

**Orting Public Safety Committee Meeting
City Hall Council Chambers
September 7, 2023**

ATTENDANCE Tod Gunther, Chair/Councilmember
 Don Tracy, Chair/Councilmember
 Scott Larson, City Administrator
 Chief Devon Gabreluk, Orting Police Dept.
 Kristin Wetzel, Orting Police Dept.

Call to Order at 8:15 AM

AGENDA ITEMS

Approval of August 2023 Minutes

East Pierce County Peer Support Team (EPCPST)

- Lt. Ed Turner briefed the committee on our department's desire to be an active participant in EPCPST. The group, formed in 2021, provides various services aimed at supporting emotional wellness for law enforcement personnel and their families. Funding for EPCPST has been provided through grants. The department's goal is to have one or two officers trained as peer support team members. In addition to Orting, the program also includes the cities of Puyallup, Sumner, Bonney Lake and Buckley.

Monthly Crime Statistics

- The committee reviewed all 374 August calls for service.

2024 Legislative Priorities

- The City Administrator briefly discussed public safety 2024 legislative priorities. He reported that several area cities have been meeting and combining efforts to lobby for some common public safety goals. He highlighted current laws regarding police pursuits, property crime and juvenile suspects as areas of mutual city/Pierce County interest. This topic will be discussed

Lateral Officer Incentives

- The committee discussed the nationwide challenges law enforcement currently faces regarding the recruitment, hiring and retention of police officers. The department highlighted particular difficulty with attracting lateral police candidates. The group discussed hiring/retention incentives. The committee requested this topic be discussed at the next committee meeting. City administration was requested to provide three or more potential incentive options.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:55 AM

