

# **EDMONDS CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING APPROVED MINUTES February 25, 2020**

## **ELECTED OFFICIALS PRESENT**

Mike Nelson, Mayor  
Adrienne Fraley-Monillas, Council President  
Kristiana Johnson, Councilmember  
Luke Distelhorst, Councilmember  
Diane Buckshnis, Councilmember  
Vivian Olson, Councilmember  
Susan Paine, Councilmember  
Laura Johnson, Councilmember

## **STAFF PRESENT**

Phil Williams, Public Works Director  
Shane Hope, Development Services Director  
Jessica Neill Hoyson, HR Director  
Jeff Taraday, City Attorney  
Scott Passey, City Clerk  
Jerrie Bevington, Camera Operator  
Jeannie Dines, Recorder

## **ALSO PRESENT**

Zach Bauder, Student Representative

### **1. CALL TO ORDER**

The Edmonds City Council special meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Mayor Nelson in the Council Chambers, 250 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue North, Edmonds.

### **2. PRESENTATION**

#### **1. ANNUAL REPORT – SOUTH COUNTY FIRE AND RESCUE**

Interim Fire Chief Doug Dahl introduced Assistant Chief Thad Hovis, Deputy Chief Bob Eastman and Board of Fire Commissioners Chair Jim Kenny. He explained tonight is the first of two required presentations, an overview of the data and the compliance report. They will be back on March 24<sup>th</sup> with the full Board to answer any further questions. He announced after 32 years, he will be retiring at the end of March. It has been a pleasure to serve Edmonds; he started his career and spent his first 20 years in Edmonds. As the transitional period includes mentoring and succession, Assistant Chief Hovis will provide the report tonight.

Assistant Chief Hovis explained this is a high level overview; they will be back on March 24<sup>th</sup> to go into more depth with the full Commission and senior staff. He reviewed:

- Map of South County Fire Service Area
  - 50 square miles
  - 250k+ residents
  - 14 fire stations
  - In 2019, SCF increased from 255 full-time employees to 267
  - Daytime staffing (8 AM to 8 PM): 60 personnel
  - Nighttime staffing (8 PM to 8 AM): 54 personnel
- Serving our citizens

- Fires
- Medical emergencies
- Motor vehicle collisions
- Hazardous materials incidents
- Rescues
- Marine responses
- Other hazards and emergency situations
- Emergency medical services
  - Our most requested service: 85% of calls are dispatched as EMS
  - All firefighters are emergency medical technicians or paramedics
  - Paramedic on duty 24 hours/day at each station
  - Cardiac save rate consistently above 50% and exceeds state and national reporting average
- Community paramedics
  - Non-emergency service to help reduce 911 calls and hospital use
  - Serves older adults, mental health patients, disabled people, homeless and veterans
  - Breaks down barriers and create access to care
  - By the numbers in Edmonds
    - 140 enrollments
    - 143 visits
    - 540 phone calls
    - 66 emails, texts and fax contacts
  - For Edmonds patients enrolled in the program in the first half of 2019
    - 30% reduction in 911 calls
    - 22% reduction in emergency department visits
- Regional Training
  - Working with other county departments to regionalize training:
    - Snohomish County Fire Training Academy
    - Snohomish County Fire Training Consortium
  - Sharing instructors and expertise
  - Reducing duplicated efforts
  - Breaking down borders with neighboring fire agencies will allow us to work together more effectively on mutual aid incidents
- Fire Prevention
  - By the numbers in Edmonds
    - 216 business license inspections
    - 1,461 maintenance/follow up inspections
    - 628 construction inspections (707 hours)
    - 198 compliance inspections
    - 26 special event inspections
    - 573 plan review hours
    - 80% of single family homes constructed had sprinkler systems installed (41 out of 51 homes built)
- Major Edmonds projects:
  - Edmonds Post Office Phase II
  - Edmonds Senior Center
  - Main Street Commons
  - Anthology Senior Living
  - Graphite Studios
  - Graphite Apartments
  - Westgate Village
  - Magic Toyota

