

## **Village Board Public Safety Committee**

### **MINUTES**

**~ Thursday, May 23, 2019 ~**

#### **CALL TO ORDER**

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

#### **ROLL CALL**

Mayor Gunter, Clerk Szymski, Trustee Addington (5:40 p.m.), Trustee Barry (5:05 p.m.), Trustee Guzzo, Trustee Liddle, Village Manager May, Police Chief Gunther and Fire Chief Riley

#### **Also Present:**

Deputy Fire Chief Connolly, Deputy Police Chief Gruen, Deputy Police Chief Thompson, Finance Director Parker, Public Works Director Ramsey (5:05 p.m.), Community Development Director Sylvester, Assistant HR Director Brainard, Sergeant Gomorzak, Police Social Media Coordinator Whitehead, Communications Assistant Babyar and Recording Secretary Hardy

#### **ABSENT**

Trustee Barker and Trustee Nero

#### **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

All present recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

#### **APPROVAL OF FEBRUARY 28, 2019 PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MINUTES**

Trustee Liddle made a motion, seconded by Trustee Guzzo to approve the February 28, 2019, Public Safety Committee Minutes as submitted. Motion carried unanimously.

## **POLICE DEPARTMENT**

### **2018 ANNUAL REPORT AND HIGHLIGHTS**

Police Chief Gunther gave a Powerpoint presentation on the Westmont Police Department 2018 Summary of Accomplishments. Highlights of the report included:

- **Community Outreach:**
  - Illinois Special Olympics - Deputy Chief Gruen has acted as the liaison for the past five years. During that time he organized several fundraising events including; the Westmont Teachers, Police and Fire Volleyball Tournament; Cop on a Rooftop as well as the paper shred and bulb recycling collections. Over \$15,000 was raised in 2018 making it the highest collection year to date. Sgts. Weibler and Gomorzak will be taking over as liaisons in 2019 and are hoping to have another great fundraising year.
  - Citizens Police Academy - A total of 15 students graduated the CPA in 2018. Alumni members volunteered at community events and raised money for charitable causes.
  - The Police Department hosted a squad car night in conjunction with the WSEC Cruisin' Nights on Cass Ave. Approximately 60 police and military vehicles participated in the event.
  - Other events in 2018 included hosting breakfast for the Taiwanese Delegation and Sister City Tourism; Open House and Bike Auction; National Night Out; participation in several summer festivals and parades within the community.
  
- **School Presence and Resource Officer Program:**
  - One patrol officer is assigned to each school at the beginning and end of each school day. In 2018 school patrols were increased from 15 minutes to 40 minutes. The officer assists school staff with formulating school safety strategies and initiatives including active shooter drills, pedestrian traffic, crossing guard coverage, school activities and other student safety issues.
  
- **Social Media and Village Webpage:**
  - In 2018 a Facebook page was launched in an effort to better connect with the community. Staff continues to update the contents of the webpage on a regular basis.
  
- **Building Improvements:**
  - Staff continues to improve police facilities in compliance with the Village's Strategic Plan. Improvements have included the shooting range, quiet room, break room, physical fitness room, safe exchange zone and water purifiers. Additional improvements include four new bathrooms (records division, unisex main floor, men's and women's second floor), new LED lighting throughout and a new payment mailbox in front of the station.

- Personnel:
  - In 2018 the PD achieved the budgeted authorized strength of 40 officers and one records clerk. Due to retirements, separations and terminations staff levels had fallen below the 40 total members. The Fire and Police Commission worked tirelessly in 2018 to fill four vacancies.
- Patrol Operations / Investigations:
  - Total calls for service in 2018 were 18,359.
  - The Investigations Division processed 206 cases for further investigation.
- 2019 Goals:
  - Police shared services with the Metropolitan Enforcement Response Investigations Team (MERIT).
    -
  - Countywide Computer Aided Dispatch / Records Management System (CAD/RMS).
  - DuMeg Temporary Duty Assignment.
    - Officers to spend time with DuPage County's undercover narcotics unit as a learning experience.

Chief Gunther said one of the Police Department's principle goals is to demonstrate the human side of the police force by building bridges and trust within the community.

