

Village Board Public Safety Committee

MINUTES

~ Thursday, November 21, 2019 ~

CALL TO ORDER

Trustee Guzzo called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Mayor Gunter, Clerk Szymiski, Trustee Addington, Trustee Barker, Trustee Guzzo, Trustee Liddle, Village Manager May, Police Chief Gunther and Fire Chief Riley

Also Present:

Deputy Fire Chief Connolly, Deputy Fire Chief O'Hare, Deputy Fire Chief Fitzgerald, Deputy Police Chief Gruen, Deputy Police Chief Thompson, Finance Director Parker, Human Resources Director Brainard, Communications Director McIntyre, Communications Assistant Babyar and Administrative Assistant Brady

ABSENT

Trustee Barry and Trustee Nero

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

All present recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment.

APPROVAL OF AUGUST 15, 2019 PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MINUTES

Trustee Addington made a motion, seconded by Trustee Liddle to approve the August 15, 2019, Public Safety Committee Minutes as submitted. Motion carried unanimously.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

AWARDS PRESENTATION

Police Chief Gunther presented recognition awards to the following members:

Officer Kamil Broda was presented with a Chief's Recognition Commendation Award for assisting with the evacuation of residents and pets at a Westmont Village Apartment fire in 2018. Officer John Majeski, who was not present at the meeting, will also receive a Chief's Recognition Award for his help with evacuation during the same apartment fire.

Officer Hugo Pacheco was presented with a Chief's Recognition Commendation Award for this involvement with saving two individuals experiencing a drug overdose. Officer Pacheco's investigation of the crime scene led to three (3) Class X felony drug charges.

Deputy Police Chief Brian Gruen was presented with a Chief's Recognition Commendation Award for his fundraising efforts with Special Olympics Illinois. Deputy Police Chief Gruen coordinated a variety of events over several years, which resulted in raising over \$40,000. In 2017, Deputy Police Chief Gruen and Special Olympics Illinois Athlete Erin Compton were featured in a national ad campaign for the annual Dunkin' Donuts Cop on a Rooftop fundraiser.

ILEAP UPDATE

Police Chief Gunther provided an update on the ILEAP accreditation process. Sergeant Gomorczak is in charge of the program this year and is getting closer to once again being reaccredited. All staff members are working diligently to update policies and procedures. A mock onsite assessment will be conducted in the second week of December to assist with preparation. The actual onsite assessment will occur in January. One item beneficial throughout the process is a new program called PowerDMS which allows staff to streamline policies and increase access to all documents such as policies, procedures, training videos, Village communication, etc. Staff members are looking forward to completing the process and hopefully becoming accredited for the first time since 2008.

DEA TASK FORCE UPDATE

Police Chief Gunther said at the previous meeting a request was made to display new firearms purchased by the Police Department. He presented a new AR15 weapon with a 4" suppressor, 10.5" barrel, red dot sight and flashlight on the front. He stated a total of 10 new weapons were purchased and an additional 13 were rebuilt the same. The new weapons were purchased for a couple of reasons, first being the current weapons were approximately 10 years old with several rounds being fired through the barrels. The second reason was the compressing sound detonating device on the front is critical for hearing protection. When fired officers would lose their ability to hear.

Police Chief Gunther said discussion is being held on uniforming officers with the AR15 rifles during community events in an effort to dissuade potential criminal activity. Discussion is being conducted on the pros versus cons of AR15's being handled. The Village of Lisle currently utilizes this type of weapon during the Eyes to the Skies Festival with little negative feedback. Police Chief Gunther asked the Village Board to give the concept some thought and will discuss it at a future meeting.

Trustee Addington questioned the weight, ammunition rounds and ease of use. Police Chief Gunther said the rifle has a capacity of 30 rounds of ammunition and is lightweight and easy to use. Police Chief Gunther added the shot accuracy between a long rifle and pistol is not even measurable.

Trustee Guzzo asked Police Chief Gunther to present additional information at the February 27, 2020 Public Safety Committee Meeting.

MISCELLANEOUS

Police Chief Gunther provided an update on hiring. There is currently one job offer extended and they should be starting soon. There are also two conditional offers extended and they are in the medical and psychological test portion. Police Chief Gunther said he hopes to have the three members start the police academy on January 6, 2020. Two additional positions remain open with the Police and Fire Commission conducting six interviews on Saturday, November 23rd. Staff hope to have two potential candidates to begin the hiring process.

Police Chief Gunther said earlier in the day the Police Department took possession of 75 pairs of sneakers donated by Unity Partnership. Director Regina Brown, Unity Partnership, worked with the Police Department to obtain shoes to donate to underprivileged children prior to Christmas. He said it has been a very good organization to work with.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

CHICAGO FIRE UPDATE

Fire Chief Riley advised in 2017 Chicago Fire filmed an episode in Westmont. Another opportunity was presented to once again film at Fire / Police Station at 500 N. Cass Ave. There were several aesthetic changes made to the station to transform it to a "mini" Chicago station. There was a lot of work put into preparation, planning, staging and filming. Special thanks to the Village Board, Village Manager May, Police Chief Gunther and Staff, Public Works Director Ramsey and Staff, Fire Department Staff, Larry McIntyre, Jenny Babyar, and other employees that assisted with the process. Also thank you to the Emergency Management Agency volunteers for assistance with traffic control. They put in approximately 152 hours which saved the Village approximately \$4,000. He further stated the episode is scheduled to air on Wednesday, January 15, 2020, 8:00 p.m. on NBC. Chicago Fire also donated approximately 100 coffee cups for staff distribution. There is further discussion on

filming another police / fire crossover episode in the future. Village Manager May discussed the financial contribution and it's distribution amongst Village Departments.

CAD UPDATE

Fire Chief Riley advised CAD is working great thus far with staff working with ACDC on some minor CAD response changes. Per Deputy Fire Chief Connolly fire station alerting is now operational within all 65 agencies within DuPage County. Which makes dispatching and response more effective throughout fire departments due to incidents throughout DuPage County. Additional equipment in the budget will include additional monitors, lighting, screens, timers, etc. Purvis will begin the installation of additional equipment in January 2020. Chief Riley advised this should be the last update on CAD fire station alerting.

FIRE SERVICE OPTIONS UPDATE

Village Manager May said discussion was held at the last meeting pertaining to fire department staffing. A working group of staff members led by Trustee Guzzo was formed and has been meeting regularly to evaluate and analyze all aspects of staffing. The only goal in mind was to have a plan in place in the event change was required. The bulk of evaluation was done by fire department staff with review by Mayor Gunter, Village Manager May, Finance Department and Human Resources. All options are being investigated and worked on by Village Staff. Further comprehensive information will be presented at the February 27, 2020 Public Safety Committee.

There being no other business to discuss, Trustee Liddle motioned to adjourn, to which Trustee Addington seconded. The meeting subsequently adjourned at 5:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Chris Hardy
Recording Secretary