- Westgate Apartments
- Doug's Mazda Service Center
- Doug's Mazda
- GRE Apartments (192 units)
- Community Outreach
  - By the numbers in Edmonds
    - 145 smoke alarms installed
    - 935 students reached through school visits
    - 115 reached through fire department presentations
    - 6,710 reached through community events
    - 524 reached through South County Fire open houses
    - 36 car seats checked for Edmonds residents
- Community Outreach Events
  - EMS Week Open House and Teddy Bear Clinic at downtown Edmonds Fire Station 17
    - 350 people attended
    - Next open house: May 16th
  - Neighborhood Nights at Fire Stations 20 and 16
    - 100 people attended each
    - Next open house at Station 20: November 12th
  - Fourth of July Parade
  - Taste Edmonds
- Outreach Classes: ACT First Aid
  - More than 8,000 trained to date, Goal: 10,000 by EMS Week May 2020
  - In just one hour, ACT teaches 3 skills you can use to save a life in those first few minutes before firefighters arrive
    - Antidote for opiate overdose
    - CPR/AED for cardiac arrest
    - Tourniquet for bleeding control
  - Trained 1800 people in Edmonds since ACT began in 2018
- Outreach: Disaster Preparedness
  - Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) training twice a year
  - NEW: Family Preparedness Class
    - Free 2-hour training
    - Seven classes scheduled for 2020
- Community Risk Reduction
  - One of 25 departments in the nation selected to participate in a grant-funded pilot project on assessing community risks
  - Data-driven process
  - Identify, prioritize and plan to reduce risks specific to the communities we serve
- Emergency Response
  - 2019 by the numbers and contact-required metrics
- How Many Calls?
  - Total incidents in the City of Edmonds in 2019: 5,486
  - 2015: 5,291
  - 2016: 5,294
  - 2017: 5,215
  - 2018: 5,555
  - 2019: 5,486 – 69 fewer incidences than 2018
- What Type of Calls:
  - 85% of calls are dispatched as emergency medical aid
    - 54% Basic Life Support (BLS)

- 31% Advanced Life Support (ALS)
  - 10% Fire
  - 5% Other
- Response Times
  - Looks at 8-minute response time in four categories
  - This measures Sno911’s call receipt to arrival
  - Comparison of data for 2017, 2018 and 2019
  - Response times are getting longer in Edmonds
  - Percentage of calls within 8 minutes or less
    - 2017 79.99%
    - 2018 75.72%
    - 2019 73.45%
  - Response time on 90 percent of calls in this category
    - 2017: 0:09:13
    - 2018: 0:09:29
    - 2019: 0:09:42
- Turnout time
  - Measures the time from when 911 call is dispatched to the time the apparatus leaves the station
  - The reporting standard in the contract is different from the city’s adopted standard in the 1756 compliance report: 2:15 (contract) vs. 2:45 (compliance report)
  - South County Fire meets and exceeds the city adopted standard of 2:45 (93.02%)
  - Turnout time percentage at 2:15
    - 2017 76.20%
    - 2018 75.44%
    - 2019 82.34%
  - 90% turnout time
    - 2017 2:46
    - 2018 2:49
    - 2019 2:34
- Neighboring Unit Utilization Factor (NUUF)
  - What it evaluates:
    - Response of units across jurisdictional boundaries
  - What the numbers mean:
    - 100% = an equal balance of cross-jurisdictional response
    - Contract considers 90%-110% to be within balance range
    - Over 100% = units from neighboring jurisdictions are responding into Edmonds more than Edmonds units are responding outside the city
  - Why does this matter?
    - We have a regional emergency delivery system
    - This evaluates if level of service decisions in one jurisdiction negatively impact a neighboring jurisdiction
- Neighboring Unit Utilization

	2017	2018	2019
<b>Mountlake Terrace</b>	135.30%	133.07%	130.28%
<b>Lynnwood</b>	148.30%	202.06%	210.41%
<b>RFA</b>	--	147.61%	161.60%

- Neighboring fire units respond into Edmonds more than Edmonds units respond into neighboring jurisdictions
  - Mountlake Terrace units: 30.3% more into Edmonds
  - Lynnwood units: 110.4% more into Edmonds
  - RFA units: 61.6% more into Edmonds

- Unit Hour Utilization Factor (UHUF)
  - What it evaluates: Percentage of time a fire unit is on a call
  - What the numbers mean: The higher the number, the busier the unit is
    - Unit Hour Utilization Factor is up for Edmonds stations, but within compliance with contract standards
    - This number is up at all Edmonds fire station
    - 20% is the trigger to start looking at deployment options and additional resources

- Unit Hour Utilization

	2017	2018	2019
<b>Station 16</b>	15.10%	15.06%	14.72%
<b>Station 17</b>	14.60%	13.11%	11.75%
<b>Station 20</b>	16.30%	17.36%	17.40%

- Transport Balancing Factor (TBF)
  - Looks at the balance between:
    - EDMONDS → OUTSIDE CITY
      - The number of times Edmonds-based units are doing transports outside the city
    - OUTSIDE CITY → EDMONDS
      - The number of times South County Fire units based outside the city are doing transports in Edmonds
    - A factor of 1.0 means = in balance
  - In 2019, the factor was over 1.0
    - OUTSIDE CITY units transporting in Edmonds MORE THAN Edmonds units transporting OUTSIDE CITY
    - Jan-June 1.113
    - July-Dec 1.314
    - 2019 1.213

	Jan-Jun	Jul-Dec	2019
<b>RFA transports in the City</b>	236	276	512
<b>Edmonds transports not in the City</b>	212	210	422
<b>TBF</b>	1,113	1,314	1,213

