



DeKalb County Government

Manuel J. Maloof Center
1300 Commerce Drive
Decatur, Georgia 30030

Minutes

ERPS-Employee Relations & Public Safety Committee

Tuesday, August 1, 2023

2:15 PM

Meeting Started At: 2:41 PM

Attendees: Commissioners Terry, Davis Johnson, Bradshaw, Cochran Johnson, Long Spears, Patrick

Present 3 - Commissioner Ted Terry, Commissioner Steve Bradshaw, and Mereda Davis Johnson

I. MINUTES

2023-0930 Commission District(s): All
Minutes for the July 18, 2023, Employee Relations, and Public Safety Committee Meeting
MOTION was made by Steve Bradshaw, seconded by Mereda Davis Johnson, that this agenda item be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 3 - Commissioner Terry, Commissioner Bradshaw, and Davis Johnson

II. AGENDA ITEM

New Agenda Items:

Police Services

[2023-0831](#) Commission District(s): All
REN - Contract Nos.: 1263031 and 1264032 Batteries For
Two-Way Radios (Annual Contract - 2nd Renewal of 2 Options To
Renew): for use by the Departments of Public Safety Police
Services (PS) and Fire Rescue. These contracts consist of providing
batteries for two-way Radios. This request seeks to exercise the 2nd
renewal option through August 31, 2024. Awarded to: Motorola
Solutions and Two-Way Direct, Inc. Total Amount Not To
Exceed: \$142,000.00.

**MOTION was made by Mereda Davis Johnson, seconded by
Steve Bradshaw, that this agenda item be recommended for
approval. to the Board of Commissioners, due back on
8/8/2023. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Yes: 3 - Commissioner Terry, Commissioner Bradshaw, and Davis
Johnson**

Information provided by Chief Fullum

[2023-0896](#) Commission District(s): ALL
CO - Change Order No. 3 to Contract No. 1257650 Body Worn™
Body Camera System (Multi-Year): for use by the Marshal's Office,
and Departments of Public Safety Police Services (PS) and Animal
Services. This contract consists of the purchase of BodyWorn™
Comprehensive Camera Systems and supporting hardware and
software accessories. This request seeks an increase to contract funds
for the upgrade of RiOT devices in new police vehicles. Awarded to:
Utility Associates, Inc. Amount Not To Exceed: \$113,000.00.

**MOTION was made by Mereda Davis Johnson, seconded by Steve
Bradshaw, that this agenda item be recommended for approval. to
the Board of Commissioners, due back on 8/8/2023. The motion
carried by the following vote:**

Yes: 3 - Commissioner Terry, Commissioner Bradshaw, and Davis Johnson

Information provided by Chief Ramos

Previously Heard Items:

Board of Commissioners - District 6

[2023-0679](#)

Commission District(s): All DeKalb County Commission Districts
A Budget Resolution for DeKalb County Repurposing Unspent
Police Budget Funds for Community Services and Recruitment
Investments

**MOTION was made by Mereda Davis Johnson, seconded by
Steve Bradshaw, that this agenda item be recommended for
deferral to the Board of Commissioners, due back on 8/8/2023.
The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Yes: 3 - Commissioner Terry, Commissioner Bradshaw, and Davis
Johnson**

Information provided by Commissioner Terry

Question MDJ: To chief Ramos, have there been any discussions with your departments and Commissioner Terry about police funds?

Ramos: No

Question MDJ: Please describe the monies that he speaks of or if there are any remaining funds

Additional information provided by COO Williams

Question TT: what is the current vacancy rate and are we fully funding those vacant positions

COO: we can provide that information. Additional details provided.

Question MDJ: Commissioner did you not find it necessary to discuss this proposal with the user department?

Response provided by Commissioner Terry

Question TT: To director Sigler, can you provide your update?

Additional comments provided by Commissioner Davis Johnson and Terry

COO: I would anticipate remaining fund balance at the end of the year. Regarding this item are you looking for specific programs?

