



City of Cedar Rapids
Public Safety and Youth Services Committee Minutes
Police Department Community Room, 505 1st Street SW
Monday, February 8, 2016
4:00 p.m.

Meeting was brought to order by Committee Chairperson Susie Weinacht at 4:00 p.m.

Present: Council members Susie Weinacht, Pat Shey, and Scott Overland, Fire Chief Mark English, Deputy Police Chief Tom Jonker, Building Services Director Kevin Ciabatti, Area Ambulance Services Executive Director Keith Rippey, and Amanda Grieder with SAFE-CR.

The January 11, 2016 Public Safety and Youth Services Committee minutes were approved.

Building Services Report – Kevin Ciabatti

Director Ciabatti reviewed permit, inspection and complaint data (reports are attached).

Permits:

- Total permits issued are down 33% from this time last year.
- The total residential permits were exactly the same from this time last year.
- The total number of permits issued are down 73% from this time last month (typical drop for January).

Inspections:

- Building inspections are down 15% from this time last year (for the month of January).
- Electrical inspections are up 20% from this time last year (for the month of January).
- Plumbing inspections are down 9% from this time last year (for the month of January).
- Mechanical inspections are down 19% from this time last year (for the month of January).
- Overall, the total number of inspections are down 4% from this time last year (for the month of January)
- The total number of inspections are down 28% from this time last month.

Complaints:

- The total number of open complaints are down 8% from this time last year.
- However, the total number of open cases are up 7% from this time last month.
- The total number of pending investigations have been reduced 50% from this time last year.
- The total number of open nuisance cases are down 6% from this time last year.
- The total number of open zoning cases are down 46% from this time last year.

Area Ambulance Report – Keith Rippy

Executive Director Rippy reviewed the Key Performance Indicators for January, 2016 (attached). This report shows calls for service totaling 1,547 in January, which amounts to an average of 49.9 calls per day. 148 customer feedback mailings were sent out, with 53 returned, or 35.8%. 48 rated service as excellent. Also attached is the Special Events Summary for January, 2016.

Director Rippy compared the first 6 months of this fiscal year to last year's first 6 months, and call volume continues to increase. AAS is trending towards a 32% increase in calls for service, which translates into almost 600 additional calls for service. The prior year was 800 more than the year before that, so they are having some substantial increases. They are continuing to look at the different metrics to see what is behind this increase. 800 followed up by 600 in two years is pretty substantial, and he will report back once they have a better idea for the reason for the increase.

A question was raised as to their capacity. If they continue on this trend, they would be looking at additional personnel and an additional ambulance. Their response time continues to be 95%, and their threshold is 90%. (Respond in 9 minutes, 90% of the time.) Response times are still well above our threshold, and they are looking at re-mapping districts to enhance response times and to upgrade their software. Also, they have done some schedule adjustments, but they are getting to the point where they will have to look at adding an additional unit. They anticipate trending 2 more calls for service per day this year, and maybe one more transport per day over last year. They look at the 95% number, and if it starts to trend downward, that would be a red flag. Their response time is most important.

Also, the IDPH (Iowa Department of Public Health) received 6 million dollars in grant funds to provide different services in different departments with a LUCAS 2 Chest Compression device. This device eliminates the need for human intervention in CPR, and makes CPR far more consistent. The device costs \$10,000, and AAS is waiting for information as to how they can apply for grant money.

Director Rippy presented information regarding AAS' infectious disease readiness. AAS has been designated as one of 4 transport services in the state of Iowa which is authorized to handle infectious disease patients. They have been integrally involved with the IDPH since the Ebola crisis, and they have a designated infectious disease truck specifically for this, a substantial amount of personal protective gear for medics to wear in the event of infectious disease, and they receive training on how to properly take that gear off and on. They continue to train and the IDPH has quarterly meetings to updates on infectious disease. They also perform practical exercises and in-service training updates.

Director Rippy reported that this Wednesday, AAS will be joining both hospitals in a joint community-wide project that will have a substantial positive impact on some particular area of health, and he will report back on this.

Fire Department – Chief Mark English

Chief English presented the following reports: December Fire Marshal's Report; EMS Performance Metrics Report; December, 2015 and January, 2016 Performance Metrics Report; December and January Customer Survey Results Reports; Fire Department Training Hours Report; Incident Per Station Report; Apparatus Response Report; Causes of fires in 2015, and Detector Operability for Structure Fires in 2015. The Fire Marshal Inspections/Fees totaled \$35,404.86 revenue in December.

