

Public safety meeting minute notes

July 8th 2014 2pm

Mayors Conference room

Members in attendance : Councilman Michael Michalski and Council Woman Stacey Szukala

Others in attendance: Chair Rivera, Fire Chief Ahlstrom, Chief Ortolano, Animal Control Officer Steve Purol and City Attorney Ron Szot no media in attendance

Meeting called to order at 2:02pm

Chair Rivera Asked for a motion to approve meeting minutes from May 8th meeting. Motion by Mr. Michalski and second by Councilwoman Szukala.

Chair Rivera asked for update from Chief Ortolano. Chief spoke of the successful 4th of July festivities that went off without any issues. Councilman Michalski asked about the arrest of a registered sex offender that was arrested at the point. Chief explained that Richard Conti was found at the point with a u haul van in his possession. Chair Rivera asked Chief if they have changed their patrols concerning the beginning of Summer festivities. Chief explained that they concentrate on the park areas and the more busy areas of the City particularly the downtown area. Council woman Szukala noted that there was less illegal fireworks in the City as well. Chair Rivera also asked Councilman Michalski to explain about making North Warsaw and Pine street school zones to slow traffic down due to a concern over speeding. Chief explained that running radar and more speed enforcement to encouraging slowing down in that area. Chair Rivera also asked about issue of motorized carts in the City. Chief goes on to explain that the City code deals with this issue and that his department is going to make copies of the law and what it requires and that they are going to start handing them out to people on the carts. Helmets are required by law article 34c section 1270- 1277. Chief also stated he would drop off information sheet to the care center where people are more than likely getting the motorized carts. Stacy brought an information sheet on what to do if a dog or a child is found left in a locked car. Stacy explained of a recent incident with a dog left in a car. Chief Ortolano explains that CVS is sponsoring a year round prescription drug drop off box at the Police Station that with City Council and Mayoral approval he will be filling out a grant application to secure such a program for the City.

Chair Rivera asked for an update from Chief Ahlstrom. Chief Stated it was a busy weekend but nothing major going on. Chief explained that the building study is in full swing. Pacheco and Ross are gathering information and documentation hopefully to be done by the end of July or early August. He also explained that a final report will be ready hopefully no later than October and at that point Pacheco and Ross will be ready to do a presentation to the Mayor and Council in which at that point they will have three different options as to what can be done with the buildings and that they have been paid to come and meet with City Council up to three times to further discuss the options that have been presented at the previous meetings. Council Woman Stacy pointed out how well the fire department had handled a small girl who had an accident and needed attending by one of the fireman James Muscato. Stacy noted

How well Jim handled the situation. Stacy Also asked about who makes the decision as to whether or not fireworks are allowed to go on. According to weather conditions who decides whether the show will go on or not. Chief noted that primarily it is the company doing the fireworks who ultimately makes the decision.

Chief begins to explain 3rd party billing and that the City is down \$15,000 from same time last year but it is more likely the payment schedule that is the main reason for the numbers that are down. The State seems to be holding on to the money a little longer this time around.

Chief also wanted to explain a recent article citing overtime in his department. Chief continued to explained that recent retirements and guys being out not being able to work are out on sick time but we are still having to fill their shoes would be the main reason. Chief continued to explain that the best has still yet to come as in the fact he is forecasting 2 to 4 retirements for the 2015 calendar year. Chief continued to explain that what he likes to do is forecast how many retirements he feels he may have to handle and he proposes it in his budget. Chief also goes on to explain that the City rarely budgets for it. Ron Szot explains that the county has the ability to completely fund its retirement system meaning that if every county employee were to retire tomorrow the county has money set aside to completely cover all possible case scenarios. Chief Ahlstrom continues to explain approximately 80 to 90 million dollars worth. So the County is fully funded.

Chair Rivera made a final statement that he is still in favor of moving from BLS to ALS in terms of the level of service that we currently provide. Chief Ahlstrom noted that the advancement in the services would more than likely have to be something that is tied up into contract negotiations before something like that can be accomplished.

Chair Rivera asked for an update from Steve Purol our Animal Control Officer. Steve pointed out that we had a new state inspector come in and point out of few things that needed to be taken care of. Steve said he has let Tony Gugino know that these things need to be taken care of which should be taken care of shortly.

Steve pointed out that early this year there were a lot of pit bulls and chihuahuas being dumped out near the airport and Purina. These dogs seemed to be abandoned the most.

Steve notes that in September he will be going out to Colorado to film his Son and their Elk hunting. Steve notes that he has someone in place to cover the shelter when he is gone.

Chair Rivera asks for a motion to adjourn the meeting. So moved by Stacy and Chair Rivera Seconds the motion. Meeting is adjourned at 3:04pm