PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MINUTES

5/20/15

6:00 PM

**1. CALL TO ORDER:** 6:00 PM

**ROLL CALL:**

Barb Jordan, Chair

Jim Houdek

Venise Mugler

Sue Kozlowski

Kevin Schaefer

Meg McCullough

Greg Sondalle

Others Present:

Patricia Schaefer

Chief Olson

Chief Bubolz-Absent

Chair Jordan introduced and welcomed new members Venise Mugler and Sue Kozlowski.

**2. FIRE DEPARTMENT:**

Chief Bubolz did not attend tonight’s meeting so no Fire Department business was discussed.

**3. POLICE DEPARTMENT:**

Old Business: None

New Business:

A. City Park Keys

There was discussion concerning the fact that an unknown number of people currently have keys

to the City Park. Patricia and Kevin Schaefer commented that the Park Board is currently in the

process of making changes regarding the locks which should alleviate this problem in the future.

The Application and Rules for Use of Park Facilities form was also discussed and changes will also

be made to that form by the Park Board which would go into effect in 2016 pending approval by

the City Council.

It was asked if the funds collected for the use of the City Park could go into the Park

Budget instead of the General Fund. Jordan stated that Police Department collections go into the

General Fund also as each Department has a yearly budget.

B. Fish ‘N Fun Debrief

Chief Olson stated that in general it was a great event. The weather being a major contributor. He

expressed concern over people with open intoxicants walking on the streets and standing out in

front of bars with alcohol. He estimated that at around 11 PM there were 450-500 people in the

downtown area.

Another area of concern was there were not enough porta-potties and people were urinating

behind the TW Design property. The streets were littered with trash, beer cups and cigarette

butts. There were a few street crossing incidents as well.

Ideas discussed for next year’s event included fencing off the West Street area, having wrist

bands for legal age drinkers, hiring security staff and educating bartenders.

Chief Olson was also asked by people why the firefighters and their family and friends

could sit outside the fire station drinking and walking around with alcohol. He stated that he

has spoken to Chief Bubolz about this complaint.

Schaefer asked if any citations were written for open intoxicants and Chief Olson stated that there

were just two officers and himself on duty and they were busy with crowd control and had one

disorderly conduct incident as well to take care of. Sondalle suggested that perhaps the citations

should be written to the bar owner if patrons are seen coming out of their establishment with

open intoxicants. Sondalle suggested to let the bartenders help out as much as possible also

by checking ID’s etc. McCullough suggested that all bartenders take a refresher course in checking

ID’s as laws change.

All businesses reported having great business during the entire festival which brought money

into the City. This is a positive event and with more planning and education it will just keep getting

better.

C. New Squad

Chief Olson reported that the transition went well; however there is still some equipment such

as the cage partition and brackets to mount the camera system that are back ordered. The decals

will be put on sometime within the next week. He stated that the new vehicle is great quality and

it was a smart decision to trade the Dodge when we did.

D. Update on Part-time Officer

Chief Olson stated that he is disappointed with the applications we received and will be reposting

the employment notice. He will have contact with staff at the police academy in Madison and

plans to contact FVTC as well. This position is for approximately 60 to 100 hours per month.

E. Community Service Projects/Fed Prison/Oxford

Chief stated that the FCI Oxford inmates will be in the area again 7/13 through 7/17/15 per the

notice he received from US DOJ Federal Bureau of Prisons on 4/16/15. When asked where they

would be working he thought the school but was not sure. Jean was asked to follow-up on their

location and e-mail the committee members with the info.

F. DARE Graduation

Chief Olson stated that 57 kids from St. John’s Lutheran and Forest Lane schools received their

DARE Graduation Certificates yesterday. Chief stated that the Program lasted 12 weeks and he

considers it a very worthwhile scientific based program. This was his 16th year of teaching DARE.

The Chief received congratulations from Jordan and a thank you from McCullough for the extra

community services that are performed by the Department such as DARE, the bike rodeo and

the Drug Drop-off etc.

G. Citizen Comments

None

H. Monthly Reports

The monthly reports were discussed and approved with a motion by Houdek, second by

Sondalle, motion carried.

Chief Olson has a comp time balance of 33.75 hours

Officer Andrews has a comp time balance of 13.25 hours

4. ANY OTHER BUSINESS:

Jordan inquired as to the status of the building located at 70 W. Montello Street where

there has been scaffolding since last summer. The building owner was at the Public Safety

meeting in December requesting permission to keep the scaffolding up until the project

was completed in early spring and there is no sign of any activity there.

Chief Olson advised that a letter was recently sent to them inquiring as to when the project

will be completed.

5. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn by Schaefer, second by McCullough, motion carried.

Meeting adjourned 7:05 PM

Next meeting scheduled for June 17, 2015 at 6:00 PM

Minutes submitted by Jean Sheller