

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING

June 27, 2018

Members Present: Scottie Ard, Ron Volkert and Jim Jackson

Others Present: Chief Craig Yehlik, Chief Jim VanderWyst and Marie Bannink

Scottie Ard called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m. Roll call was taken.

Jim Jackson moved to adopt the agenda as presented, seconded by Ron Volkert and carried.

Jim Jackson moved to approve the minutes from the previous meeting of February 22, 2018, seconded by Ron Volkert and carried.

Election of Chairman

Ron Volkert stated he asked to have this on the agenda; he would like to see everyone rotated through. Scottie Ard opened for nominations for chairman. Ron Volkert nominated Jim Jackson for Chairman, nominations were closed. All members voted yes, Jim Jackson is the Chairman and Scottie turned the meeting over to him.

Collaboration with St. Croix County on K-9 Agility Equipment & Location

Chief Yehlik explained agility-training needs to be done with Storm our K-9. The closest is located behind the government center in Hudson. The three K-9s for St. Croix County live closer to New Richmond and the county is proposing setting up a training facility in New Richmond. The county is willing to do a 75/25 split for equipment. The City's portion would be \$389.00 and this would come out of the K-9 fund. Chief Yehlik is proposing the location be the green space next to their parking lot. We will be contacting the high school on building the equipment. Scottie Ard moved to approve taking the \$389.00 from the K-9 fund and use the use of city property for the agility training, seconded by Ron Volkert and carried.

Squad Car Camera Discussion

Chief Yehlik gave background information on the current camera system the department has. The company we currently use is going out of business and parts are difficult to find. The sheriff from Barron County has given us what they had and Sgt. Jake Sather is working on piecing things together. They have been able to put a camera together for Katie's car. The cameras help protect our officers. There was discussion on partnering with St. Croix County for purchasing cameras. Chief Yehlik explained the County is currently using their cell phones for the body camera. Chief Yehlik was asked to bring numbers in for body and car cameras with live stream & redaction to the next meeting.

Less Lethal Options/Transition

Chief Yehlik stated all officers have a locked weapon system in their squad cars. All squad cars with the exception of the Chief's and Lieutenant's have the AR-15. The State currently does not have certification for shotguns. Chief Yehlik is proposing converting the shotguns to beanbag rounds. This will be brought back to the next meeting with conversion cost, training requirements and rounds cost.

Park Art Fair Update

There were no issues. Scottie Ard stated she had shared the training manual for alcohol serving consumption liability with Rob Kreibich at the Chamber. The alcohol consumption seems to be monitored better. Rob has all of those serving go through the training.

Fun Fest Update & K-9 Safety

Having busses and taxis available at end time has helped keep people from driving. There are usually three officers on foot patrol at the fairgrounds and Aaron is on bike patrol on the walking/bike paths. There is also an officer paying visits to the ballfields. Katie will be out with Storm and there will be some K-9 demos. The Citizens Academy will have a booth.

Car Was Code Information

Chief Yehlik gave the history on the officers washing the squad cars. Chief Yehlik had contacted Solum car wash to see if they had any package deals, they offer unlimited washes for \$20.00 per car. He contacted Steve Lewis and they offer a municipal deal on the \$7.00 wash for \$4.00 and you are only billed on what you use. The committee recommends using both car washes and starting immediately.

School Resource Officer Update

The full council approved a school resource officer. The school's full legal team is reviewing the MOU, when the City gets it back, the city attorney will review for final approval. We had three officers who applied for the SRO, and interviews with a panel of ten will be held on July 11. We hope to make an offer to the highest person on the eligibility list tomorrow.

National Night Out

This will be held on August 7 at the Police Department. Officer Cramlet and Officer Radtke are working on this. There will be K-9 demos, fire department, EMS and possibly the blood mobile.

Communications and Miscellaneous

Officer Lubow will be on his own starting July 15.

Ron Volkert moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Scottie Ard and carried.

Meeting adjourned at 5:27 p.m.

Minutes by Marie Bannink