

Village Board Public Safety Committee

MINUTES

~ Thursday, May 24, 2018 ~

CALL TO ORDER

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

ROLL CALL

Mayor Gunter, Clerk Szymski, Trustee Addington, Trustee Barker, Trustee Guzzo, Trustee Liddle, Trustee Nero, Village Manager May, and Fire Chief Weiss

Also Present:

Deputy Fire Chief Connolly, Deputy Fire Chief Riley, Deputy Police Chief Thompson and Recording Secretary Hardy

ABSENT

Trustee Barry and Police Chief Gunther

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

All present recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF FEBRUARY 15, 2018 PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MINUTES

Trustee Liddle made a motion, seconded by Trustee Nero to approve the February 15, 2018, Public Safety Committee Minutes as submitted. Motion carried unanimously.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

FIRE STATION ALERTING SYSTEM

Deputy Fire Chief Connolly said ETSB has approved \$3.6 million for head end equipment and core receiving equipment at each fire station. Westmont has budgeted an additional \$70,000 to purchase additional required equipment. Additional monies may be needed as the project moves forward. He said all systems are designed to decrease turnout times and improve response times.

NEW NUMBERING SYSTEM

Deputy Fire Chief Riley advised Westmont was the final DuPage County fire department to convert to a new numbering system. The fire stations were both renumbered earlier in the day. Both administration and personnel are still getting used to the new numbers. He thanked the Village for approving funding the renumbering project. Baseball hats with the new numbers were giving to all Public Safety Committee members.

WARNING SIREN REPLACEMENT

Fire Chief Weiss advised staff is working on the 39 E. Burlington Street warning siren replacement. He said Downers Grove and Clarendon Hills have been contacted to see if we can work together to coordinate a new location. A replacement may not be needed due to the positioning between Downers Grove and Clarendon Hills. The only concern would be DuComm activates Downers Grove and Clarendon Hills sirens and ACDC activates Westmont sirens. Additional information will be provided as the project moves forward.

STAFFING LEVELS

Deputy Fire Chief Riley said current fire department staffing is at 47 members, an additional 12 new members are currently training and should be ready for shift by July. There are currently 10 members on approved leaves. Staff anticipates three of the ten members returning to shift. There are still issues filling necessary shifts with current staffing levels. He said discussion would be held with Village Manager May to discuss creating another hiring list this fall. Staff is hoping to add an additional 10 members to assist with filling open shifts. He further advised a policy was approved stating if a member terminates employment within the first two years of employment they will reimburse the Village a percentage of their uniform cost.

SURPLUS EQUIPMENT

Deputy Fire Chief Riley said hose testing was recently completed and a total of eight hose lengths are no longer serviceable. A request will be made at the Village Board meeting to declare it as surplus. Additional requests will be made at the August meeting to surplus additional hose and radios.

95TH ANNIVERSARY COMMITTEE

Fire Chief Weiss said staff met with Kay, Promos 911, the previous day regarding promotional items for the August 9th Cruisin Night and October 13th 95th Anniversary Open House. Several great options were presented. Banners were also completed by Jim Wright, Public Works. Two larger banners will be displayed at each station and two smaller banners will be displayed on the antique engine at special events such as the Red, White & BBQ as well as Cruisin Nights throughout the summer. He further advised both the North and South Fire Districts will be contributing \$2,500 each towards Open House promotional purchases. A request will also be made to the Firefighters Association.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Fire Chief Weiss said he was in Peoria last week discussing proposed House / Senate Bills. He indicated the Illinois Fire Chiefs feel there may be legislation changes if a new Governor is elected. They also feel HB1335 may also be reintroduced in 2019. Staff will be meeting with Human Resources Director Crane and Village Manager May to discuss possible options if HB1335 were to pass.

Fire Chief Weiss stated part-time and combination departments are also considering legislation to help benefit their departments. He said it's a statewide issue which he is staying actively involved in discussion and issues. As further information is available he will report back.

OTHER BUSINESS

Deputy Fire Chief Riley said staff is preparing the Accreditation Annual Compliance Report to be submitted in July. Battalion Chief Fitzgerald will be taking over the Accreditation Manager responsibilities. Deputy Fire Chief Riley will be working with him through the transition period.

Trustee Addington discussed procedures for making 911 calls from parks and questioned what address should be used. He indicated there has been some confusion with dispatch requiring addresses. Deputy Fire Chief Connolly said the park name should be used.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

RECENT EVENTS - COP ON TOP; DRUG TAKEBACK

Deputy Police Chief Thompson said the Dunkin Donuts Cop on a Rooftop event was held on May 18th. A total of \$3,509 was raised for Special Olympics which is a \$600 increase from last year.

He also said a drug take back event was held on April 28th at the Police Department and Mariano's. A total of 255 pounds was collected which is 2-3 more pounds than the previous year. Angela Whitehead organized the event and did an outstanding job.

UPCOMING EVENTS - OPEN HOUSE, SQUAD CAR NIGHT, NATIONAL NIGHT OUT

Deputy Police Chief Thompson highlighted several events.

The Police Department Open House is scheduled for June 2nd beginning at 9:00 a.m. with the auction and open house following from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. The Lions Club will be attending at 10:45 a.m. to assist with food.

The Squad Car Cruisin Night is scheduled for June 14th. Last year there were approximately 60 cars in attendance. There are currently 32 cars signed up to date and staff anticipates the same number attending as last year.

The National Night Out event is scheduled for August 2nd. Staff will be working on preparing for the upcoming event.

BUILDING IMPROVEMENT UPDATE

Deputy Police Chief Thompson said the weight room mural and PD kitchen renovations have been completed. The kitchen renovation included new floors, cabinets, furniture, etc. A large coffee machine was also installed to accommodate large meetings and trainings.

HIRING / STAFFING UPDATE

Deputy Police Chief Thompson advised three new hire officers are currently attending the Cook County Police Academy. Staff hopes to have them on duty by the end of the year. One additional new hire officer is in the background check process and will be attending the Cook County Police Academy in August. If any of the new officers do not move forward, six applicants remain on the hiring list.

BICYCLE PATROL

Deputy Police Chief Thompson advised bike patrols have been increased in the downtown area now that the warmer weather has arrived. He said the bikes are beneficial as they can maneuver easily throughout the downtown area. They will also be patrolling parks within Westmont.

OX CART PERMIT SYSTEM

Deputy Police Chief Thompson said as of April 30th the Oxcart Permit System is up and running to monitor overweight trucks. The permit system will allow truck drivers to register for an account. He said it is an industry driven system with not cost to the municipality. Oxcart administers and oversees the system. The department receives notifications 3-4 times per week with issued permits.

OTHER BUSINESS

Trustee Guzzo said she saw the sign posted to observe downtown speed limits. She feels it is an effective way to notify motorists of changing speed limits. Deputy Police Chief Thompson said CSO Terry has been working on the project.

There being no other business to discuss, Trustee Liddle motioned to adjourn, to which Trustee Nero seconded. The meeting subsequently adjourned at 5:08 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Chris Hardy
Recording Secretary