

Public Health & Safety Committee Report for the Meeting of November 6th, 2013

Present were Director John Rita, Fire Chief Mark Luety, Deputy Chief Michael Cornell, Deputy Fire Chief James Klinker, Alderman Johanson, Alderman Vieyra, Alderman Johnson, and myself. Absent was Alderman Buckner. Also present were Alderman Marcia Stone, Fire Lieutenant Tom Zielinski, and Firefighter Adam Zielinski.

Citizens Concerns

A business owner from Olde Western Avenue came to address the issues they are having with the Island Bar and Grill, located at 13414 Olde Western Avenue.

A resident from Lincoln Street came to address issues that they are having with a neighbor.

Fire Department Grievance

Firefighter and President of Local 3547 Adam Staszewski presented the argument for payment of Firefighter David Haywood's reimbursement for classes taken, which had previously been denied.

Director John Rita and Fire Chief Mark Luety presented the argument for denying the grievance.

Presentation by Director John Rita for new Police Department position

Director John Rita presented the case for creating the appointed position of a Patrol Commander in the Police Department. The function of this office would be to review use of force incidents.

Fire Department Report

The Fire Department had 286 emergency calls in October, 193 were EMS calls

173 Patients were treated

154 Patients were transported

40 Patients refused transport

They responded to 22 general fire alarms, and 21 minor fire alarms.

They responded to 25 auto aid calls.

They had 18 calls to man the firehouses.

They responded to 6 mutual aid calls.

There was one garage fire at 2415 Birdsall, the cause is undetermined.

The Fire Department collected \$26,116.56 in the month of October, net of the collection fees.

Marine II has been taken out of the water for the season.

Fire Engine #2133 will be sent out for repairs and preventative maintenance work next week.

The training division has completed 481.25 hours of training for the month of October. Deputy Fire Chief Jim Klinker, and Lieutenant Tony Kunz attended a seminar presented by Blue Card

Command. They will be presenting this information to all the members of the department in training sessions.

Two new part-time firefighters, Tim Wopinek and Demetrius Nolan were sworn in at the City Council meeting on October 8th, 2013.

The Civil Service Commission has completed all the testing process for the position of entry level Firefighter and Lieutenant. At present we have two full time Firefighter positions open, one Lieutenant's position, and the Fire Prevention Officer position, which is going to arbitration.

The new SCBA air compressor was delivered Friday, November 1st and is in service. We are still waiting on the standard for certification and approval before we will receive the new Air Packs which were also included in this grant.

The Fire Department will be receiving twenty-two new radios from the FEMA Radio Grant within the next several weeks. Blue Island FD and Alsip FD will be the first two departments to receive and test the new radios for the MABAS division.

The Fire Department will be submitting applications for two ambulances through the FEMA Assistance to Fire Fighter's Grant. Each ambulance would cost between \$160,000.00 and \$170,000.00. The City would have to match 10% of the cost if we are awarded the grant.

Fire Chief Luety discussed a new Auto Aid agreement with the Alsip Fire Department.

Fire Prevention Week

Fire Prevention Week was October 6th through October 12th. This year's theme was Kitchen Fire Safety. During the week, open house and tours were held at both fire stations. Presentations were made on Kitchen Fire Safety. The Fire Department also conducted a poster contest with all the grade schools and the winner will be presented at the City Council meeting of November 12th.

Police Department Report

The Police Department patrolled 16,452 miles for the month of October. 3010 calls answered.

525 Parking Citations
370 Moving Citations
225 Traffic Stops
5 Felonies
36 Misdemeanors
19 Warrant Arrests
22 Local Ordinance Violations (admin towing fees)
49 Vehicles Impounded

Total Fees Collected: \$40,698.92

Detective Division

29 Case Assignments in October
25 Cases closed
11 Cases pending apprehension
24 Cases pending lab

109 Open cases
5 Warrant Cases

Training/Seminars Attended

Detective Nedved attended a one week Juvenile Specialist School. He is now a State Certified Juvenile Specialist.

Detective Murray attended a one week Gang Specialist School. He is now a State Certified Gang Specialist.

Sergeant Podbielniak, Detective Nedved and Detective Delgadillo all attended a two day Lead Homicide Conference. This is part of a mandatory continual education required to maintain Lead Homicide Investigator Status.

Sergeant Podbielniak and Detective Nedved attended the 8 Hour Rapid Deployment Class.

Aldermen Concerns

Alderman Veyra expressed concern over juveniles presenting themselves as collecting money for the Untouchables, when no fundraising efforts are currently in effect. She also expressed concern over traffic problems around MetroSouth Medical Center.

Alderman Johnson expressed concern over the Rec Center still being closed. It would not be available for use if a public emergency occurred.

Closed Door Session

The committee went into closed door session to discuss the Fire Department grievance.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Our next regular meeting is December 4th at 7:00 in the East Annex.

Respectfully submitted,
Candace Carr
4th Ward Alderman