

EMERGENCY SERVICES

April 4, 2019

MEMBERS PRESENT

Chairman Dorchinecz
Alderman Olive
Alderman Vota
Alderman Burtle

ALSO PRESENT

Mayor Barry
Police Chief Hile
Fire Chief Crews
Alderman Walters
Alderman Budd
Paula Dunn
Gina Dunn
Assistant Fire Chief Goodall
Owen Lasswell

Chris Skultety
Mindy Durbin
Kathy Driskell
Marlin Brune
Savannah Brune
Dustin McClure
Bill Jones
Shirley Sams

Chairman Dorchinecz called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M.

POLICE CHIEF'S REPORT

There have been several directed patrols and traffic enforcement details conducted.

On April 2nd a search warrant was executed in which a half ounce of ICE methamphetamine, approximately 40 grams of substance containing methamphetamine, small amount of cocaine, cannabis and cannabis vape cartridges seized. Chief Hile stated these cartridges can be used out in the open as there is no odor. The resident was taken into custody.

On April 3rd a search warrant was conducted, unrelated to the aforementioned search warrant in which a resident was taken into custody for possession, distribution, and reproduction of child pornography. Chief Hile advised these cases are a tragedy for all including the officers who investigate these types of cases as they are subjected to the evidence. He advised there has been research which indicates repeated exposure to these types of offences can cause Post Traumatic Stress Disorder.

The Officers have to complete training in order to meet State mandates as well as training for better tactics, investigative skills, emergency care, conducting interviews, control tactics and firearms training. He presented a list of 13 training sessions Officers have recently attended or are scheduled to attend. Continued training is essential for Law Enforcement as tactics as well as legislation change. He stated his Department has a strong reputation for training conducted in house as well as outside of the Department.

Submitted for a camera grant through the Illinois Training and Standards Board. If awarded, this grant could provide \$80,000.00 for updated in-car video systems. The grant does not cover installation or storage; he has contacted Alpha Omega the cost will be minimal.

In February, Norfolk Southern Foundation asked that he prepare a proposal for a project need. He requested assistance to purchase an All-Terrain Vehicle for the agency. This type of vehicle would have been a great asset during and after the tornado. The Department was awarded \$3,000.00 towards the project.

The Department has assisted another three individuals through Safe Passage seeking assistance. All three were provided transportation to Gateway. He spoke with a young lady they assisted with getting into a facility in Chicago for treatment; she called to give thanks for all the help and stated she was doing well.

April 11th there is a National Weather Service Basic Weather spotting class. There will be weather radios available at a reduced price and help to program them at Kroger from 3:00-6:00 P.M.

April 22nd there will be a drug take back at Walgreens from 10:00 A.M. -2:00 P.M. The week of April 15th is Telecommunications Week; he asked all in attendance to stop in to recognize the men and women of the Dispatch Center.

May 11th there will be a Community Shredding at CNB Bank from 9:00 A.M-11:00 A.M. They will be collecting food donations.

The week of May 12th through May 18th is National Police Week. On May 2nd the Illinois Police Memorial Service will be held in Springfield. The Department will have representation at the memorial service.

During the month of May, the Optimist Club recognizes the month as Respect for Law. During the month, their meetings highlight topics and speakers surrounding Law Enforcement. He has been working with the event coordinator, Terry Wright, in preparation for the monthly events including the Respect for Law Breakfast. They have secured the United States Postal Inspector's Office, Dr. Schlosser from the Police Training Institute, Acting Director Brendan Kelly from the Illinois State Police, and the United States Marshall Service. He stated the Department greatly appreciates the members of the Optimist Club for their recognition and service to the community.

Alderman Burtle asked why tickets are not issued when there is an accident. He is aware of three accidents in 18 months and no tickets were issued; one accident was out of state. He stated if someone is rear ended there should be a ticket issued. Alderman Walters stated from an insurance company view that if a ticket is issued, it gives the insurance more to work with for their policyholder. If both are to blame each person's insurance will have to pay. Chief Hile advised the investigation determines fault not a citation, an accident report is always completed. If there are only minor damages the person involved sometimes does not want the person to be issued a ticket, he advised he would do some research.

TORNADO PRESENTATION

Fire Chief Crews and Assistant Chief Goodall gave a very informative presentation regarding a time frame leading up to and the aftermath of the December 1st tornado. He advised the first warning came at 7:48 A.M he kept a close watch during the day monitoring the lightning and wind conditions and made the decision to cancel the Christmas Parade. He stated the policy is to never activate the tornado sirens more than once but he broke protocol that day.

