

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

Present were Director John Rita, Deputy Police Chief Michael Cornell, Deputy Fire Chief James Klinker, Jim McGeever, Don Marchbanks, Alderman Johnson (7:45), Alderman Marcia Stone as a guest, and myself. Absent were Alderman Vieyra, Alderman Johanson, Alderman Buckner. We did not have a quorum, but as there were no votes to be taken, we continued with the department reports. The meeting was called to order at 7:05.

Citizens Concerns

No citizens were present.

Fire Department Report

The Fire Department had 271 emergency calls in January, 170 were EMS calls
151 Patients were treated
131 Patients were transported
38 Patients refused transport

They responded to 27 general fire alarms, and 29 minor fire alarms, many of these were carbon monoxide related calls. The Fire Department has recorded a Public Service Announcement with Lieutenant Joe Olson regarding carbon monoxide.

They responded to 29 auto aid calls.

They had 24 calls to man the station.

They received 2 mutual aid calls.

There were no major events for the month of February.

Due to the changeover in billing services to Fire Recovery Inc., there are no current medical billing figures to report.

General

The call volume for February was down from January but the department utilized extra men for some of the days when they encountered harsh cold and snow conditions.

Fire Recovery Inc. billing service is being utilized. Billing was started from February 1st. All the shifts have been trained on this new service.

The interns from Moraine Valley Community College Fire Science program have been averaging a minimum of 14 hours per week, have already challenged State Fire Marshals test, and have been very busy training with the shifts. Moraine Valley will be presenting a plaque on March 25th to the Fire Department for working with these four interns.

Chief Luety attended a MABAS conference February 17th, 18th, and 19th in Springfield, IL along with several 911 dispatchers. The three days consisted of updates to the MABAS organization and fire science intelligence. This was paid for through MABAS.

Last year the Fire Department submitted to have the City of Blue Island's Insurance Services Office rating re-evaluated. After spending several months compiling information from the Fire Department, Water Department and Dispatch and submitting this information for review, they have just received a report from ISO in which they received a better rating and changed from a previous rating of a 5 to a 4.

The Fire Department would like to offer a special thanks to Bob Houlf from the Water Department for his assistance in helping compile information for this report.

Presentation of Firefighter of the Year and CPR Saves will be presented at the March 25th City Council Meeting.

Maintenance

Engine 2123 will be having the front springs repaired and preventative maintenance service conducted. Engine 2133 will be getting a new pump panel information system. The cost for these repairs will be from Foreign Fire Tax Funds. A list of maintenance issues on equipment is still needed and is being addressed, as finances allow.

A total of 13.25 hours for in-house maintenance, repairs and documentation was performed by Lieutenant Kunz and Tom Kissell on various equipment.

Training

The training division has completed 442.75 hours of training for the month of February.

Two Firefighters have obtained 3 new State Certifications.

The Fire Department hosted a class on Firefighter Situational Awareness on Wednesday February 12th that was attended by both on-duty and off-duty personnel along with members from other departments from Northern Illinois with 23 personnel in attendance. This is a four-part class sponsored by Cook County Department of Home Land Security. Our department has been asked to host the other three classes.

Grants

The new radios from the Radio Grant will be in use after each shift receives approximately two hours of training on March 11th, 12th, and 13th. The Air Packs should be approved through NIOSH on or before April 1st or the Fire Department will submit for an extension of the grant.

No word has been received on the Safer Grant for staffing of new Firefighters.

Police Department Report

The Police Department patrolled 11,710 miles for the month of February. 1818 calls answered.

456 Parking Citations

220 Moving Citations

120 Traffic Stops

12 Felonies

28 Misdemeanors

6 Warrant Arrests

35 Local Ordinance Violations (equipment violations, seatbelts)

61 Vehicles Impounded

Total Fees Collected: \$58,760.39

Stats/Cases of Interest

3 Armed Robberies (2) unfounded
2 Robberies (1) unfounded
7 Residential Burglaries (2) unfounded
1 Business Burglary
135 Accident Reports. This was high due to treacherous road conditions.
115 Alarm Calls
5 Shots Fired (2) unfounded

January Detective Report

30 Cases were assigned
6 Larcenies
24 Other Cases
44 Cases were cleared
10 Burglaries/10 Larcenies
24 Other Cases

Overtime Paid

Supervisors: 47 hours
Patrol Officers: 39.5 hours
Court: 173 hours
Detectives: 37.5 hours
Late calls/Paperwork: 32 hours

Liquor Establishment Calls

7 disturbance calls were received in February on liquor establishments.

Training

Five clerks were sent to Markham Courthouse for updated Clerk procedures.

Miscellaneous

On February 4th, School District 130 requested a police K9 search.

On February 25th, the Blue Island Police Department conducted tobacco compliance checks with funds provided by the Illinois Tobacco Grant.

Code Red EMERGENCY NOTIFICATION

Code Red EMERGENCY NOTIFICATION program is awaiting approval by the Department of Justice for use of forfeiture funds.

Facebook account

The Police Department Facebook has added almost 200 followers in the last month, and is up to 542 likes.

Upcoming Events

Ike Hike 5K run is set for April 26, 2014.

Officers are being assigned to help out doing Public Service Announcements. Before the end of the year, all officers will have done at least one PSA.

Citizens Academy will be held in April.

911 Center

The biggest problem the 911 Center is working on now is overtime hours. They are creating a Power Shift to assign more dispatchers when call volume is heavy. The part-time dispatchers have been very helpful.

The 911 Center received 11,249 calls in February. These included calls from Blue Island, Calumet Park, Midlothian, and Posen.

The tornado sirens have been tested and are operational. A policy and procedure is being worked on with BIEMA for sounding the tornado sirens.

BIEMA

Don Marchbanks gave a brief report of BIEMA activities for the month of February. They had four call outs, two of those were traffic related. The membership is now up to 16. They hosted a mutual aid meeting on Thursday, February 27th with 22 agencies and 31 people attending. Don Marchbanks has spoken to six different Chiefs in an attempt to obtain needed equipment.

Public Health

The Fire Department along with the Cook County Department of Public Health and BIEMA is working on an emergency plan in case of a public health emergency. Initial plans include using Eisenhower High School as a public health emergency center.

Tom Mailhiot performed 20 health inspections on businesses in the month of February.

Statement by Director John Rita

Director John Rita expressed his concerns over the condition of equipment used by the Fire Department and BIEMA.

Aldermen's Concerns

Alderman Johnson addressed his concerns about the Rec Center.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

Our next regular meeting is April 2nd at 7:00 in the East Annex.

Respectfully submitted,
Candace Carr
4th Ward Alderman