The Fire Departments' EMS calls for service spiked in September, and have been holding steady. Numbers are increasing as the population ages. In December, the average time fire fighters travel to response location was 5:24. In January it was 5:18, and they would like this number to be 5 or less. Weather could be a factor for this number. Also, in December the time it takes the firefighters to leave the station for a fire call was 1:16. In January it was 1:24. For an EMS call in December it was 1:07, and January it was 1:08. We want this number to be no more than 1 min., and there are variables such as location from station and weather conditions. The percentage of fires confined to room or object of origin in December was 37.50%, and in January it was 41.18%. We would like this number to be more than 40%.

Chief English presented information regarding 2015 training hours. The total number of training hours is 24,182.75, and this number has gone up the last 3 or 4 years. They have added two people to their Training Division. They now have a training chief, captain in charge of special operations, captain in charge of fire training, and captain in charge of EMS training.

Chief English discussed information from the Apparatus Response Report, which shows that the total number of responses from Station 1 is testimony that they picked the right location for that station, as it has the highest number of responses. The station is located in the busiest part of town as far as run volume.

Chief English reported that they will be starting a program geared toward middle school kids, showing them what they need to do to prepare to have public sector jobs in engineering, IT, parks and rec, fire, and police. They will supply information regarding courses students need to take in order to be ready for college and their career choice. They will focus on middle school kids, because by the time they are in high school, it may be too late. They also will focus on minorities and women because the Fire Department has had a hard time recruiting women and minorities. Science, math, physics, chemistry are all courses that are needed to prepare for a career in the Fire Department. They are planning a day in the fall, most likely in October to coincide with Fire Prevention Week.

Discussion was heard regarding mass casualty events. AAS has a mass casualty unit, and they train with the Fire Department. Drills are performed at the nuclear power plant, hospitals, and airport. Most of the mass casualty drills are coordinated through Linn County Emergency Management.

Youth Services Update – Cristy Hamblin with CRPD

Sgt. Hamblin has re-designed the Youth Services reports, which are now broken down by Juvenile Arrest by Race, Sex, Age and Time Range, Juvenile Charges by Offense/Arrestee Age, Juvenile Arrest by Arrest Location, Juvenile Arrests at Schools (attached).

In January, 2016 there have been 72 arrests. 50 were male, 21 were female, and 1 unknown. 39 were white, and 33 were black. The age of arrests ranged from 11 to 17, with 19 arrests being age 17. There were 25 arrests at school, and the majority of the arrests were in the morning. Of the offenses committed, shoplifting was the highest, followed by assault.

In January the breakdown of the arrests at school were as follows:

- Franklin Middle School – 1
- Taft Middle School – 1
- Wilson Middle School – 1
- Jefferson High School – 9
- Kennedy High School – 1

- Washington High School – 6
- Prairie Schools – 3
- Polk Alternative School – 3

Sgt. Hamblin also presented Charges by Offense/Arrestee Age information from 1/1/15 to 12/31/15.

School staff/SROs try to use diversion as much as possible, as well as remedial preventative training, but when kids have used up their first or second chances, or the teachers can't take any more bad behavior/abuse, they charge the juvenile. We don't want to charge kids, who need some other type of help; however, Sgt. Hamblin highlighted one instance in which the child caused \$7,000 - \$10,000 damage to the school.

Sgt. Hamblin stated that they will start looking at are some names, which are public record, to see who the repeat offenders are and what type of services are being provided in the schools and the community. Sgt. Hamblin reported one child had 16 arrests, with 19 charges. Last year 1,558 juveniles were arrested, and in 2014 1,104 were arrested.

SAFE-CR – Amanda Grieder

Amanda presented the SAFE-CR Public Safety update (attached). Since the implementation of Chapter 22A, there have been 2,588 founded calls for service, which have affected 1,851 properties. Of those, 365 have met the threshold of 22A and have been deemed Nuisance Properties.

SAFE-CR has billed out \$40,130.39 for police calls for service, and City Finance has collected \$7,719.66 (112 invoices). There are currently 162 active nuisance properties; 2 are commercial, 80 are owner-occupied, and 80 are rental properties. There are currently 203 in compliance properties. There have been 44 administrative appeals, and of those, 9 designations have been reversed, and 35 designations were upheld. This update also breaks down the nuisance property activity by month and by quadrants. Overall, there have been 3,301 background checks performed ordered by 384 landlords.

