cooper City will go back to the table and negotiate.

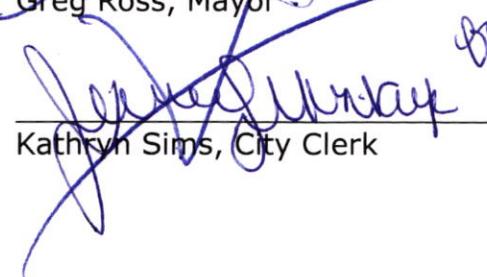
7. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 6:30 PM.

The minutes of the City Commission Workshop Meeting of December 3, 2019 were approved during the Regular City Commission Meeting of January 14, 2020.



Greg Ross, Mayor



Kathryn Sims, City Clerk

NOTICE: This meeting is open to the public. In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, all persons who are disabled and who need special accommodations to participate in this meeting because of that disability should contact the Office of the City Clerk, 954-434-4300 ext. 220, not later than two days prior to such proceeding. One or more members of the City of Cooper City Advisory Boards may be in attendance and may participate at the meeting. Anyone wishing to appeal any decision made by the Cooper City Commission with respect

to any matter considered at such meeting or hearing will need a record of the proceedings and, for such purpose, may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based. Agenda items may be viewed online at www.coopercityfl.org or at the Office of the City Clerk, City of Cooper City, 9090 SW 50 Place, Cooper City, Florida, 33328, 954-434-4300.