Meeting was brought to order by Committee Chairperson Susie Weinacht at 4:00 p.m.

Present: Council members Susie Weinacht, Scott Overland and Pat Shey, Fire Chief Mark English, Police Chief Wayne Jerman, Building Services Director Kevin Ciabatti, Area Ambulance Services Executive Director Keith Rippy, and Amanda Grieder with SAFE-CR.

The April 17, 2017 Public Safety and Youth Services Committee minutes were approved.

**Fire Department Report-Chief Mark English**

Firefighters responded to a fire at International Paper on July 8th that took over 48 hours to fully contain. Operations ceased on July, 10 at 8:30 AM. Assistance and support was provided by fire departments from Ely, Fairfax, Hiawatha, Marion, Mount Vernon and Swisher as well as Area Ambulance Service.


**Fireworks-Chief Mark English**

There were an increased number of firework related dispatch calls, injuries and structure fires from June 1-July 8.

There were 3 firework related structure fires and 21 area hospital firework related injuries.

Dispatch calls:

June 1 – July 8, 2016 – 166 Calls for Service (officer dispatched)

320 Computer Aided Dispatch messages (officer notified as available)

June 1 – July 8, 2017 – 372 Calls for Service (officer dispatched)

576 Computer Aided Dispatch messages (officer notified as available)
In 2017, dispatchers answered well over 500 calls about fireworks concerns during hours in which fireworks were approved. This is supported by the fact that there was a significant increase in calls to the dispatch center:

- There were 30,322 total calls from June 1 – July 8, 2016. Whereas, there were 33,247 total calls from June 1 – July 8, 2017.

- June 2015 total calls to dispatch center – 23,979
  June 2016 total calls to dispatch center – 23,146
  June 2017 total calls to dispatch center – 25,498

Fire Marshal’s Office:

- The Fire Marshal’s Office identified 17 retailers that were selling fireworks without a permit. These stores were ordered to cease selling fireworks and were required to have a fire inspection prior to being permitted to sell.
- The Fire Marshal’s Office identified a fireworks tent at 2140 Edgewood Road SW on 06/28/2017 that was selling fireworks without a Fire Department permit or inspection.
- Fire Marshal’s Office received 51 complaints from citizens regarding fireworks.

**Building Service Report-Kevin Ciabatti**

Permits:

- Total permits issued are up 59% from this time last year.
- Total residential building permits are up 29% from this time last year.
- Total number of permits issued are up 8% from this time last month.

Inspections:

- Building inspections are up 9% from this time last year.
- Electrical inspections are down 20% from this time last year.
- Mechanical inspections are up 8% from this time last year.
- Plumbing inspections are up 13% from this time last year.
- Overall, the total number of inspections is up 1% as this time last year.
- Total number of inspections is up 11% from this time last month.

Complaints:

- Total number of open complaints is up 51% from this time last year.
- Total number of open cases is up 13% from this time last quarter.
- Total number of open nuisance cases are up 44% from this time last year.
- Total number of open zoning cases are up 70% from this time last year.
Area Ambulance Report-Keith Rippy

Keith Rippy reviewed the Area Ambulance report. There were 4 ambulance transports with serious injuries and an increase in calls for service and transports. Changes have been made to the deployment plan for 95% on time and 1.5 million dollars of state of the art ambulance equipment has been purchased. New computer software has been implemented that will allow the dispatchers and ambulance crews to view the locations of one another. This tool will improve response times as they will be able to see where the closest ambulance is for dispatch. There will be an increase of 10 more unit hours and 4 new personnel will be hired to ensure quicker response times.

Youth Services Update-Cristy Hamblin with CRPD

Cristy reviewed the juvenile arrest data. Overall juvenile crime is down but the disparity is staying the same. Juvenile arrests at Polk are down from 32 in 2016 to 22 in 2017. There have been no juvenile murders this year. Juvenile arrests are up for simple assaults, down for theft from vehicles and down for narcotics and weapons.

The school system has begun a new MVP program that they started in January.

CRPD’s annual report is out and has been distributed to all City Council members. The annual report has been improved since last year and over 40 pages have been added.

This year’s National Night Out has been scheduled for August 1, 2017.

The Cedar Rapids Police have been involved in many outreach activities in the community such as You Do Matter at Johnson Elementary School, activities at the Boys and Girls Club, Pride Fest, Asian Fest, Latin Fest, Stop the Violence and Love Thy Neighbor. The Cedar Rapids Police Department has developed “Get Out of Jail Free” cards and has been distributing them at events such as these. The cards have useful tips on the back on how to stay out of jail.

Cristy Hamblin is retiring and this will be her last public safety meeting. She will work with whoever is chosen as her replacement to keep the statistics the same and/or improving for future meetings.

SAFE-CR Update-Amanda Grieder

Amanda presented that there have been 3,982 founded calls for Service of Chapter 22A which have affected 2,665 properties. Of those, 555 have met the threshold of 22A and have been deemed Nuisance Properties. SAFE-CR has billed out $51,584.10 and has collected $25,454.92.

The number of background checks has remained fairly consistent over the past several months. In July, 16 background checks were conducted. Overall, there have been 5,497 background checks ordered by 461 landlords. The backgrounds checks consist of a 50-state criminal history search, active Iowa warrants, Cedar Rapids, arrests as well as checks of the National Sex Offender Registry and National Terrorist List. There is an option for landlords to order additional screenings including Social Security Verification, Eviction Histories and Lien/Bankruptcy Histories.
**Police Department Report-Chief Wayne Jerman**

Chief Wayne Jerman reviewed the crime statistics from the last year to present. There has been a decrease of 3.35% (173 incidents versus 179) in the violent crime category compared to this point last year, a 1% decrease in property crime and a significant 900% increase in domestic violence. Auto theft has also increase substantially by 77% in 2017.

Regarding fireworks, Chief Jerman suggested that citizens reach out to State Legislature to repeal or modify current firework laws. There were 7 charges of people illegally using fireworks.

**OCTOBER AGENDA ITEM FORECAST**

- Approval of July 11, 2017 Draft Minutes
- Building Services Report (*Ciabatti*)
- Cedar Rapids Fire Department Report (*English*)
- Area Ambulance Service Report (*Rippy*)
- Youth Services Report (*Hamblin/Leff*)
- Police SAFE-CR Report (*Grieder*)
- Cedar Rapids Police Department Report (*Jerman*)
- January Agenda Forecast Items

The meeting was adjourned at 5:17 PM.

Thank you,
Megan Moon
Cedar Rapids Fire Department
Central Fire Station Admin II
319-286-5210