



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

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

Building Services Report – Kevin Ciabatti

Permits:

- Total permits issued are down 2% from this time last year.
- The total residential building permits are up 7% from this time last year.
- The total number of permits issued is down 19% from this time last month.

Inspections:

- Building inspections are down 6% from this time last year.
- Electrical inspections are up 30% from this time last year.
- Mechanical inspections are down 9% from this time last year.
- Plumbing inspections are 12% down from this time last year.
- Overall, the total number of inspections is down 1% from this time last year.
- The total number of inspections is up 9% from this time last month.

Complaints:

- The total number of open complaints is up 33% from this time last year.
- The total number of open cases is down 1% from this time last month.
- The total number of pending investigations has increased 14% from this time last year.
- The total number of open nuisance cases is up 25% from this time last year.
- The total number of open zoning cases is up 17% from this time last year.

Director Ciabatti felt that 2016 should be a more normal year, and they met their revenue projection last month. However, inspections have been up and down and the number of complaints have increased. Also, Director Ciabatti reported that they have begun cross training of the inspectors.

Area Ambulance Report – Keith Rippy

Area Ambulance Services' Key Performance Indicators and Special Events Summary reports are attached. AAS performed 1,632 calls for service, and 70 standbys in the month of July. If you translate those standbys into dollars, it is about \$14,000 in kind stand-by service.

Director Rippy reported that their mapping upgrade should be completed by the end of the month. They will have all maps of the districts and will be including all the new addresses, particularly in Marion. Also, they participated in a joint disaster drill in Robins this month, along with the Police Department, Fire Department and several other EMS and fire jurisdictions. They also participated with Police and Fire with Neighborhood Night Out.

In July, Lt. Tim Daily from the Cedar Rapids Police Department came to their department and gave them an update on scene safety, in light of all the difficult challenges that are going on. People don't make a distinction whether the person wearing a uniform is police, fire, or ambulance; everybody looks the same.

Also, Area Ambulance is working with the Sheriff's Department to have their EMS unit start going to their continuing education training every month, as well as to the simulation center with them at Kirkwood.

Fire Department Report – Chief Mark English

Reports from the Fire Department are attached. The Fire Department's performance metrics are pretty typical for the month. The customer service report was not available because all of the departments are working with IT to implement some changes.

The Chief reported that new Engine #5 at the Wilson Avenue Station, as part of the sticker package when purchased, is personalized it to the neighborhood, and it says "Czech Town Express".

The Cedar Rapids Fire Department received a request for aid from Walford to help perform a search and rescue after a tornado leveled a home in Walford. They sent a search and rescue team, and they were able to use air bags to get a resident out from under his collapsed house. When another department asks for help, they respond whenever they can.

Chief Greg Smith was deployed to the fire in northern Colorado/Wyoming border.

Youth Services Update – Angie Cole with Recreation Department

Angie gave an update on the NW Rec Center. They are going to start moving in this week and next week. Their hope is that they could be closing the office at Ambrose on August 12th, and opening on August 15th at the NW Rec Center. When people come to register for a program, they will be going over to that location. Ambrose will still stay open for some evening programs, such as yoga and dancing; however, after Labor Day they won't have any more programs there, but they will still have some staff there.

Aquatic staff will be moving to a building in Noelridge Park, and Marketing and Special Olympic staff will move to the City Services Center. They have done a lot of research with other recreational centers throughout Iowa to try and figure out hours to start the programs, and to keep track of who is in the building. To start, their hours will be M-F 8:00 am to 9:00 pm; Saturday 10:00 am to 6:00 pm, and Sunday Noon to 6:00 pm. There will be programs that will be going on constantly throughout the day. For example, the gym now has a divided wall, so they can have children and adult programs at the same time. Also, they have started an after school program. One is for elementary students, so that children at Harrison will be able to walk over to the Rec Center after school. Students from any elementary or middle school can come to the after school program, and the City bus drop-off site is two blocks away. Also, they will have a drop in fee, where parents can buy a punch card. They will punch them in, and know who is in their programs. If children or adults want to come to the Rec Center and just play pool, they can come in to open gym, whether youth or adult, they will get a card, and that card will be scanned, which will give them all their contact information in case of an emergency.. They are having a "sneak peek" night for the NW neighborhood for Harrison students on August 22nd, and then August 25th will be the ribbon cutting ceremony and dance. Also, Harrison students will be walking over to the Rec Center every day for gym class. The building will be secured, and the public will not be able to interact with the students.

