

**Public Health & Safety Committee Report
for the Meeting of September 3rd, 2014**

Present were Deputy Police Chief Michael Cornell, Fire Chief James Klinker, Jim McGeever, Sarah Kaiser, Alderman Johanson, and myself. Also present were Mr. Allan Stevo, Fire Lieutenant Tom Zelinski, Clerk Randy Heuser and Alderman Marcia Stone. Absent were Director John Rita, Alderman Johnson, Alderman Vieyra and Alderman Buckner. The meeting was called to order at 7:05. We did not have a quorum, but as there were no votes to be taken, we continued with the monthly reports.

Citizens Concerns

Mr. Allan Stevo asked about the progress in the case of the shooting at the Meadows Golf Course, July 22nd 2013. Deputy Chief responded that the victim in this case was not cooperating with the Detectives.

Fire Department Report

The Fire Department had 373 calls in August, 242 were EMS calls
206 Patients were treated
191 Patients were transported
49 Patients refused transport

Average call to patient time is 5.6 minutes.

They responded to 30 general fire alarms, and 19 minor fire alarms.

They responded to 34 auto aid calls, most calls were from Posen.

They had 45 calls to man the station.

They received 3 mutual aid response call.

Calls of interest for August: M & M Pallet fire, 2810 Vermont Street on August 10th.
Beggar's Commissary, 12949 California on August 23rd, carbon dioxide problem.

Medical Reimbursement Services for August \$33,437.94

Fire Recovery collected \$2712.10 in August.

False Fire Alarm Fees Collected: \$1100.00

General

The Fire Department's 135th will be celebrated on September 4th.

Probationary Firefighter Martin Kapolnek started July 28th, 2014 and has been assigned to 2nd shift.

Firefighter William Abbatacola turned in a letter of resignation effective September 13th, 2014.

The Fire Department is currently processing three new Firefighters.

Chief Klinker attended two onsite inspections with the EPA at NuStar Energy on Wireton Road. We are still waiting for their report.

The Fill the Boot Drive for Muscular Dystrophy collected \$3172.65

The St. Benedict's Charity Softball Game has been rescheduled for September 20th at Hart Park at 6:00 pm.

Safe Haven Signs in Spanish will be presented to both Firehouses, the Police Station, and MetroSouth Hospital at the next City Council meeting.

Maintenance

Engine 2133 had the alternator repaired at a cost of approximately \$1300.00

Ambulance 2162 is going out for High Idle Repair. This may be costly per Certified Fleet.

Ambulance 2182 is being scheduled for repair at Rizza Ford.

Training

The training division has completed 495.75 hours of training for the month of August.

Grants

Air Pack Grant update. We still have not received the approval from NIOSH. We have received an extension until December 17th.

Bunk Room has been remodeled with grant money from the Illinois Department of Commerce.

Small Equipment Grant has been applied for.

Police Department Report

Statement by Deputy Chief Cornell

During the month of August the Blue Island Police Department had officers on Tactical patrol, bicycles and ATV's with the assistance of the JAG (Justice Assistance Grant) that was awarded in July. The purpose of the grant is to effectively address youth problems with arrest or with community policing tactics such as making contact with youths in public to build rapport.

A Community Policing section has been added to this report to keep you apprised of the progress within the Police Department as it evolves towards a community policing model. It is important to note that so many new grants are specific to community policing efforts because of its overall success in other communities.

Community policing is not a new concept but rather a getting back to the roots of law enforcement when police officers were more in tune with the residents. A big part of community policing is addressing the quality of life issues to make the citizens feel safer and promote pride in the community. The most important aspect of community policing is to keep the community informed of what is going on.

Reports

The Police Department answered 2215 calls including 207 business premise checks, 86 liquor establishments, and 98 domestic disputes checks were done.