- Other required metrics
  - Transport fees billed and collected in Edmonds and Esperance

	Edmonds Billed	Edmonds Collected	Esperance Billed	Esperance Collected
<b>2017</b>	\$2,095,695	\$781,506	\$100,894	\$44,978
<b>2018</b>	\$2,374,490	\$1,013,928	\$135,776	\$53,080
<b>2019</b>	2,310,729	\$973,880	\$118,595	\$48,838

- Shoreline units into Edmonds (measured in incident responses)
  - 2017 69
  - 2018 103
  - 2019 119
- Edmonds units into Shoreline (measured in incident responses)
  - 2017 65
  - 2018 69
  - 2019 65
- Edmonds unit into Woodway (measured in seconds)
  - 2017 9,738
  - 2018 164
  - 2019 5,288

- Standards of Cover Compliance

	Standard	2017	2018	2019

Turnout Time in Standard of Cover	2:45	2:46	2:49	2:34
Turnout time in contract	2:15	2:46	2:49	2:34
First arriving engine to a fire	6:30	7:19	7:32	7:13
Full first alarm assignment at residential fire	7:45	18:06	8:32	11:36
Full first alarm assignment at commercial fire	9:00	11:55	10:57	11:49
BLS response	5:15	6:13	6:00	6:17
ALS response	6:45	7:15	5:40	6:02

As there are four new Councilmembers, Council President Fraley-Monillas requested an explanation about the location of fire stations and how that affected the frequency with which neighboring fire units respond into Edmonds. Assistant Chief Hovis responded there are many factors that go into why certain stations are busier including location, zoning, coding, traffic patterns, population density, hazards in the area, etc. The history of fire service in South County dates back 50 years; Fire District 1, 11, Edmonds, Mountlake Terrace and Lynnwood, didn't make decisions on fire station location looking at the big picture where 14 stations should be placed. Station location can affect the frequency with which neighboring fire units respond into Edmonds, but once fire stations are placed, they are very difficult to move. Chief Dahl commented Edmonds is unique in that it is located on the water with only one way into the downtown bowl area. Conversely, a Lynnwood has a 360 degree response.

Council President Fraley-Monillas asked if there were still discussions about building a fire station in a better location for service. Chief Dahl answered that is a long term decision. Looking at the capital facilities plan, decisions will need to be made as stations are getting older and need to be replaced. Today's technology allows computer placement by looking at calls and where the best location would be. If and when that is necessary, the data could be used to identify a better location. When the current stations were built, the deciding factor was where land was available.

Councilmember Buckshnis congratulated Chief Dahl on his retirement. She recalled when the contract was restructured, the redundant 24 hour units were removed but paramedics were added. Chief Dahl explained Edmonds previously had four units serving the City; a paramedic was added to each unit and paramedic response times are good. However, reducing the number of units from four to three, somehow that fourth unit has to be made up. The data shows consistently over three years the out of balance factor is maintained which will need to be discussed. Councilmember Buckshnis recalled in 2017 there was some sort of unwritten rule where one group went to another location; she will research that for the next meeting. She requested the Compliance Report be provided prior to the March meeting. Chief Dahl advised the report would be distributed tonight.

Councilmember Olson referred to the Neighboring Unit Utilization Factor graph and asked why Edmonds was not included on the graph. Deputy Chief Eastman said the graph reflects neighboring fire units responding into Edmonds more than Edmonds units respond into neighboring jurisdictions. For example, how many times Mountlake Terrace Station 19 comes into Edmonds versus how often Edmonds responds into Mountlake Terrace and how many times Lynnwood Stations 14 and 15 respond into Edmonds and how often Edmonds responds into Lynnwood's service area. The contract only requires considering NUUF for Mountlake Terrace and Lynnwood, but because they are now combined in the RFA, they also provided the RFA units responding into Edmonds versus Edmonds units responding into the RFA area.

Councilmember Olson asked how the percentages on the NUUF slide were determined. Deputy Chief Eastman explained in 2019 the NUUF for Lynnwood was 210%; 100% would be equal so the difference is 110%. Chief Dahl explained that is the way the data is reported for the contract. They could do it a different way showing Edmonds went into Lynnwood 100 times and Lynnwood came into Edmonds 200 times, 100% difference. Deputy Chief Eastman said they have the actual incident numbers in and out and could report it a different way to illustrate it better.

Councilmember Paine was hopeful the Compliance Report would include the data and she requested the PowerPoint. She said it was great to see the programs in place and was hopeful there would be more time at the next meeting to review the data. She was curious about how many times Edmonds units go into Shoreline and what the contract looks like for service into Woodway.

Chief Dahl advised he will provide Councilmembers the Compliance Report and the PowerPoint. He invited Councilmembers to email questions ahead of the March meeting.

3. **ADJOURN**

With no further business, the special Council meeting was adjourned at 7:00 p.m.