

**LEWISVILLE PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE**  
**Digitally originating in Council Chambers - Town Hall 1<sup>st</sup> Flr - 6510 Shallowford Road**  
Meeting Agenda  
September 7, 2021 - 5:30 p.m.

Please click the link below to join the webinar:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81024758854?pwd=eUVlUmZUVEo5Y1FSMWo0RGp3cTFoZz09>

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Or

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**I. Call to Order**

- A. Chair Harlan Cobert called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. Committee members present were Dale Harriman, Warren McMahan and Ronald Morris. Also present was Vienna Fire Chief Tim Lasley. Chris Cobert was excused.

**II. Approval of Agenda**

- A. Ronald Morris moved to approve the agenda.

**III. Approval of Minutes**

- A. August 3, 2021
1. A typing error was found in IX.B.1. The last letter in Ronald's name needed to be corrected from an E to a D.
  2. With that correction, Ronald Morris moved to approve the August 3, 2021 minutes. The motion was seconded by Dale Harriman and approved with a roll call vote of ayes from Committee members Harriman, McMahan, Morris and Chair Cobert.

**IV. Public Safety Reports**

- A. Forsyth County Sheriff's Office
1. Sgt. Stringer was not available.
- B. Lewisville Fire Department
1. Chief Needham was not yet present.
- C. Vienna Fire Department
1. Chief Lasley reported on the following:
    - a. A water curtain was provided by both departments at the opening of the new middle school followed later by a flag raising.
    - b. The school was toured on August 30.
      - (1) Lock boxes were checked.
      - (2) The sprinkler connection was located.
      - (3) Information was gathered for 911.
      - (4) Locations to deploy were discussed.
    - c. The department is on track with calls.
    - d. They are still having issues with staffing because of COVID.

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- e. He worked with Deputy Funkhouser in the am.

Chief Needham was electronically admitted to the meeting.

- 2. Chief Needham provided his report.
  - a. His department is short staffed as is the county.
  - b. Aprile will be retiring after 21 years of service as an administrative assistant.
    - (1) Interviews are being scheduled.
    - (2) The position may be filled as either full or part time.
    - (3) The department is considering an additional fire administrator in addition to the administrative assistant.
      - (a) The position has been unfunded since 2001.
  - c. EMS response discussed.
    - (1) There is a staffing issue not just in Forsyth County but also most of the larger counties...more calls for service.
    - (2) Fire Departments are not being dispatched on all calls.
      - (a) There is a protocol for dispatching emergency medical in the 911 center to reduce exposure.
      - (b) Chief Needham will be speaking with the center on this protocol.
        - i) He also thinks the public needs to be educated on who responds to what to alleviate complaints.
    - (3) Volunteers need to be encouraged to help with staffing.
    - (4) A *Citizens' Fire Academy*, similar to the one in Winston, would be helpful.
  - d. Increasing social media presence would be helpful in educating the public.

**V. Guests**

- A. None.

**VI. Membership**

- A. Council approved the resignation of Bill Lorentz at their August 12, 2021 meeting.

**VII. Old Business**

- A. Comprehensive Plan goals
  - 1. Everyone was asked to review the goals for the committee found in the Comprehensive Plan and to look at the implementation information.
    - a. As an example, outdoor burning is one item for the committee to review. This is in Chapter 7 of Health and Safety as an item to

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improve air quality.

- (1) There was discussion on the many tentacles of trying change the outdoor burning policy.
  - (2) The chiefs explained that open burning is generally complaint driven and that the burn has to be declared a nuisance before the fire is extinguished.
  - (3) Residents need to be educated on how to dispose of yard waste without burning.
- b. Another example of discussion was lighting at dark intersections.
- (1) Mr. Cobert noted that more lights might be needed with more sidewalks.
- c. All of these subjects are noted as in the Comprehensive Plan with possible implementation methods.
2. To sum up most of the comments and discussion, the committee members felt they need to be more pro-active rather than to be reactive.
  3. There was a thought to have more outreach to the HOA's as a way to educate the public.
- B. PSAC Goals for 2021-2022
1. The suggestion was to select 1 or 2 key items to work on.
    - a. Everyone was asked to send their list to Mr. Cobert in preparation for the October meeting.
- C. Emergency Operations Plan
1. Harlan Cobert is working with the county on the EOP and as soon as the county plan is complete, the town will be able to work from that document to amend the town's document.

**VIII. New Business**

- A. None.

**IX. Announcements**

- A. Mr. Cobert announced there will be a bicycle race that will be coming through the town on September 26<sup>th</sup> (when church lets out).
- B. A copy of the charter will be forwarded to the members.

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- X. **For the Good of the Order:**
  - A. The next scheduled meeting date is **October 5, 2021.**
  - B. Adjournment

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Harlan Cobert, chair

ATTEST:

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Joyce C. McWilliams Walker, Town Clerk