### **METROPOLITAN EMERGENCY RESPONSE INVESTIGATION TEAM (MERIT)**

Police Chief Gunther advised FIAT and the DuPage Major Crimes Task Force will be combining efforts to create one new task force effective July 1, 2019. The new task force has been named the DuPage Metropolitan Emergency Response Investigation Team (DuMERIT). Police Chief Gunther further advised a 12 member board was finalized earlier in the day. He was appointed as Vice Chairman and will become Chairman in approximately two years. The intergovernmental agreement will be presented at a June Village Board meeting for approval.

### **POLICE ELIGIBILITY AND STAFFING**

Police Chief Gunther advised staffing is currently at 39 of 40 max. The eligibility list recently expired prompting a new testing process to begin on August 10th. The testing process will be conducted through IO Solutions with applications available beginning on June 3rd.

### **LOCAL DUI PROSECUTION**

Police Chief Gunther said a request was made to utilize a local attorney for DUI prosecutions in place of the DuPage County State's Attorney Office. This option has been discussed over several years and staff is considering the cost savings benefit, etc. Village Board approval would be required prior to implementing. A progressive fine and fee structure would also have to be established. Chief Gunther further stated prosecution would only include misdemeanor DUI's, felony cases would automatically be prosecuted by the State's Attorney Office.

## **FIRE DEPARTMENT**

### **DR. HARTMANN AWARD**

Fire Chief Riley advised EMS Director Dralle accepted an award from Good Samaritan Hospital earlier in the day. The department was awarded for firefighter actions in reviving an unconscious patient involved in a motor vehicle accident.

### **HIRING OF 13 NEW FIREFIGHTER / PARAMEDICS**

Fire Chief Riley advised there are currently 48 firefighter/paramedics filling daily shifts. There are 11 new firefighter/paramedics scheduled to begin training on June 4th and should be ready to fill shifts by mid July.

### **2018 YEAR END REPORT PRESENTATION**

Fire Chief Riley gave a Powerpoint presentation on the Westmont Fire Department 2018 Annual Report. Highlights of the report included:

- Operations:
  - A total of 4,288 calls were reported which represents a 3.87% increase over 2017. Of those calls, 2,823 were Emergency Medical Service requests.
  - Fire District calls totalled 343 in 2018.
    - North Westmont Fire District: 82-EMS; 43-Fire
    - South Westmont Fire District: 136-EMS; 35-Fire
    - Golfview Hills Fire District: 36-EMS; 15-Fire
- Significant Incidents:
  - Life Saving Award issued to Captain Joe Kielczynski for rescuing a resident from an apartment fire on 65th Street.
  - January 27, 2018 - 73 Piers Drive structure fire in a large multi-family complex.
  - January 31, 2018 - 6703 S. Park structure fire in large apartment complex.
  - December 7, 2018 - 7 W. Quincy structure fire caused by arson.
- Fire Prevention Bureau:
  - Fire Inspections: A total of 1,393 annual fire inspections were completed in 2018. This aligns with the goal of conducting every inspectable property within a 12 month period.
  - Residential Sprinklers: 2018 represented the third full year that residential sprinklers were required on all new single family construction. As of December 31, 2108; 37 homes are protected by automatic sprinkler systems. An additional 18 homes have since submitted plans to install sprinklers.
  - Car Safety Seat Installation Program: There are currently two members certified to install car safety seats. Two additional members will be certified in 2019. This is an excellent service offered to the community. In 2018, 40 cars seats were installed and staff anticipates even more in 2019.

