



**City of Cedar Rapids
Public Safety and Youth Services Committee Minutes
Police Department Community Room, 505 1st Street SW
Monday, May 9, 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, Scott Overland and Pat Shey, Fire Chief Mark English, Police Chief Wayne Jerman, Building Services Director Kevin Ciabatti, Area Ambulance Services Executive Director Keith Rippy, and Amanda Greider with SAFE-CR.

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

Community Development-Kirsty Sanchez

The meeting opened with a presentation from CR YOUth. CR YOUth was established in June 2015 with 3 goals in mind:

- Provide students with a voice in city matters
- Provide students with the opportunity to see how cities prioritize and carry out projects
- Gain input on the needs of youth

CR YOUth is made up of students from various Cedar Rapids high schools who are also involved in Iowa BIG. The presentation was made by students who are members of our city #CRYOUth initiative, a collaboration between the city & Iowa BIG where students actively engage in learning about our city while receiving high school class credit. Their power point highlighted the different projects they worked on throughout the school year. Some of the projects include creating connections between neighborhoods, Cedar Rapids High Schools, local government and youth. CR YOUth also reviewed EnvisionCR and provided feedback on the StrengthenCR and InvestCR elements of the plan. Additionally, the students reached out to their peers to gather information on how the City can better engage youth.

Staff will continue working with Iowa BIG to identify city projects for CR YOUth to work on in the upcoming school year.

Building Service Report-Kevin Ciabatti

Permits:

- Total permits issued are down 15% from this time last year.
- Total residential building permits are down 2% from this time last year.
- Total number of permits issued is up 22% from this time last month.

Inspections:

- Building inspections are down 23% from this time last year.
- Electrical inspections are up 19% from this time last year.
- Mechanical inspections are down 15% from this time last year.
- Plumbing inspections are down 18% from this time last year.
- Overall, the total number of inspections is down 12% from this time last year.
- Total number of inspections is down 1% from this time last month.

Complaints:

- Total number of open complaints is up 11% from this time last year.
- Total number of open cases is up 8% from this time last month.
- Total number of pending investigations has increased 61% from this time last year.
- Total number of open nuisance cases are up 20% from this time last year.
- Total number of open zoning cases are down 12% from this time last year.

Area Ambulance Report-Keith Rippy

Rippy discussed the new features included on the six new ambulances that are set to arrive within the next 60-90 days. The new design is geared towards improved patient care and safety. The new ambulances will be the "strongest and safest ambulances in the country". Some of the improvements will include safety features such as seat belt/spotter sirens and traffic/speed tracking. The new boxes will be 22" longer than the current boxes and will be made with aluminum which increases strength while making them much lighter. The new design allows the medics to have arm's length access to all of their equipment from the captain's chair. The cost for the new ambulances will be significant up front but will be re-mountable. The remount savings will save a quarter of a million dollars within two cycles.

Fire Department Report-Chief Mark English

The USAR Team was established in 2004 and continues to be a vital resource for search and rescue incidences throughout Iowa. They have been State sponsored for the past 12 years.

The Fire Marshall Inspection/Fees totaled \$37,156.09 in April 2016.

Youth Services Update-Cristy Hamblin with CRPD

Cristy reviewed the juvenile arrest data for April 2016. There was one arrest of a 13 year old for negligent manslaughter and two 8 year olds involved in simple assault charges. There is a trend showing a decrease in the ages of children involved in charges including burglary, theft and weapons violations. Cristy believes this is primarily due to a lack of parental control or involvement. These incidences are particularly common within single-parent households.

The SRO program continues to be successful within the schools. She mentioned that an SRO's purpose is not as a disciplinarian nor to engage in classroom management but instead strives to provide a safe environment for the students and to serve as a positive law enforcement presence. They are involved in handling violations such as youth smoking or school property violence.

SAFE-CR Update-Amanda Grieder

Amanda presented that there have been 2726 founded calls for Service of Chapter 22A which have affected 1,931 properties. Of those, 376 have met the threshold of 22 A and have been deemed Nuisance Properties. SAFE-CR has billed out \$41,653.19 and has collected \$8,783.74.

Background checks have increased 27% from April 2015 to April 2016.

Police Department Report-Chief Wayne Jerman

Chief Wayne Jerman reviewed the crime statistics from the last year to present. There has been an increase of 14% (117 incidents versus 102) in the violent crime category compared to this point last year, a 2.68% increase in property crime and a significant increase of 146.51% in counterfeit money. He stated that this issue has grown to "epidemic proportions."

In the Citizen Assists area, in April 2016 alone there were 9 calls involving either Burglary/Theft either with or without Assault with a Deadly Weapon.

There is a developing partnership with Pastor Damien Epps that would involve him making visits to the jail in an effort to assist with violence control. He would be available to talk to inmates who are seeking spiritual guidance.

The Police Department has partnered up with Nick Roberts in IT to automate all reports until a new crime analyst is appointed.

JUNE AGENDA ITEM FORECAST

- Building Services Report (*Ciabatti*)
- Cedar Rapids Fire Department Report (*English*)
- Area Ambulance Service Report (*Rippy*)
- Youth Services Report (*Hamblin/Leff*)
- Police SAFE-CR Report (*Grieder*)
- Cedar Rapids Police Department Report (*Jerman*)
- July Agenda Forecast Items

The meeting was adjourned at 5:25 p.m.

Thank you,
Megan Moon
Cedar Rapids Fire Department
Central Fire Station Admin II