TT: I would look to support police recruitment incentives or education opportunities for current officers, support community service aides, police athletic league and other incentives that could be expanded. Additional information provided.

Question SB: How much money are we talking about in designated funds for the proposed repurposing?

COO: We can get that.

TT: I believe it is around 8 million, 25% would be 2 million

Question SB: How have these kinds of monies been allocated in the past?

COO: I believe we categorize these differently than terms provided. However we got through this process each year through our mid-year process for increases in different lines of service. I can tell you we are anticipating more CSA Officers as mentioned. Additional information provided

Question SB: Commissioner Terry are you looking for action today?

Terry: No, I believe the budget is coming forth and I think it would be beneficial to committee of jurisdiction to discuss

SB: request response from Police chief on the effect of this item

Question LCJ: Would the 25% include any funds associated with recruitment?

COO: What I understand is we would be taking an anticipated 2 million out of the anticipated reserve at the end of the year and repurpose. Additional context provided

Question LCJ: Your taking an all-encompassing approach. as it relates to recruitment I believe those funds should remain. My concern is the provided triple overtime. Once federal funds run out how will we support current overtime levels?

MDJ: I support what has been stated and want to add that we also look at retention. Additional comments provided by Commissioner Davis Johnson

Additional comments provided by commissioner Terry

Question TT: when can we expect a mid-year adjustment?

COO: I would expect you will receive something around the 15th

TT: Then I request we bring this back to the 8/15 ERPS. If not then we can schedule a special called meeting to discuss the mid year budget

MDJ: motion to defer to 8/15 ERPS

III. DISCUSSION

Public Safety MOUs

Information provided by Commissioner Terry

Additional information and background provided by Chief Ramos

Ramos: We do assist with municipalities in emergencies we cannot come to routine calls.

Comments provided by Commissioner Davis Johnson

Questions TT: as it relates to non-emergency or coverage presence, what is the terms for boundaries sharing

Ramos: I think that if it's that close we do survey the area but it's difficult to commit to jurisdiction or area because of our responsibilities to unincorporated DeKalb citizens and our own staffing concerns.

Question TT: Can you lay out the three strategies you provided to Clarkston?

Context provided by COO Williams

Question TT: Have you received any response?

COO: there dialogue nothing has been committed. Response to mutual aid would probably require and intergovernmental agreement.

Question TT: that includes off duty police ?

COO: I believe so. It's a pretty specific need the city has relayed

Question TT: Can you expound on the operational impacts of these proposals? If there was support of the triple overtime from commissioners, would that be voluntary from officers, and not a requirement?

COO: Yes

Question TT: where ARP funds used for triple over time?

COO: I don't believe ARP 2 funds were, I believe the police budget was used for that

Question TT: My understanding salary supplanting is an allowed use.

COO: I believe so, some things have changed since the federal emergency status changed. We can get back to you

Question TT: as it relates to stone mountain trail, that is maintained by parks. In the past it has been proposed of regular patrol of the trail. Are there opportunities there for the parks to partner with cities to provide some coverage and be present?

COO: I don't see why we couldn't do coordinated patrol if it's not already happening. We can discuss what that looks like.

TT: Please work with my office and commissioners who districts are impacted on these proposed strategies

Question MDJ: We can't force the city to do something they may not want to do. I would think they would need to be the ones to ask

COO: My expectation is the city would create a formal ask.

Comments provided by Commissioner Terry

Question MDJ: if we provide police to cities, or to Clarkston, does that mean we are agreeing to pay for that for the city?

COO: and long term agreement would be outlined in a service agreement. We haven't gotten that the level of detail needed. Additional comments provided

Meeting Ended At: 3:30 PM

MOTION was made by Mereda Davis Johnson, seconded by Steve Bradshaw, that this agenda item be adjourned meeting. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 3 - Commissioner Terry, Commissioner Bradshaw, and Davis Johnson

Barbara H. Sanders-Norwood CCC, CMC