

EMERGENCY SERVICES

January 2, 2020

MEMBERS PRESENT

Chairman Driskell
Alderman Olive
Alderman Lanzotti
Alderman Bryant

ALSO PRESENT

Mayor Barry
Police Chief Wheeler
Deputy Chief Childers
Fire Chief Adermann
Treasurer Nation
Alderman Budd
Chris Doherty -School Supt.
Firefighter Rogers

Owen Lasswell
Shirley Sams
Rick Bryan
Alderman Skultety
Alderman Burtle
Kellie Hamell
Mike Mann
Firefighter Zepin
Police Officer Mills

Chairman Driskell called the meeting to order at 6:45 P.M.

BODY CAMERAS FOR OFFICERS

Chief Wheeler advised the need to purchase body worn cameras for the Police Department. The Department responds to 18,000 calls for service per year. The camera would not be operating all of the time. They would be on during interaction with the public in cases such as traffic stops etc. The Chief and Deputy Chief would know when cameras were in operation. There are some instances that the camera can not be used, such in hospitals due to HIPPA laws. Cameras are very important in court cases; copies are sent to the States Attorney, as well as keep a copy for the Department in case the server would go down. The cameras also provide security for the Officers as well.

Motion by Alderman Lanzotti and seconded by Alderman Bryant to recommend to the City Council to allow Chief Wheeler to purchase 8 body cameras which include HD recordings, camera mounts, docking stations, charging base, transfer station to download to current server, and a one-year warranty and licenses for all officers from Watch Guard at a cost of \$13,562.00. Motion carried 4-0.

SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER

There were two Officers that applied for the SRO position. Police Chief Wheeler is recommending that a panel be formed which would include himself, Deputy Chief Childers, the Mayor, an Alderman, and School Board Officials to interview the two candidates. School Superintendent, Dr. Chris Dougherty, and School Board Member Rick Bryant were present to discuss the position. Chief Wheeler advised that the school district will be paying 75% of the salary. Superintendent Dougherty further explained that the school would pay 75% for the time frame when they are working for the school. Treasurer Nation then asked if the Officer would return to the Department when school is not in session; she advised they would. Mayor Barry will contact School Superintendent Doherty to schedule a time for the interviews.

POLICE CHIEF'S REPORT

- Calls for Service-1322
- Police Officer Matt Nichols graduated from the Police Training Institute on December 19th. He passed the State exam and is full time certified in the State of Illinois. Officer Nichols is currently on day shift with Officer Withrow training.
- Two Officers applied for the SRO Position
- Put a list up to have two trained crime scene investigators on call only; training is free through MTU. This will allow the department to build stronger cases and to solve more thefts and burglaries.
- Officer of the 4th quarter is K9 Officer Jeremy Alwerdt for his dedication and hard work
- Working with Officers on 2020 Community Engagement Projects
- Self Defense Classes were held with Officer Withrow and Sargent Toberman; these classes will be offered quarterly
- The Shop with a Cop Program was very successful

Chief Wheeler will be honoring Police Officer Bolinger at the January 6, 2020 City Council Meeting for her dedication and community policing.

Police Chief Wheeler provided the Committee with the Monthly Activity by Classification Report. Also provided were Traffic Citations by Officer Report and Arrests by Officer report comparing 2018/2019 totals.

MEMBERS AREAS OF RESPONSIBILITY

Fire Chief Adermann presented the Committee with a Member Responsibility List. Each person selected the area they would take responsibility for in the Fire Department.

ISO PLAN

Chief Adermann gave a brief summary of how the ISO rate is determined. The ISO is a rate given to the Fire Department based on 4 key factors, Emergency Communications, Fire Department, Water Supply, and Divergence. He explained the Department is currently a 4, but are only a few points from being a 3. The ISO rate is a factor in determining insurance rates. The lower the number equates to lower premiums.

RETENTION PLAN

Chief Adermann discussed some changes he would like to make in the hiring process. He is recommending the requirement of being a Paramedic upon hiring be removed, as it narrows the field of applicants. The Board of Fire and Police Commissions is aware of this. The new hires will go to training after hire. He also recommends giving emphasis to local residents. Since 2005, there have been 13 hired that were not City residents and only 2 have remained in the department; there were 7 City residents hired and all have remained. Since the Paramedic Requirement was added, 10 Firefighters were hired with 4 remaining. One of our new Firefighters is leaving; a position became open in his hometown. If they implement residents getting extra points there would still be some hired from out of town.

Chief Adermann presented the Committee with his recommendations to help with the retention problem stating some of the areas are contractual items, but he wants to do more promoting for the Fire Department such as Informational Town Hall Meetings. In the Spring, he would like to go to the schools to talk to the students about pursuing a career as a Firefighter and promote volunteering as a way for them to experience what a Firefighter does. He would like to explore an apprenticeship program.

FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT

- Total Calls-135
- Total Calls for 2019- 1,666
- Training- Engine Company Operations, Ladders, Hose Deployment, SCBA, Active Shooter and Investigation Training
- Gave an update on the Boyd Dappert Siren
- Installed 6 car seats in December
- There were no CPR Classes with all the Christmas activities, Cody Rogers and Nick Zepin were in charge of the Angel Tree and did a great job. 150 children were helped to have a Merry Christmas!
- Went to a Pre-Construction meeting for the new Fire Truck in Wisconsin; the new Fire Engine will be built by September
- Will be out of the office Monday, January 6th to Thursday, January 9, 2020

Motion by Alderman Olive and seconded by Alderman Bryant to adjourn. Motion carried 4-0.

Meeting adjourned at 7:53 P.M.

Kathy Driskell, Chairman
Emergency Services Committee

