

**UNITED CITY OF YORKVILLE
PUBLIC SAFETY MEETING
Thursday, November 2, 2023 6:00pm
City Hall East Conference Room #337
651 Prairie Pointe Drive, Yorkville, IL**

In Attendance:

Alderman Seaver Tarulis
Alderman Chris Funkhouser
Alderman Craig Soling

Absent: Alderman Dan Transier

Other City Officials in Attendance:

Police Chief Jim Jensen

Others in Attendance: None

The meeting was called to order at 6:00pm by Vice-Chairman Seaver Tarulis.

Citizen Comments: None

Minutes for Correction/Approval: September 7, 2023

The minutes were approved as presented.

New Business:

1. PS 2023-17 Monthly Report Review for August 2023 – September 2023

For both months, Chief Jensen reported on the number of employees, community policing, initiatives, community participation and training hours. Directed patrols, accidents, criminal cases and total calls for service were also reviewed. In addition, he said officers were in 5 schools at the school year start. A new crossing guard is stationed at the high school and the department is saving \$30,000 since it is now a school function. Alderman Tarulis asked about the process when a driver ignores a crossing guard and Chief Jensen explained. The Chief also shared information about a recent major arrest and crisis calls. He said that a social worker works with the department 8 hours a week on domestic calls. He hopes for a grant to increase those hours.

2. PS 2023-18 Adjudication Reports for September 2023 – October 2023

There were violations for cannabis, curfew, expired registrations and water usage. Alderman Soling asked about an alleged noise complaint at a nearby car place which the Chief briefly addressed.

3. PS 2023-19 Pre-Order of Police Vehicles for the FY25 Budget

Chief Jensen commented that there is money in the current budget for one car and two cars are budgeted in FY25. He also said the officers like the feature of a single cage in the back seat. A van was originally desired, however, a retired ambulance may be purchased instead to save money and it would be shared with the Parks Department. Normally the PD goes with the state bid and after discussions with Sutton Ford, there are no vehicles available at this time and a 5-6% increase is possible. Morrow Brothers (located in Greenfield) currently has vehicles, the price will stay the same and is \$4,400 less than the anticipated Sutton increased price. The Chief would like to purchase from Morrow Brothers, ordering them now with delivery after May 1. Morrow does the outfitting while Sutton does not.

Alderman Funkhouser asked if the same vehicle color package would be used and if “ghosting” would be used. The cars will have the same colors and Chief Jensen noted that the officers like the black and white. He said the ghosting is beneficial at night. In relation to the “ghosting” markings, Alderman Funkhouser said the public perception is that the PD is bad and not there to protect. Vice-Chair Tarulis commented that Alderman Funkhouser's statement warrants a future discussion.

In summary, the Chief would like to purchase squads from Morrow Brothers and it would require a Council majority vote to be placed on a list to pre-order 3 vehicles. Possession cannot be taken until May of 2024.

4. PS 2023-20 Taser Lease Agreement – Discussion

The current taser lease agreement expires May 14, 2024. The Department currently has eight X2's. The X2's are no longer being supported and Chief wishes to move to an X10 model which is the newest version and officers will require updated training. He wishes to lease 8 of the X10's which is \$34,000 over a 5 year-period and he will apply for a grant. The training is an added cost and he would like 2 officers to be trained. He said he would keep the X2's as well which would give 18 total tasers with the new ones. Chief Jensen said paramedics remove the taser probes which can be considered as evidence. He said tasers are the most effective non-lethal method they have. This item moves forward to City Council.

5. PS 2023-21 Meeting Schedule for 2024

All committee members concurred with the proposed 2024 meeting schedule. This moves forward to City Council.

Old Business: None

Additional Business:

Chief Jensen wrote a grant last year for funding to purchase a training simulator for de-escalation of mental health calls. The grant was written for the “Virtra” system. He went to a conference that presented a real-life scenario on a computer screen, giving a 300 degree view and is state of the art. Chief Jensen wrote the grant so that all Kendall County PD's would have access to this training. He was informed last week that a grant of \$241,000 was awarded. A 30' x 30' fixed space is needed because the cost to move the equipment is \$5,000. Several spaces are being

considered. An IGA will be needed with all other agencies who use the equipment and the Chief wants 24/7 access to use it. A press release will be issued and a media day will be held. Alderman Funkhouser said this is one of the biggest grants ever received.

In another matter, committee members accompanied Chief Jensen to the second floor of city hall for a tour of the open space near the PD administrative offices. The purpose was to discuss a potential information center for major incidents within the county. He is considering converting the space into a real-time information center, funded with a private donation along with a possible grant he would write. He met with all Chiefs of Police recently and all were very receptive. He discussed other advantages of such a system including intelligence-gathering and for use during special events. Staffing ideas were briefly discussed. He would like to see the center opened by February or March and he will provide an update in January

There was no further business and the meeting was adjourned at 7:39pm.

Respectfully submitted by
Marlys Young, Minute Taker