

**City of Lafayette**  
**City Council Meeting Minutes**  
**June 24, 2004**  
**6:30 PM**

- 1. CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order by Mayor Lotis Hanks at 6:30 p.m.
- 2. FLAG SALUTE:** Mayor Lotis Hanks led the flag salute.
- 3. ROLL CALL:** Diane Rinks, City Administrator, called the roll.  
*Present:* Mayor Lotis Hanks, Ron Ross, Edwina Meitzen, Bob Cullen (arrived at 6:33 p.m.), Gary Filpi, and Michael Roberts.  
*Absent:* Marianne Mitchell.  
*City Staff Present:* Diane Rinks-City Administrator, Trena McManus-Assistant to the City Administrator.  
*Others Present:* Steve Malone, Melodie Malone, Katie Willson- News Register, Sheriff Jack Crabtree, Jim Rue, Trudy Shelburne, and approximately 1 other.

**4. COUNCIL WORK SESSION RE: LAW ENFORCEMENT OPTIONS:**

Michael Roberts presented a proposal to the Council that was prepared by some local citizens (who are also in law enforcement in other cities) to form Lafayette's own police department. They proposed having a paid police chief and 4 (unpaid) reserve officers. Michael Roberts said that they would pursue a COPS grant after a 'police commission' was formed, which could produce some funds for the first 3 years of the department if the City could show that it would be able to fund the department in the 4<sup>th</sup> year. Sheriff Crabtree said that it was his understanding that once the City funded the department in the 4<sup>th</sup> year, then the City would meet its grant obligation.

There was some discussion about other small cities that are struggling with their police departments and are looking at moving away from having their own departments.

There was some discussion about the costs of full time and part time deputies through the Yamhill County Sheriff's Office and Sheriff Crabtree said that he didn't have the exact numbers with him, but he would be willing to come back to the Council with a complete breakdown of costs. He estimated a full time deputy would cost \$70-77,000 per year.

Gary Filpi asked about the costs and time involved with training a reserve officer. Sheriff Crabtree said that the academy takes 6-9 months, and then they have to log a certain amount of patrol time with a deputy before they can go solo. It would probably take at least 2 years to train a new reserve before they could go solo.

There was some discussion about funding future law enforcement and some of the ideas were putting a levy on the ballot or putting a surcharge on the utility bills to fund police services. Diane Rinks suggested sending out a survey to the residents to see what level of service they would like to see and how much they would be willing to pay for that service. The Council agreed that sending out a survey would be a good idea. Staff will prepare this survey to go out in the July 1 water bill.

Sheriff Crabtree said that if the Council decides to enter into a contract with the Yamhill County Sheriff's Office again, he would like to meet with the Council to set priorities for how the deputies time would be spent (code enforcement, traffic, etc.).

There was some discussion about looking into asking the voters to annex the City's fire department into another fire district, which would free up a significant amount of money in the general fund and could be used to pay for law enforcement. The Council decided not to discuss this further at this time.

The consensus of the Council is to hold a Town Hall Meeting on July 15, 2004, 7:00 p.m. at Lafayette Community Church to gather input from the citizens on the City's law enforcement options.

**5. ADJOURN:**

Edwina Meitzen made a motion to adjourn. Ron Ross seconded the motion. There was no discussion and the motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 8:46 p.m.

**Minutes approved on this 8<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2004.**

**APPROVED:**

**ATTESTED:**

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Mayor Lotis Hanks

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Diane Rinks, City Administrator