

Public Health & Safety Committee Report for the Meeting of December 4th, 2013

Present were Fire Chief Mark Luety, Deputy Police Chief Michael Cornell, Deputy Fire Chief James Klinker, Fire Lieutenant Tom Zielinski, Alderman Johanson, Alderman Vieyra, Alderman Johnson, and myself. Absent was Alderman Buckner. Also present was Leslie Phemister of the Active Transportation Alliance. The meeting was called to order at 7:15.

Citizens Concerns

Leslie Phemister of the Active Transportation Alliance spoke to us about grants available for education and enforcement of stopping for pedestrians in cross walks and the use of cell phones while driving in school zones.

Fire Department Report

The Fire Department had 283 emergency calls in November, 189 were EMS calls
155 Patients were treated
137 Patients were transported
52 Patients refused transport

They responded to 25 general fire alarms, and 18 minor fire alarms.

They responded to 22 auto aid calls.

They had 27 calls to man the firehouses.

They received 2 mutual aid calls, and responded to one.

There were no large scale incidents.

The average response time from call to patient contact was 4.76 minutes.

Maintenance

Ambulance #2152 had a starter go out and it was replaced in house by Lt. Kunz. Numerous other small maintenance issues were made in house.

The Fire Department received a used Striker Stretcher that is in almost new condition from the Palos Heights Fire Department after they received a grant for new stretchers. The cost of this stretcher new is \$5,454.00. Palos Heights Fire Chief Tim Sarge has been sent a thank you letter.

Training

The training division has completed 525.25 hours of training for the month of November. The training hours also included a special EMS lecture from Dr. Erickson of MetroSouth Medical Center on heart attacks and treatments that the department hosted at the East Annex for all of MABAS 22 departments.

Manpower

The Fire Department is own three full time Firefighters at this time. Firefighter Pat Faragoi resigned as of November 16th and Firefighter Adam VanEvery will be leaving the department at the end of this month. Both Firefighters were hired by other Fire Departments. After Firefighter VanEvery leaves this month, we will be down four full time Firefighters. The Civil Service Commission has just finished finalizing a list to be posted.

Firefighter Joe Olson was promoted from Firefighter to Lieutenant last month.

Grants

The new radios from the radio grant will be delivered in the next few weeks and the Fire Department is still waiting on the certification on the Air Packs from NIOSH to manufacture and deliver the Air Packs.

The Assistance to Firefighters Grant for two new ambulances will be submitted by December 6th and we are hopeful and waiting on the award of the SAFER Grant for six new Firefighters.

A \$25,000.00 Grant for infrastructure was received and the roof on top of the old water tower at Station #1 will be repaired along with possible upgrades of replacing the old floor and carpet in the bunk room and day room.

Police Department Report

The Police Department patrolled 18,543 miles for the month of November. 2200 calls answered.

602 Parking Citations

398 Moving Citations

223 Traffic Stops

20 Felonies

53 Misdemeanors

10 Warrant Arrests

45 Local Ordinance Violations (admin towing fees)

51 Vehicles Impounded

Total Fees Collected: \$35,962.67

Grants

During the Thanksgiving holiday, the National Highway Safety Institute gave the City of Blue Island money in the form of the STEP Grant. The grant pays Officers overtime to patrol the streets and write traffic citations for safety belt violations. On November 27th there was a roadside safety check at 127th and Kedzie. The safety check point was a success. 20 citations were issued. There will be another safety checkpoint before Christmas or before New Year's Eve.

Manpower

While doing an efficiency assessment of the Police Department Director John Rita and Deputy Chief Michael Cornell looked at pay scales for part time employees. A revised pay scale was put into place.

Part time dispatchers will be paid as follows:

\$10/hour while training.

\$12/hour when the dispatcher is able to show he/she is proficient and is able to continue in the program.

\$14/hour upon completion of training.

Part time officers will be paid as follows:

\$10/hour. The officer is only able to help with special assignments.

\$11/hour. After completing front desk training/live scan fingerprinting/station duty training.

\$12/hour. After the officer is trained to use the radio properly and displays enough knowledge to be able to handle walk and talk assignments, prisoner watch assignments, etc.

\$13/hour. After completion of the Field Training program and he/she can patrol the street without supervision.

There was one applicant for the Commander's position, Sergeant Kevin Sisk. Approval of Sgt. Sisk was motioned by Alderman Johnson, seconded by Alderman Vieyra. A voice vote was taken, and the appointment was approved unanimously.

Events

Upcoming events are the Christmas Light Parade on December 7th, and Rock Around the Clock on December 31st.

Aldermen Concerns

Alderman Dexter Johnson asked if we had enough men on duty at any given time to man the ladder truck if needed. Deputy Chief Klinker explained that if it was needed, we can call for assistance from other communities.

Alderman Dexter Johnson asked if the Police and Fire Departments would participate in Kids and Cops Day this summer.

Alderman Johanson brought up the traffic problems in the alley off of the 2400 block of Walnut.

Motion to adjourn by Alderman Johanson, second by Alderman Johnson.

Our next regular meeting is January 8th at 7:00 in the East Annex.

Respectfully submitted,

Candace Carr

4th Ward Alderman