



MINUTES
Committee on Public Safety
Friday, August 5, 2016 @ 3:30 p.m.
City Council Chambers, 10th Floor City Hall

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting called to order at 3:32 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Councilmember Carol Wood, Chair
Councilmember Adam Hussain, Vice Chair
Councilmember Kathie Dunbar, Member- arrived at 3:36 left at 4:15 p.m.

OTHERS PRESENT

Sherrie Boak, Council Staff
Jim Smiertka, City Attorney
Chief Yankowski, LPD
Steve Green
Karl Biasi
Maryann Prince
Kathy Miles
Mary Ellen Purificato
Drew Macon, Police Commissioner

Councilmember Wood reminded the public that the agenda item for the meeting was the Lansing Police Department Annual Report. Comments on any other topic will be taken after the presentation. On August 12, 2016 at 2:00 p.m. the Medical Marihuana Ordinance will be back on the agenda for further discussion.

MINUTES

MOTION BY COUNCILMEMBER HUSSAIN TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM JULY 29, 2016 AS PRESENTED. MOTION CARRIED 2-0.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No comments at this time.

Discussion/Action:

Lansing Police Department Annual Report

Chief Yankowski introduced himself and began a review of the annual report that addressed data, stats, and the mission statement. This information will be provided on the LPD website also. The first pages overviewed the Police Board Commissioners, flow chart and leadership positions.

Councilmember Wood asked the process for formal and informal complaints against the police. Chief Yankowski confirmed that any complaint goes through the same system and gets captured in the numbers. A formal complaint is due process for the officer, with an investigation by Internal Affairs or can be assigned out. In the case of the formal investigation, they have due process with union representation present. It will then be determined if it will be kept in Internal Affairs file. If it is determined as a sustained complaint, there will be discipline. An information complaint provides a meeting to conduct coaching, training, etc. but it is still documented.

On page 10 of the report stats were provided for the Patrol Division, which included 6,314 arrests, 14,3421 reports, 73,653 calls for service from 911, 21,567 traffic tickets issued (including traffic officers), and 2,715 neighborhood patrol hours. It was to be noted that some calls do not have report written but will still be logged into the crime analysis. Those reports are also generated into the crime watch information and crime mapping. Some items might not appear on the mapping system if the location is not reported correctly, so the stats might have a delay. The Contact Cards contain updates on outstanding warrants, traffic stops, and provide the capability of mapping the information.

Councilmember Hussain asked if LPD can track neighborhood patrol hours, because he had heard from residents they do not see enough police presence. Chief Yankowski confirmed they do track and document the data generated, however there is obligated an unobligated time. Some obligated time is calls for service that do not allow them to patrol the neighborhoods. The general goal is 33% of unobligated up to 50%; it is also difficult to track neighborhood patrol hours. The goal of the Chief is to stream line the automated tracking system. Currently the LPD is exceeding 33% daily, but sometimes don't meet that due to instances such as major fires or obligations that require them to spend more time in traffic control. In comparison to years past, LPD has put our more officers in outreach, on bikes, community policing and utilizing all problem solving dollars. If neighborhoods do not see cars, that might not be a crime issue area.

Councilmember Wood asked how many officers per shift are in the community. Chief Yankowski noted that they are authorized 202 officers and the majority is assigned to the patrol division. When they are fully functional at the patrol level shifts are always changing. In 2015 there was an average of 12-18 officers during high volume time periods; however it can go as low as 8 and high as 28. In 2016 a portion of the officers were working four days/ 10 hours a day. In addition to this Patrol Division there is also Community Policing, motorcycles, Detectives, School Resource Officers, and the violent crime initiative impact team.

The presentation went onto the Community Service Unit which handles neighborhood watch, business watch, school watch, all which were expanded in 2016. Councilmember Hussain asked about their hours in the community, and the Chief confirmed some days they their flex hours to handle events and community service.

Chief Yankowski moved onto reporting on the Bicycle Unit, K-9 Unit and Special Events. In the stats for special events the unit issues 7,084 citations, worked 75 events, wrote 26 parking tickets, filed 391 reports and gave out 262 warnings. The Investigations Unit statistics were highlighted with an increase in felonious assaults to 785, burglar down to 525 from 916 and larceny down from 1477 to 611. The domestic assaults have been addressed in coordination with the Ingham County Prosecutors office. Councilmember Wood asked if the numbers in prosecution have declined. Chief Yankowski explained that the cases are filed, and if the prosecutor reviews the case and feels the investigation did not sustain a warrant they are not prosecuted.

The presentation moved onto Special Operations/Narcotics where the stats reflected data back to 2012. These included 58 raids, 135 arrests, 60 guns seized, \$760,770 money seized, and marihuana possession/delivery at 216, cocaine possession/delivery at 86 and heroin possession/delivery at 79. There is a strong emphasis on heroin and cocaine because those generate the most violence or deaths

Council Member Dunbar left the meeting.

Chief Yankowski continued thru his presentation which included Cold Case investigations which produced its first arrest and prosecution in 2015.

The Committee then heard the highlights of the volunteer programs, community engagement, the Citizen Academy where it was noted they will be starting their 3rd one, and recommended any citizen interested to sign up to attend. The last pages of the report focused on the Explore Post, the Gang Resistance Education (G.R.E.A.T.), Honor Guard, and Recruiting Team. Currently LPD will finishing hiring August 22, and fill 15 vacancies. Eight of those will go to the police academy on August 24th.

Councilmember Wood asked the LPD to track volunteer hours, and encouraged the Police Commission to take their meetings out into the neighborhoods in a more user friendly facility. Mr. Macon Chair of the Board of Police Commissioners acknowledged that the Commission will be doing just that, with their August meeting at AFLCIO, and then will also hold a meeting this year at the Southside Community Center. Their schedule for the next year includes 4 neighborhood meetings.

Councilmember Wood asked for an update on a recent article on subpoenas. Chief Yankowski noted that it is the criminal justice system responsibility both the police and the Prosecutors office has a role. The current system will need to be re-evaluated; however the biggest issues are that people don't want to be served.

Councilmember Hussain acknowledged Commissioner Farhat who has been attending his monthly meetings, and then inquired as to the process for a ride along. Chief Yankowski confirmed anyone can do a citizen ride along they just need to complete and application and background check. Councilmember Hussain then asked if there were vacancies on the Police Advisory Board. The Chief confirmed they had several applications already and will meet in September to go over the applications.

Councilmember Hussain asked what LPD was doing to monitor the streets at night with unsupervised youth. The Chief stated they are always looking for community involvement in those situations, but have been working with teen court, working with Peckham, the boys and girls club, faith based groups and looking at getting jobs for kids.

Councilmember Wood informed the Committee that they can bring the Chief back for future discussion, and have other stake holders in.

Public Comment

Ms. Prince spoke in support of the work the LPD is doing.

Ms. Miles asked about the RAD class, spoke to Chief Yankowski about concerns with medical marihuana, and inquired on a copy of the annual report.

Ms. Purificato acknowledged the LPD for their service, and specifically spoke highly of the work in the Fairfield Association by the community officer.

MOTION BY COUNCILMEMBER HUSSAIN TO PLACE THE ANNUAL REPORT ON FILE.
MOTION CARRIED 2-0.

ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned at 4:50 p.m.
Submitted by, Sherrie Boak,
Recording Secretary Lansing City Council
Approved: August 26, 2016