Stats/Cases of Interest

92 Alarm Calls (all unfounded)

4 Armed Robberies
1 Robberies
5 Burglaries (2 unfounded)
11 Residential Burglaries (4 unfounded)
10 Shots Fired (6 unfounded)
98 Domestic Disputes
18 Foot Patrols in Residential Neighborhoods

Total money collected for the month of August \$38,004.46

Calls of Interest

*On August 5th Officers responded to the area of 12500 Western and found a gunshot victim. The officers soon discovered that there was a second victim at MetroSouth Hospital. The Officers and Detectives worked together to take the juvenile offenders into custody right away. Both juvenile offenders were charged with Aggravated Battery. One of the offenders was charged with Attempted Homicide. Both victims have been released from the hospital.

The 911 Center received 9 calls from citizens regarding this incident. Jim McGeever and Deputy Chief Cornell commended the 911 operators on an outstanding job.

On August 17th two young offenders came into the Boost Mobile store at 12900 Ashland and brandished a weapon, demanding money and cell phones. The offenders fled on bicycles. They got away with a few phones and approximately \$300 in cash. One of the offenders was identified and charged and the other is still at large.

On August 22nd there was a report of an unresponsive subject on the parkway on the 2200 block of 127th Street. When officers arrived they found a highly intoxicated subject lying down who was obviously in a fight. Officers were able to ascertain that he may be a victim of robbery because his wallet and jewelry were missing. The victim was too intoxicated to give any information at the time of the report.

*On August 24th Officers on patrol were approached by the victim who stated that he and his friend were crossing the Francisco Street Bridge, when two people approached them from the trailer park. The offender asked the victim if he was in a gang and the victim said no. While they were talking, others walked up and there was a small crowd gathering. At one point, a person from the small gathering began to shoot in the victim's direction. The victims abandoned their bicycles and fled on foot. The case is being investigated and we expect an arrest.

Liquor Establishment Calls

4 disturbance calls, 1 subject removal, 1 battery arrest, and 1 suspicious person call were received in August on liquor establishments.

Training

Deputy Chief Cornell trained/certified 9 new part time officers on the ATV.
All new part time officers were trained in radio procedures.

Community Policing Unit (CPU)

Officers worked the JAG grant the following hours: 30 hours bicycle patrol, 12 hours ATV patrol, and 44 hours tactical patrol.

CPU wrote 192 Building Code violations. Last month the building code fines from the Police Department and Building Department was over \$17,000.00

CPU conducted 10 well being checks on high risk seniors, and conducted 5 different cases of elderly abuse and/or neglect. The cases are being investigated with the Illinois Department of Aging and Catholic Charities. CPU will be working with Officer King to bring back the DARE program at no cost to the city. Officer Slattery has volunteered to train and teach DARE, even during his days off to keep the program viable and reach out to youth.

CPU has been working with the FORUM newspaper to write articles to remind our citizens to be safe and keep them up to date with what is happening around the City.

Events

September 20th will be the St. Benedict's Charity Softball Game at Hart Park at 6:00 pm

September 27th will be the BBQ in the Park at Memorial Park all day.

October 4th will be Run for your Life 5K at St. Benedict's at 8:00 am.

October 5th will be the Angel's Touch Benefit at Tenochtitlan at 3:00 pm

Facebook Page

The Police Department Facebook Page has 1055 likes.

911 Center

The 911 Center received 9,649 calls in August. The call volume is down significantly.

One employee retired after 9 years of service, one trainee resigned, one employee resigned, and one employee is on medical leave.

Code Red sign on screens have been placed on the Lieutenant's Desk at Station One and also at the Police Department. Sign on screens have also been placed on the computers at the 911 Center.

On August 22nd the quarterly maintenance inspection was completed on the Uninterrupted Power Supply System.

BIEMA

BIEMA has logged 368 hours for the month of June, 634 hours for the month of July, and 390 hours for the month of August. This includes response to bad weather incidents, assistance to the Fire Department, Police Department, and Public Works, as well as pre-planned City events. They have also responded to mutual aid requests from 11 participating communities.

One of BIEMA vehicles was hit in the city parking lot across from the East Annex.

Aldermen's Concerns

None

Meeting was adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Our next regular meeting is to be determined since the next regular meeting date would be October 1st. The meeting date and time will be announced at the next City Council meeting.

Respectfully submitted,
Candace Carr
4th Ward Alderman