Public Health & Safety Committee Report for the Meeting of February 5th, 2014

Present were Director John Rita, Fire Chief Mark Luety, Deputy Police Chief Michael Cornell, Deputy Fire Chief James Klinker, Elderly Service Officer Jason Slattery, Don Marchbanks (7:30), Alderman Vieyra, Alderman Johanson, Alderman Johnson (7:15), and myself. Absent was Alderman Buckner. Also present were Fire Lieutenant Tom Zielinski and Firefighter William Kirby. The meeting was called to order at 7:05.

Citizens Concerns

No citizens were present.

Fire Department Report

The Fire Department had 353 emergency calls in January, 222 were EMS calls
191 Patients were treated
184 Patients were transported
35 Patients refused transport

They responded to 28 general fire alarms, and 26 minor fire alarms.

They responded to 27 auto aid calls.

They had 43 calls to man the firehouses.

They received 7 mutual aid calls.

There were no major events for the month of January

The Fire Department collected $30,991.06 in Medical Reimbursements in the month of January.

General

Chief Luety commended the members of the Fire Department for working so hard in the extreme weather conditions.

During some of the severe cold weather days, the department responded to numerous calls for frozen sprinkler system pipes that burst and a few frozen domestic water pipes. Extra manpower was utilized for 9.6 extra days due to the extreme snow amounts and cold weather.

Fire Recovery Inc. the new billing service that the fire department will be using for specialized billing service, is close to being in service. Paul Hollock the IT tech is finishing up a few programming issues that need to be completed which should be completed by February 7th.

Four new interns from Moraine Valley Community College Fire Science program started January 20th. They will be working at Station #1 for several days per week until the end of school semester in May. This is the third class from the college that we have hosted as interns to complete their hands-on training time to receive their degree and State Fire Marshal’s Office Certification as Basic Firefighter.
Chief Luety will be attending a MABAS (Mutual Aid Box Alarm System) conference February 17th, 18th, and 19th in Springfield, IL. He will be representing the City of Blue Island and MABAS Division 22 at the conference as the Fire Service Intelligence Officer for our division. The division is covering the cost of the conference and they are also covering the cost to send two 911 dispatchers to a separate dispatch section also being held at the conference.

Request for payment of the semi-annual intergovernmental agreement with the Southwest Hazardous Materials Response Team for $750.00. This goes for training and equipment. Motion made by Alderman Johanson to approve, second by Alderman Vieyra. Motion was passed unanimously. Invoice will be forwarded to the Finance Committee.

Maintenance

Engine 2133 was out of service for several days to replace a pump air switch on the dash panel and replaced pump air seals on the fire pump. Ambulance 2182 had the rear brakes replaced and an oil leak from the engine repaired. The repairs were performed in house. Ambulance 2152 had a bad water pump that was also replaced in-house. A total of 11 hours for in-house maintenance, repairs and documentation was performed by Lieutenant Kunz on various equipment.

Training

The training division has competed 446.68 hours of training for the month of January. Lieutenant Olson has organized the training schedule for the next six months. The department will also be conducting joint training with our Auto Aid Departments including both day and night drills. The Fire Department will be hosting a class on Firefighter Situational Awareness on Wednesday, February 12th. This is a new class presented by Cook County Department of Home Land Security, and will be open to any MABAS division members in Northern Illinois.

Grants

The department is still waiting for the portable radios and computers from the radio grant from the division and has not received any further word on the air packs from the air pack grant. No word has been received on the Safer Grant for staffing of new Firefighters.

Staffing

Firefighter Duffy has passed his probation and will be getting his letter on Friday, February 7th.

Statement by Director John Rita

Director John Rita thanked the Fire Department for the outstanding job they have been doing working with outdated equipment and dealing with the excessive snowfall. This sentiment was echoed by other members of the committee.

Statement by Chief Luety

Fire Chief Luety thanked Deputy Chief Klinker for filling in at the Fire Station while the Chief was on medical leave.
Presentation by Officer Slattery re: Adult Protective Services

Elderly Service Officer Jason Slattery gave a presentation regarding a proposal for the creation of the Calumet Township Adult Protective Services Committee and the Triad/SALT program. This would encompass 33 communities and 6 townships. The Committee has been in place for about one month.

Police Department Report

The Police Department patrolled 14,737 miles for the month of January. 2049 calls answered.

619 Parking Citations
321 Moving Citations
158 Traffic Stops
24 Felonies
30 Misdemeanors
12 Warrant Arrests
54 Local Ordinance Violations (equipment violations, seatbelts)
100 Vehicles Impounded

Total Fees Collected: $49,208.34

Stats/Cases of Interest

2 Armed Robberies
1 Aggravated Robbery
3 Reports of Battery
23 Reports of Domestic Battery
6 Burglaries
1 Aggravated Assault
15 Thefts
6 Damage to Property
20 Hit and Run Accidents

December Detective Report

32 Cases were assigned
8 Burglaries
24 Other Cases
59 Cases were cleared
16 Larcenies
43 Other Cases

Snow Routes

The Police Department continues to assist Public Works in clearing designated snow routes after the several snow storms we have experienced.
Western Avenue Patrol

Starting February 10th the Police Department will start the Western Avenue Patrol. These will be staffed by Part Time Officers on weekends. They will be assigned to problem areas where complaints are already being registered. These patrols will continue through the summer.

Code Red EMERGENCY NOTIFICATION

Code Red EMERGENCY NOTIFICATION program has been approved by the Finance Committee, and will be up and running shortly. Citizens will be able register their cell phone numbers or emails and be alerted in case of a local emergency in their neighborhood or on their block.

Safety Education Alliance of America

The Safety Education Alliance of America will be sending out flyers asking for donations on behalf of the Police Department. This is a legitimate organization, donations fund materials for school age children and special events.

Aldermanic Meetings

Director John Rita and Deputy Chief Michael Cornell would like to meet with all the Aldermen to discuss issues and concerns they may have in their wards. Please contact them to make an appointment.

Well Being Checks

The Police Department continues to do well-being checks. If a citizen wishes to be added to the well-being checklist they should contact the Police Department.

Facebook account

The Police Department Facebook has 350 followers and reaches approximately 20,000 people a week.

Safe Park Zone

Alderman Carr presented information regarding Safe Park Zones

BIEMA

Don Marchbanks gave a brief report of BIEMA activities for the month of January. They assisted with the Rock Around the Clock Ball Drop, road closures due to accidents and downed power lines. The membership is now up to 14. 20 hours of training in January. Close to 100 hours in maintenance and repairs of equipment.

Aldermen’s Concerns

Aldermen expressed gratitude to Police and Fire Departments and Public Works for all the extra work put in due to the snow.
Motion to adjourn by Alderman Johnson, second by Alderman Vieyra.

Our next regular meeting is February 5th at 7:00 in the East Annex.

Respectfully submitted,
Candace Carr
4th Ward Alderman