

CITY OF EAGLE LAKE

November 18, 2019

SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA

Council Chambers, 705 Parkway Ave at **7:00 p.m.**

The City Council is provided with background information for agenda items in advance by staff, committees and boards. Many decisions regarding agenda items are based upon this information, as well as City policy and practices, input from constituents and Council Members' personal judgment. If you have any comments, questions or information that has not yet been presented or discussed regarding an agenda item, please ask to be recognized by the Mayor during the "Open Public Comments" section on the agenda. Please state your name and address for the record. All comments are appreciated.

CALL TO ORDER

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL

____ Auringer ____ Short ____ Steinberg ____ Terrell ____ Ries

OPEN PUBLIC COMMENTS

Persons may take one opportunity to address the council for three minutes on a topic not on the agenda. Persons commenting on consent agenda may use this opportunity to speak. There will be no discussion or action taken at that time. This is merely to inform the City Council of your issue(s) or concern(s) and for City staff to do further research.

AGENDA

1. Proposal to Restructure the Police Department Creating a 3rd Full-Time Officer Position

ADJOURNMENT



705 Parkway Ave, PO Box 159, Eagle Lake, MN 56024
(507) 257-3218 Phone (507) 257-3220 Fax

November 18, 2019

To: Honorable Mayor Auringer and City Council
From: Jennifer J. Bromeland, City Administrator
Re: Restructuring of Police Department to Create 3rd Full-Time Police Officer Position

In response to both a request from Police Chief John Kopp and members of the public for the addition of a 3rd full-time police officer, the Personnel Committee recommends after very careful consideration that the police chief position be eliminated by contracting with the Blue Earth County Sheriff's Office for police department administration and supervision. The Sheriff's Department would appoint the chief deputy or a deputy to serve as the Chief Law Enforcement Officer (CLEO) for the City of Eagle Lake. Under this plan, the City would remain the employer of all full and part-time police officers and could create a 3rd full-time police officer position of which the current police chief would be offered. **At this time, under this plan no increase to the budget is projected, but ultimately will be determined by how much time the CLEO is needed in Eagle Lake and how much additional training will be required for the officers.** Blue Earth County has indicated that all the current Eagle Lake police officers, including the police chief, will likely be required to go through a 12-week field training course to ensure that all officers are properly trained. This restructuring plan models the current system in place in the city of Lake Crystal and would allow Eagle Lake to provide more effective and efficient police services by adding a 3rd full-time officer while retaining ownership of its police department and utilizing taxpayer dollars wisely.

In 2015, the city of Lake Crystal formally entered into a contract with Blue Earth County for police supervision services while retaining full and part-time officers as employees of the city of Lake Crystal. The city of Lake Crystal's police chief retired in 2011 with the Blue Earth County Sheriff's Department providing supervision of the Lake Crystal Police Department effective January 1, 2012. Due to the success of the arrangement, a formal agreement was put into place in 2015 between the Sheriff's Department and Lake Crystal.

The salary range for a full-time police officer in Eagle Lake: **\$20.78-\$24.83.**

The projected cost to hire a 3rd full-time police officer in Eagle Lake without insurance and starting at step 1: **\$55,928.59.**

The projected cost to hire a 3rd full-time police officer in Eagle Lake with insurance and starting at step 1: **\$75,169.08.**

The projected cost for Eagle Lake to contract with Blue Earth County Sheriff's Department for Chief Law Enforcement Official duties: **\$16,000** (the actual amount will depend on how much time is needed – would be billed on an hourly basis).


Lake Crystal (Population: 2,545) Contract with BE County Sheriff's Department for Police Supervision – Charged by the hourly rate			
2016	2017	2018	2019 - YTD
\$8,458.23	\$7,710.80	\$7,106.85	\$5,661.44

After careful consideration, the Personnel Committee recommends that the chief of police position be eliminated with police supervision services being outsourced to the Blue Earth County Sheriff's Department for the purpose of creating a 3rd full-time police officer position while making the department more effective and efficient and addressing concerns from the public about the need for more coverage. All police employees will be employees of the City of Eagle Lake and all vehicles and equipment will remain under the ownership of the City of Eagle Lake.

The Sheriff's Department is receptive to providing police administrative and supervision services. It should be clear that the Sheriff's Department did not reach out to the City with this proposal.

Chief Deputy Mike Maurer and Captain Paul Barta with the Blue Earth County Sheriff's Department will attend the meeting.

If you are ready to act on the recommendation this evening, then a motion to that effect is necessary. Included in the motion should be authorization given to City Administrator and Mayor to enter into an agreement with the Blue Earth County Sheriff's Department for police administrative and supervision services, contingent upon the review and approval of the document by the City Attorney.


 Jennifer J. Bromeland
 City Administrator