

Minutes and Proceedings of the City  
Council of the City Of Emily in the  
County of Crow Wing, State of Minnesota

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May 30, 2008  
**SPECIAL MEETING**

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The Emily City Council met for a Special Meeting on Friday, May 30, 2008 in the Council Chambers and was called to order by Mayor George Pepek at 11:00 a.m. Council members George Pepek, Gerhart Hanson, Joan Hite, and Dan Barrett were present. Kent Rees was absent. Also present were City of Emily Attorney, Steve Qualley, Police Chief, John Reed, and City Clerk, Patricia Kestner.

The purpose of the Special Meeting was to discuss the position of Director of Public Safety and/or its connection and interrelationship with the First Responder Unit.

Mayor Pepek reported that the Police Chief was put in charge of the 1<sup>st</sup> Response Unit after they had disbanded. Chief Reed acknowledged that was true. Reed said he had volunteered to be the Director of Public Safety and set up an advisory committee with some of the original 1<sup>st</sup> Responders. Recently Gordy Huff resigned and the Unit voted in Jon Friesner as the new Chief of the 1<sup>st</sup> Response Unit. After that Reed has received complaints on how Jon has been running the unit. Chief Friesner wanted all the records which would go against all of the policies. Barrett stated the Jon Friesner and Mariann Guentzel wanted the records to keep up with all of the training. As Council Liaison he has not heard any complaints. Jon is enthusiastic. The AED is the only complaint. Reed has been dealing with the contracted company. The complaints have been because of Jon's style of leadership such as not making all of the meetings and the calls. Reed heard that he was self appointed as Director of Public Safety and it was not self appointed. Barrett said when Friesner came in as Chief, he received no files. Reed said he told Friesner that on Friday they would talk. Barrett had called and asked about the files. Reed feels that Friesner went over Reed's head by calling Barrett. The need for the Director of Public Safety does not apply anymore. Hanson said that a few years ago when it came up to drop the Director, the 1<sup>st</sup> Response Unit wanted him to stay on. The drug testing results should be in the Clerk's office. Reed is not a member of the 1<sup>st</sup> Response Unit.

The defibrillator needs to be fixed because it is giving three shocks and it should be only one. The Chief and the Assistant Chief received a verbal lashing from Reed. Pepek said the Chief and Assistant were looking for a date that it would be updated. Hite said there is a brick wall that the unit can not get through. Barrett told Jon Friesner that he would back Jon to run the Unit. Reed said the position was designed to be temporary. Hanson told Reed that he has done a great job but it is time to let the Unit run itself. We need to give them a chance. Barrett said they are all volunteers and it is a hindrance to get the work done when they have to call to get information.

**COUNCILMEMBER BARRETT MADE THE MOTION TO DISSOLVE THE POSITION OF DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SAFETY. COUNCILMEMBER HITE SECONDED. HANSON WOULD LIKE TO HAVE A LETTER OF THANKS SENT OUT. MOTION CARRIED.**

**COUNCILMEMBER HANSON MADE THE MOTION TO DIRECT 1<sup>ST</sup> RESPONSE CHIEF TO AMEND THE 1<sup>ST</sup> RESPONSE POLICY AND PROCEDURES ELIMINATING THE TITLE OF DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SAFETY AND PRESENT THE CHANGES TO THE 1<sup>ST</sup> RESPONSE UNIT FOR APPROVAL AND THEN THE APPROVED POLICY AND PROCEDURES TO THE COUNCIL. COUNCILMEMBER BARRETT SECONDED AND MOTION CARRIED.** Attorney Qualley will look over the document.

Reed will send an email to the Clerk with a copy of the Policy and Procedures and all of the info regarding the AED. Reed claims he had no control over the inventory. Hanson said the Council will have to waive the fees the City paid for schooling for Birkholtz. This will be on the next agenda.

**COUNCILMEMBER HITE MADE THE MOTION TO ADJOURN THE MEETING. COUNCILMEMBER BARRETT SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED.**

The meeting adjourned at 12:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Patricia Kestner  
City Clerk