

**UNITED CITY OF YORKVILLE
PUBLIC SAFETY MEETING
Thursday, March 6, 2025 6:00pm
East Conference Room #337
651 Prairie Pointe Drive, Yorkville, IL**

In Attendance:

Chairman Dan Transier
Alderman Craig Soling
Alderman Seaver Tarulis

Absent: Alderman Chris Funkhouser

Other City Officials in Attendance:

Police Chief Jim Jensen

Others in Attendance:

Mr. Joey Weslo, *Kendall County Record*, via Zoom

The meeting was called to order at 6:00pm by Chairman Dan Transier.

Citizen Comments: None

Minutes for Correction/Approval: January 2, 2025

The minutes were approved as presented.

New Business:

1. PS 2025-05 Monthly Report Review for January 2025

Chief Jensen presented this report. He said the department is fully staffed at this time. He reported the overtime hours, the community police initiatives--particularly in the downtown area and Sgt. Stroup was installed as Sergeant-in Arms in the Kendall Chiefs Association. The Chief also reported the training hours, number of crashes, the mobile speed sign was placed in the downtown area for a 2-week study and the directed patrol efforts. In addition, he said the number of citations were up, warnings were down and many background checks were done. A second School Resource Officer may be requested, so the school activities are being tracked. At the present time, the only Resource Officer travels to all the schools. The Chief discussed the Nybers reports and also said there were fewer motorist assists and lockouts. Alderman Soling asked if a liability waiver is signed for lockouts. A waiver is signed and Chief Jensen noted that many departments no longer do lockouts, however, he feels it is a public service.

2. PS 2025-06 Adjudication Reports for January and February 2025

In January, there were solicitors who had no permits and they are warned first, then citations are issued. A few cases for vape pens and cannabis were also noted. The Chief had questions on the parking violations and "no registration" citations and will clarify.

3. PS 2025-07 2024 Annual Report Review

Chief Jensen said the 2024 goal was to challenge the staff to make a certain number of daily stops. That goal was divided into 9 smaller goals for expectations and standards. The department also challenged officers to identify and solve problems. He noted a 155% increase in traffic stops for cell phone use/distracted driving and he detailed the overall number of calls for service for the year. The Chief said the CSO program has proved to be valuable and he likes to hire the CSO's as full-time officers. The Chief reported the number of FOIA requests and also the crimes handled by the School Resource Officer. DUI's and crashes were up, but the overall crime rate was down. He noted that in 2024, the department was using the Nybers reporting system exclusively.

The Chief also discussed that de-escalation and transparency are very important strategies. The Police Department also partners with the health department on mental health incidents and they provide a social worker 1 day a week who follows up with persons in need of their services. Chief Jensen said in the future he may ask for funding for increased hours of a social worker.

The department has two drones which are used every shift. There are 6 trained drone pilots and they also assist other agencies with this program.

The department also has a therapy dog for use at special events and other needs.

4. PS 2025-08 U.S. Department of Justice COPS Grant - Discussion

Chief Jensen said he did not request extra staffing in this budget year, however, in the 5-year plan, additional staff will be needed. The Mayor has given permission to start writing a grant through the U.S. Department of Justice, for two additional employees. If the grant is received, it would provide \$250,000 total for 2 persons. The Chief said he is challenging two other staff members to learn the grant writing process. Alderman Soling noted that Waubesa College offers grant-writing classes.

5. PS 2025-09 Regulation of Time-Restricted Parking - Grande Trail by Grande Reserve Elementary

Phone calls were received from parents regarding parking problems during drop-off and pick-up times at the school. A drone was sent up and identified some of the major issues. In particular, the issue is students walking between cars and in front of vehicles. Chief Jensen showed the committee photos of the problem areas. Nearer to the school, cars are parked on both sides of the street. The school proposes to allow parking only on one side of the street, however, residents who live there object. His recommendation is no parking on the opposite side of the street from the school, from Freedom Place all the way around to Matlock Dr. when school is in session, for 1.5 hours both in the morning and afternoon. Chairman Transier suggested putting the restriction on Grande Trail from Matlock around the curve. The Chief also suggested a crossing guard at Constitution and Grande Trail.

Chief Jensen asked to bring this matter to the entire City Council. If they approve of the proposal, letters would be sent to nearby residents, seeking their input. The school has asked police to be there each day and Officers have asked parents to move, but the parents sometimes refuse.

Old Business:

1. PS 2025-01 Route 47 Downtown Traffic Activity Update - Discussion

Sgt. Stroup had provided an update of the downtown traffic efforts which showed the numbers for monthly details, stops, citations and warnings. This update will also be presented to the police staff and enforcement efforts will continue. They will also evaluate if violators have gotten multiple warnings, etc. The Chief also feels that people in the downtown see and hear the trucks. He said that Officer Kyle Davis has expressed a desire to do a truck enforcement program. Chief Jensen said certified scales would be needed, preferably on both ends of town. He suggested that when tickets are written, the fines be placed into a truck enforcement fund to buy equipment for these efforts. He will look into the legalities of a separate fund. He said there will be much future construction and several data centers with the possibility of speeding and overweight trucks. Complaints have also been received about trucks on Corneils Rd.

Additional Business: None

There was no further business and the meeting was adjourned at 6:56pm.

Respectfully submitted by Marlys Young, Minute Taker