

**JULY 28, 2020 PROPERTY COMMITTEE MEETING HELD JOINTLY WITH POLICE & FIRE COMMISSION
(held jointly with the County Property Committee) – MINUTES**

5:15pm – Council Members present: B. Stoneberg, M. Platteter Absent – B. Morgan – Others Present: K. Gorsegrner, K. Julien, A. Christianson, C. Schultz, M. Closs, J. Pearson. County Reps present: L. Beebe, T. Hanson, T. Hauser, K. Gibbs, D. Willingham, M. Hraban, A. Rathsack, A. Albarado, K. Winters, R. Tatur

Call to Order:

B. Stoneberg called the meeting to order.

Discussion of Police Department Lease in Rusk County's Government Center:

Discussion opened with clarification that the issues were the County not wanting to pay to store the ambulance service at the Fire Hall. Mr. Hauser submitted that the ambulance service answers roughly 50% of its calls within the City of Ladysmith, and the County should not pay rent. Mr. Rathsack added that rent is not paid to store ambulances in other villages, so Ladysmith should be no different. Mrs. Schultz claimed that we should not pay rent for the Police Department to be housed at the Government Center. Discussion continued of what the Police Department received in services from the County.

Chief Julien clarified that the reason the meeting was happening was because he did not have a contract for the space that the Department is using. He additionally did not understand why the ambulance housing was connected to the Police Department's lease. Mr. Albarado said the two were connected because there had been discussions of charging for the ambulance storage at the Fire Hall. That language has been removed, and a separate document now address the ambulance lease independent of the Police Department lease. Mr. Julien stated that he has no issues with the terms of the lease, and has been withholding payment until he has a lease, but will release payment as soon as the lease materializes.

Discussion continued about the details of services provided by the PD and the Sheriff's Dept.

Mr. Albarado clarified that there are now separate leases, but the County still wants the ambulance lease signed before they sign the Police Department lease. D. Willingham got the specific rent amounts, gave some history on how the ambulance got where it is. He feels we should sign the PD lease, and deal with the ambulance separately. He added that leveraging one against the other is not appropriate.

Motion by Mr. Platteter that a recommendation be made to Council to not charge Rusk County for ambulance storage. Second by B. Stoneberg. Motion carried 2 – 0.

Adjourn at 5:45