Youth Services Update – Cristy Hamblin with CRPD

Sgt. Hamblin reviewed juvenile arrest data (reports are attached). There were no arrests at schools in July. The numbers are pretty much the same as last month, except that female arrests were down in July. There were 26 females arrested in June, and only 9 in July.

Also, beginning July 1st, juvenile names cannot be released unless they meet certain criteria such as arrests for felonies or aggravated misdemeanors.

For National Night Out, they had 19 different events, and she thanked the firefighters, AAS, and SAFE-CR staff who participated.

Right now, they have restorative justice in our high schools and our two middle schools. They also will be doing some more restorative justice training for the Police Pals, who are in the grade schools.

Sgt. Hamblin also gave an overview of the Sioux City Project (MVP Program), which is a mentoring program that deals with violence and bullying. They met with school officials in July about getting it set up prior to school beginning. Cedar Rapids Schools is implementing training through Kirkwood, and this should take place this month.

SAFE-CR Update – Amanda Grieder

Amanda presented the SAFE-CR Public Safety Update (attached). Since the implementation of Chapter 22A there have been 3,011 Founded Calls for Service, which have affected 2,135 properties. Of those, 408 have met the threshold of 22A and have been deemed Nuisance Properties. They have brought 278 properties back into compliance. Of the 130 active nuisance properties, 1 is commercial, 76 are owner occupied, and 53 are rental properties. SAFE-CR conducted 74 background checks in July, for a total of 34 registered landlords. Overall, there have been 4,162 background checks, ordered by 410 landlords. Of the properties that have been brought into compliance, 11 of them have become nuisance properties again. They will work with those property owners to see how they can assist them.

SAFE-CR has billed out \$41,977.49 for Police Calls for Service, and Finance has collected \$17,089.58. They have been working with Building Services regarding the properties with outstanding invoices, and that has been going very well. Also, the Affordable Housing Network has wanted to work with them to help with some of those chronic nuisance properties that are newly vacant. Sometimes, they will buy a property that's a nuisance property, and turn it around and rehab it.

Police Department Report –Chief Wayne Jerman

Chief Jerman reviewed the Activity Comparison and the Neighborhood Activity Summary (attached). Violent crime has gone down to an increase of 3.35%. The burglary rate is at 11%, and a Council goal will be to revitalize the Neighborhood Watch Program in order to have neighbors watching out for each other to report burglaries, and illegal activity that is occurring in the neighborhoods. Burglaries in the Cleveland and Mound View neighborhood are down. Assaults in Wellington and Westdale neighborhoods are down. Larceny/thefts are also down in Cleveland, Mound View, Taylor and Wellington.

Also, Chief Jerman highlighted several arrests which occurred directly because of citizen assistance (report attached). Seven of the 11 are related to either public intoxication or OWI arrests. Two are for domestic violence or No Contact Order violations. The most serious one is the incident that was reported on July 6th on the SE side for shots fired, and due to the assistance of witnesses and residents in the area, the suspect was identified and arrested and a handgun was located and seized.

The Chief gave an overview of the MVP Program, in which they will utilize the School Resource Officers to assist school staff in developing mentors in violence prevention. This program was successful in Sioux City, and it has been used in the NFL, NCAA,

other large areas to reduce violence and those violence related causes such as bullying and other forms of behavior that ends up culminating with violence. The upper classmen will mentor the underclassmen. Sioux City showed a marked decrease in school actions that required intervention. Kirkwood has offered to train this first level of mentors, which will include the School Resource Officers of the Police Department, and help push this out to the Cedar Rapids School District. The MVP Program has already been embraced by the College Community School District, and there are a couple other jurisdictions within the state that are also trying to adopt it as well.

SEPTEMBER AGENDA ITEM FORECAST

- Approval of August Draft Minutes
- 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*)
- Diversity Status Report (*LaSheila Yates*)
- CR Youth Status/Progress (*Kirsty Sanchez*)
- October Agenda Forecast Items

The meeting was adjourned at 4:46 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jean Novak
Administrative Assistant
Cedar Rapids Police Department