

POLICE COMMITTEE MEETING
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2021 – 10:00 am
Police Department

ATTENDING

Councilor Karen Testerman, Councilor Ted Starkweather, Councilor Jo Brown, City Manager Judie Milner, Chief David Goldstein and Lieutenant Dan Poirier.

I. SWOT STATUS (Demo from the Chief)

Chief Goldstein went over the SWOT Analysis starting with Strengths, stating that the commitment and dedication of those working in the police department is above and beyond. Chief said the weaknesses are the global negative opinion of law enforcement, lack of personnel and tired equipment from 24/7 use. As for Opportunities the Chief advised the department is developing their own SWAT team. Chief stated the threats would be again the global negative opinion of law enforcement, lack of understanding from the public and the stress from critical incidents and trauma.

Chief Goldstein advised he was going to do a presentation if there were members of the public present but since there weren't any he would hold off until another time.

II. DISPATCH CENTER STATUS – BODY CAMS

The Dispatch Center is in desperate need of upgrade. The equipment is all at end of life and the parts are no longer being made. The committee discussed different options of how to fund the equipment upgrade. They will be presenting a recommendation to City Council at the next meeting.

Chief Goldstein advised they have received quotes for body cameras for the department. They are researching different grants or payment plan options that may be available.

III. CURRENT/LONG TERM GOLAS (set benchmarks)

Chief Goldstein advised his current goal would be to hire more people to be at full staff. This is difficult to accomplish at the time due to the current economic climate.

Chief stated some of his long-term goals would be sending an officer to the academy to be a cadre, applying for accreditation on the state level, sending someone to the FBI National Academy, acquiring additional officers to staff a whole other "4th" shift and developing a traffic and parking enforcement division. As he mentioned the parking division may be necessary when Mill City Park is up and running.

IV. HOW CAN THE COMMUNITY GET INVOLVED

Councilor Brown stated how important she felt it was to get the word out to the public regarding the training and community relations that the police department does. Councilor Testerman stated she'd like to see some form of a video demonstration for the public to see. The committee discussed different ideas of how to get the message out to the community such as social media, flyers, etc.

V. COURT ORDERED COMMUNITY SERVICE (clean up graffiti)

Chief Goldstein advised he would speak to the Prosecutor regarding this subject and would report back at the next meeting.

VI. OTHER

Chief Goldstein mentioned the importance of Senators and Representatives attending council meetings. He asked the committee for their support in encouraging that.

Meeting was adjourned at 12:00 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Penny Stephens
Chief's Secretary