He advised when the tornado hit Joplin, Mo. it wiped out two of the five Fire Stations. He was tracking the storm and had his Department move all of the vehicles to the lake area during the tornado.

There have been 42 tornadoes in Christian County since 1950, four in 2018. He stated the information that was heard over the radio and T.V. was coming directly from Assistant Fire Chief Goodall, who was out tracking the tornado. Both Assistant Fire Chief Goodall and Firefighter Hackney continued working the night of the tornado even though their homes had been in the path of the storm. He put out an Emergency Communications message simply saying "I need help" and they had 150 Firefighters here to assist. The equipment is kept in cases at the Fire Station and it only took 20 minutes to set up the Emergency Center. There were 4 individuals that stayed here for a week to help, several elected officials were here including outgoing Governor Rauner and Incoming Governor Pritzker, as well as Representative Rodney Davis, Senator Andy Manar, and Senator Tammy Duckworth.

There had been a disaster drill with several Departments participating using a fictitious location which was based on Hewittville; due to this drill everyone knew where to go and what to do. Things ran very smoothly. Mutual Aid had Mabas towers sent to the area which lit up the whole area. The chrome books the Department had were not useful during the disaster, he is looking at grants to purchase laptops. Two drones the Department have were very helpful. There were 700 homes effected by the tornado, but the tornado was not declared a Federal Disaster Area.

The Committee thanked Chief Crews and Assistant Chief Goodall for all they did relating to the tornado and for the presentation.

Chief Crews thanked all the Departments, Police, Public Works etc. for all of the assistance. Everyone worked together very well and it was a joint effort from everyone to assist the residents.

There were over 30 agencies set up at Taylorville Christian Church to assist the residents with a number of services such as food, shelter, insurance questions, etc. He also thanked the IDOT and IDOC stating they played a big part as well.

Chief Crews again discussed the importance of a Continuity of Government Plan and advised Chad Coady is in the process of making new maps for the Department.

Alderman Budd stated on December 4, 2018 the Church of Christ began distributing food and clothing to residents. The City then set up an area at the Gagne Building for donations. They received items like gloves, blankets, shovels, rakes etc. and all types of building materials such as plywood, drywall, etc. from local agencies as well as several businesses from neighboring areas. Aldermen Budd and Alderman Olive traveled to Missouri. He advised "House in a Box" is coming this summer; they will completely furnish a home with everything except electronics.

REVIEW AMBULANCE ORDINANCE

Chairman Dorchinecz had received a letter from Mrs. Paula Dunn and a phone call from Mr. Bob Dunn, owners of Dunn's Ambulance, concerning the proposed Ambulance Ordinance. Mrs. Dunn had two different drafts and was unsure which one was correct. She was presented with the current draft the Committee was reviewing. She stated that Dunn's Ambulance is running 24/7 and has not had any problems. She and Suttons had kept each other informed and worked well together. Currently they are the only company in operation. She stated that her employees are doing a fantastic job and Taylorville Memorial Hospital is pleased with the service. The Committee recognized the work of Dunn's Ambulance but also stated that the City cannot refuse another agency if they wish to operate in the City.

FY 2019/2020 FIRE DEPARTMENT BUDGET

Motion by Alderman Burtle and seconded by Alderman Vota to recommend to the City Council to forward the FY 2019/2020 Fire Department Budget to the Finance Committee. Motion carried 4-0.

FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT

- Total Calls for Service- 156
- Inspections – 12 Businesses
- Training- Fire Dynamics and how they apply to Positive Pressure Ventilation
- National Weather Service Basic Weather Spotting Class will be April 11, 2019
- Storm Discussion with City of Champaign, Sangamon County Public Health Regional Conference and Central Illinois Fire Chief's Association
- Firefighter Blake Chausse submitted and was awarded an EMS Grant; the Department received \$4,000.00 which will be used to purchase a pediatric kit.
- Captain Adermann stripped and waxed the floors at the Fire Station
- Working on Disaster Tabletop Exercises and severe weather preparedness presentation for Hickory Estates and Davita Healthcare; others to follow April-July.
- April 16, 2019 the National Weather Service Offices have requested a meeting with him and Assistant Fire Chief Goodall to discuss our preparation and response to the December 1st tornado.

Motion by Alderman Vota and seconded by Alderman Burtle to adjourn. Motion carried 4-0.

Meeting adjourned at 7:12 P.M.

Ernie Dorchinecz, Chairman
Emergency Services Committee