

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY
COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COEUR D' ALENE, IDAHO,
HELD AT THE LIBRARY COMMUNITY ROOM

March 19, 2024

The Mayor and Council of the City of Coeur d' Alene met in a regular session of said Council at the Coeur d' Alene City Library Community Room on March 19, 2024, at 6:00pm., there being present the following members:

James Hammond, Mayor

Woody McEvers)	Members of Council Present
Christie Wood)	
Dan Gookin)	
Kiki Miller)	
Dan English)	
Amy Evans)	

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Hammond called the meeting to order.

INVOCATION: Michael Maksimowicz with Ignite World Ministries led the Invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Councilmember Miller led the pledge of allegiance.

PRESENTATIONS:

James Fillmore, DarkSky Delegate, accepted the Proclamation declaring April 2-8, 2024 as International DarkSky Week. He noted that the proclamation aims to raise awareness of the splendor of the night sky and the risk caused by inappropriate lighting. Mr. Fillmore said that he gave talks in schools and with private groups and has been frequently told about bright, non-shielded lights across streets or alleyways that bother people at night, affecting their sleep. He also mentioned that aside from human health issues, excessive night lighting also affects wildlife such as birds and insects. With the rise of housing developments in Coeur d'Alene and Post Falls, Mr. Fillmore said that smart lighting ordinances enhance development, and offered himself as a resource person for the city in the development of modern smart code amendments geared towards safety and protection of the human health, wildlife habitat, and having an awesome night sky.

Mayor Hammond read the Proclamation declaring April 6-12, 2024 as the Week of the Young Child which was requested by the Idaho Association for the Education of Young Children. The said proclamation encourages all citizens to work to make a good investment in early childhood in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho.

Fire Chief Tom Greif, Deputy Chief of Operations Jeff Sells, and EMS Officer Steven Jones provided a report regarding the Coeur d'Alene Fire Department (CDAFD) operations. Mr. Greif said that the Fire Department constantly measures and reevaluates their service delivery and is

always on the lookout for opportunities to enhance it. He said that they wanted to report on their response analytics in support of their upcoming request for approval of a third General Obligation Bond in May 2025 which will include replacement of fire apparatus fleet, upgrade and expansion of fire stations, and possible request of additional resources.

Deputy Chief of Operations Jeff Sells noted that they are now using a new reporting software, the NFPA 1710, and started implementing in October which gave them the extra ability to track statistics that they didn't have the ability to track before. He said that in 2023, the CDAFD responded to 10,022 incidents where 78% were EMS of which 113 are cardiac arrest incidents; while 22% were coded as fire incidents composed of 8% calls for assistance, 4% fire alarms, 8% as "other fires," and 2% were structure fires. He explained that NFPA 1710 establishes parameters that they try to comply with regarding staffing and chute times or the time when they received the alarm until they are rolling out the door plus the travel time. He said that their goal is to have 4 minutes or less travel time, noting that only a few districts needed improvement. He specifically noted that the response started crawling over the 4 minutes mark in the areas which include: the hospital district at 3minutes, 58seconds; south of I-90 at 4minutes, and Atlas corridor at 6minutes, 27seconds. Mr. Sells said that the average response time to a reported structure fire was 5 minutes, 38 seconds, and the average response time for full first alarm was 10 minutes, 37 seconds, which is behind the NFPA 1710 recommendation of 8 minutes. Councilmember McEvers asked about the difference between the first and second alarm, to which Mr. Sells answered that the first alarm deploys 14 firefighters on the scene composed of the Battalion Chief, two engines, a ladder truck, and two ambulances; the second alarm adds another Battalion Chief, two more engines and a support vehicle; and then the third alarm gets another Battalion Chief, three more engines and support vehicle. He explained that these response plans are built not just for structure fires but also to consider mass casualty or aircraft accidents. He added that the NFPA 1710 also recommends deployment of 43 firefighters on first alarm of a high-rise fire.

In terms of ambulance response to incidents for the six months period from March 1 – August 31, 2021 to 2023 when Medic 34 was put in service, Mr. Sells reported that the call volume for Medic 31 and 32 decreased by 194 calls. Because of Medic 34, they were able to absorb more calls and still reduce the number of calls for the other two ambulances. Councilmember Gookin requested clarification if there is a demarcation line on calls, with Mr. Sells replying that the ambulances will also respond outside of the city. He added that EMS measure is to achieve 8 minutes response time which they were able to achieve with the addition of Medic 34. Councilmember McEvers asked for the difference of response time between EMS and fire. Mr. Sells clarified that the 4 minutes response time is travel time for structure fire but it also applies to EMS because the assumption in NFPA 1710 is that all engines are basic life support (BLS) and all ambulances are advance life support (ALS), hence the standard is BLS on scene within 4 minutes and ALS on scene within 8 minutes. He further explained that NFPA 1710 is a standard that helps the fire department determine staffing levels and travel times. Councilmember Wood asked what the city has done in the last 10 years and how we compare it with other cities, with Mr. Sells explaining that it is hard to compare with other cities as every fire district manages differently.

EMS Officer Steven Jones noted that in 2023, they had 113 reported cardiac arrests, 60 of which are true cardiac arrests in nature, and they were able to gain return of spontaneous circulation at 52% of the time. Mr. Jones said that they also provided CPR training to over 190 residents in