The trend is that many owner-occupied property owners are taking care of their properties and are abating the nuisance when they receive the first or second warning letter. SAFE-CR is working with City Finance to find the best way possible to collect the fees from the invoices that have been sent out. This bill can't put as a lien against the property unless we sue them in court. SAFE-CR could work with the City Attorney's Office regarding some of the bigger bills that would be cost effective to do this. They are also checking to see if it would be cost effective to use a collection agency.

Police Department – Deputy Chief Tom Jonker

Deputy Chief Jonker reviewed the Activity Comparison and Neighborhood Activity Summary (attached). Part 1 Violent crimes are up 53.57%, and Aggravated Assaults are up 100%. Robbery is up 175%, and the vast majority of those are drug related. Firearms Discharged is up 40% (14 events and made 4 arrests). Part 1 Property crimes are up 6.61%, fueled by burglaries. Auto Theft is up 35.29%, mostly because of keys left in the vehicle. Burglaries are up 32%, and this is related to people committing burglaries in order to supply their habit. Theft of ID is up 366.67% because it is tax preparation season, and people are stealing identities and filing false tax returns. Drug Tax Stamp Law is up 50.0%, and meth labs are up once again. Search warrants are up 80.0%. There is a big increase in Self-initiated Calls, Assignments which are up 48.24%. Foot patrols are up 78.57%, mostly due to the newly formed PCAT team.

In 2015, we had 61 overdoses from heroin, with 5 deaths. So far this year, we have had 3 overdoses and no deaths. Officer Fear is working with the Eastern Iowa Heroin Initiative in conjunction with the U.S. Attorney's Office, focusing on opioids and misuse of prescription medications. He works not only with enforcement, but mostly treatment, prevention talks, follow up and also trying to get people into residential treatment. On Wednesday, February 10th at 7:00 p.m., the Eastern Iowa Heroin Initiative will be hosting a Town Hall at the Cedar Rapids Public Library, 450 5th Avenue SE, in the Whipple Auditorium to engage the community in a discussion on national and local trends concerning the heroin epidemic.

Deputy Chief Jonker highlighted several arrests which occurred directly because of citizen assistance (report attached). Most were OWIs and drugs. One instance was a person shooting wildly around his house and at an individual who was fleeing from him. Neighbors were excellent witnesses, and we were able to track him down. The suspect was charged with attempted murder. In another instance, citizens reported someone throwing something in the pond in Jones Park. We recovered the gun and it proved to be a firearm from a shooting, and without that information from the citizen, we would not have recovered the gun.

The PCAT team started on January 9th, and since then they have made 74 vehicle stops, 53 subject stops/citizen contacts, 31 foot patrols, 7 FI's (which are field identification cards where information is written down submitted by neighbors, witnesses or the officer's observations). The PCAT team are visible (out of their police cars), talking to citizens, and they are making some good arrests. They have arrested 19 individuals for PCS or with intent to deliver, and are taking guns off the street.

The Police Department is in the process of recruiting for police officer. We have had five orientation sessions, and another one is coming up, which will help applicants with the testing process. We are trying to hire officers to reflect the diversity of the city by encouraging minorities to apply. Also, we have held recruiting trips to predominately African American colleges and to different metropolitan areas.

Linn County Emergency Management – Michael Goldberg

Michael Goldberg presented a request from the Linn County Emergency Management Commission for a boundary change for the Duane Arnold Energy Center Emergency Planning Zone. They will be submitting a request to the Federal Emergency Management Agency to authorize modification of the NextEra Energy Duane Arnold Emergency Planning Zone (EPZ). The request will be to designate Highway 30 as the southern boundary for the EPZ. The portion to be removed is 2 to 5 miles outside of the 10-mile boundary established under federal regulations.

Emergency Management is seeking support from the City of Cedar Rapids, Linn County Board of Supervisors, and College Community prior to submitting their request to FEMA. A motion was made and approved for a resolution of support for the EPZ Boundary Change for DAEC.

Chief English will put this resolution on the Council agenda for their consideration.

MARCH AGENDA ITEM FORECAST

- Approval of February draft minutes
- Building Services Report (*Ciabatti*)
- Area Ambulance Service Report (*Rippy*)
- Cedar Rapids Fire Department Report (*English*)
- Youth Services Report (*Hamblin/Leff*)
- Police SAFE-CR Report (*Grieder*)

Public Safety & Youth Services Committee Meeting
February 8, 2016

- Cedar Rapids Police Department Report (*Jerman*)
- April Agenda Forecast Items

The meeting was adjourned at 5:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jean Novak
Administrative Assistant III
Cedar Rapids Police Department