- Elevator Certification: In 2018, the FPB regained control of elevator certification within Westmont as opposed to the State Fire Marshal administering the program. Occupancies with elevator conveyances will have better customer service in respect to elevator certification and permit approval. To date, the program has generated an additional \$1,444 in fees for the Village.
- Plan Reviews - Construction Inspections: A total of 284 plan reviews and 272 construction inspection were conducted in 2018.
- Public Education:
  - Kids Safety Camps held in July and August with over 30 participants at each camp.
  - Annual Fire Department Cruisin' Night held in August was a very popular well attended event.
  - Annual Fire Prevention Week Open House held in October continues to be a popular community event.
- Emergency Medical Services:
  - EMS calls increased in 2018 to 2,823 medical calls, which is a 9% increase over 2,590 in 2017.
    - 1,404 were treated with advanced life support (ALS) procedures
    - 1,140 treated with basic life support (BLS) procedures
    - 179 resident assists including lift assists to moving from home to vehicles and back
  - Bike medics were present at several events throughout 2018 including Red, White, BBQ festivities, Cruisin' Nights, Taste of Westmont, and 4th of July activities at Ty Warner Park.
  - The 5th Annual Senior Car Care Clinic was held on September 28, 2018. A total of 52 cars were inspected for local senior citizens at no charge.
  - In September and October, the Westmont Fire Department along with the Police Department participated in and oversaw Armed Intruder Drills and Lockdown drills at all schools within Westmont.
- Training Division:
  - In addition to monthly crew training, Westmont firefighters obtained 44 new Office of the State Fire Marshal certifications. This training helps prepare them for the wide array of emergencies they will respond to.
  - Continued implementation of Target Solutions software as a web based training platform. This allows Westmont to develop, deliver and record training in a more efficient and comprehensive method.
  - 12 new members completed eight weeks of new hire training. The training concluded with a written test and live fire training.
- Emergency Management Agency:
  - In 2018, the Westmont EMA volunteers provided approximately 1,600 hours of service to the Village at a cost savings of approximately \$50,000.
  - EMA responds to several types of emergencies including traffic/crowd control, emergency lighting, wire watches, manpower assistance and emergency planning.

- EMA continues to assist at Village functions such as: Village-wide emergency preparedness exercises, community events and other events as requested by Village agencies.
- 2019 Goals:
  - Fire Prevention / Public Education:
    - Conduct child safety seat distribution event.
    - Adoption of 2018 International Codes.
    - Pursue transitioning one part-time inspector to full-time.
    - Continue to streamline processes and procedures.
  - Emergency Medical Services:
    - Establish Mobile Integrated Healthcare Program.
    - Implement major upgrade to life-saving equipment.
    - New ambulance delivery.
  - Training / Safety Division:
    - Continue Target Solutions development and implementation.
    - Provide a wide variety of live fire training opportunities.
    - Continue officer development training.
    - Enhance drivers training accident prevention and correction measures program.
- Strategic Plan Highlights
  - Succession Plan:
    - Fill full time Deputy Fire Chief position.
    - Develop succession plans for EMS and Fire Prevention Divisions.
  - Facilities:
    - Station 182 - Remodel kitchen and bathrooms.
    - Station 183 - Remodel bathrooms.
  - Apparatus / Equipment:
    - New ambulance delivery early July.
    - New Battalion Chief Tahoe delivery.
    - Self containing breathing apparatus grant replacement program to be pursued.
  - Programs:
    - Performance evaluations for officers.
    - New computer aided dispatch and fire station alerting for DuPage County.
    - Image Trend software for fire reporting.
    - Flow MSP for incident pre planning.
    - ICX incident command for command vehicles.
    - 2nd year Accreditation Annual Compliance Report completion.

### **FINAL CAD / PURVIS UPDATE**

Deputy Fire Chief Connolly advised the new CAD system target date is June 18th. He said it is a large complicated system but ETSB feels it's ready for implementation. The Countywide Station Alerting System will be implemented in the month after the new CAD system is up and running. He further advised approximately \$75,000 in funding was carried over from the 2018/19 budget to cover optional equipment purchases.

Deputy Chief Connolly said it's a state of the art system with DuPage County being the first in the country implementing a truly integrated system.

Deputy Fire Chief Connolly stated during the testing phase an addressing issue was noted with old County addresses and zip codes. ETSB is aware of the issue and is working with GIS staff to identify all addresses.

#### **NEW AMBULANCE PURCHASE UPDATE**

Fire Chief Riley said the new ambulance is scheduled for a July delivery. The new ambulance will replace existing Medic 184. Staff planned to trade in the current Medic 184 but received a purchase offer from Loves Park for a higher amount.

#### **NEW BATTALION CHIEF VEHICLE UPDATE**

Fire Chief Riley advised the new battalion chief car will be picked up tomorrow. It will then be sent to the Village Garage prior to be placed in service.

#### **OTHER BUSINESS**

Fire Chief Riley acknowledged EMS staff during EMS Week.

There being no other business to discuss, Trustee Liddle motioned to adjourn, to which Trustee Barry seconded. The meeting subsequently adjourned at 5:47 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Chris Hardy  
Recording Secretary