Meeting was brought to order by Committee Chairperson Susie Weinacht at 5:34 p.m.

Present: Council members Susie Weinacht, Ashley Vanorny and Dale Todd; Police Chief Wayne Jerman; Assistant Fire Chief Greg Smith; Building Services Manager Duncan McCallum; Area Ambulance Executive Director Keith Rippy; and Amanda Grieder with SAFE-CR.

The April 16, 2018, Public Safety and Youth Services Committee minutes were approved.

**Fire Department Report – Assistant Chief Greg Smith**

Assistant Chief Smith reviewed the Breakdown of Major Incident Types for Data Range (attached). Also attached is permit information from the Fire Marshal.

The Fire Department has broken down their responses for Quarter 2, March 1st through June 30th, into 4 quadrants. EMS calls are approximately 50 – 55% of the calls. For Quarter 2, fire responses are as follows:

- NE quadrant had 33 fire incidents
- NW Quadrant had 13 fire incidents
- SE Quadrant 30 fire incidents
- SW quadrant had 57 fire incidents

Comparing Quarter 4 last year to Quarter 1 and Quarter 2, for total responses, there were about the same number of incidents per quadrant. Each year the Fire Department typically sees an increase in run volume. It has increased for probably the last 20 – 25 years. NE, SW, and NW were about the same as the last two quarters. There was an increase on the SE side of almost 90 runs in the last two quarters. Regarding confinement of fire origin, they are confining fires either to the object or to the room of the origin, which limits the damage to the structure.

Since the Fire Department moved into the new Central station, Engine 1 is the busiest one in town, followed by Engine 8, which is on Wiley Blvd., and Engine 5, which is on Wilson Avenue. Their turn out times and response times should continue to get better. Both are benchmarks they are focusing on with their accreditation process.
Area Ambulance Report – Keith Rippy
Area Ambulance Services’ Key Performance Indicators and Special Events Summary reports are attached.

Last year, AAS had 19,801 calls for service (CFS). This year, with June closing out their year, they are anticipating over 21,000 CFS, which is a substantial increase. Of that increase, they have had 869 emergency calls and over 1,000 more transports. For the coming year, FY 2019, they are projecting that they will be at 22,000 CFS, for another increase of 1,000 or so calls for service. They anticipate a similar increase in the number of transports. In addition, last year they provided about $88,000 of in kind standby service. This is also trending upward, as they supplied over $112,000 in standby service. This standby service means that they provide a unit and crew or a crewmember at no charge for a not for profit entity.

One reason that calls for service are increasing is that the population is getting older and heavier. In addition to that, people are more comfortable with calling 911 than they have been before. Also, they transport about 75% of the calls for service.

Their response times continue to be very strong. They added four people last year – 2 paramedics and 2 EMTs and 10 unit hours. They expect to add 4 more people and an additional 10 unit hours later on this fiscal year.

Building Services Report – Duncan McCallum
The Building Services Report is attached.

Permits:
• Total permits issued are up 43% from this time last year.
• Total residential building permits is down 13% from this time last year.
• Total number of permits issued is down 9% from this time last month. (Seasonally)

There have been some extremely large projects over the course of the last year. The Building Services Department met revenue projections for year-end FY18. There were 210 new single-family homes constructed in FY18 COMPARED to 205 new single-family permits issued in FY17. This resulted in an increase from the fiscal year prior. In addition, much of the larger projects constructed over the course of the last year have been multi-family residential projects.

Inspections:
• Building inspections are down 8% from this time last year.
• Electrical inspections are down 11% from this time last year.
• Mechanical inspections are down 16% from this time last year.
• Plumbing inspections are down 10% from this time last year.
• Overall, the total number of inspections is down 10% from this time last year.
• Total number of inspections is down 4% from this time last month.

As mentioned above, there have been many very large projects and although the inspection numbers are slightly down, the larger projects do not necessarily result in increased “number” of inspections. The
resulting projects do result in more complicated inspections, specifically on the larger residential and extended care facilities.

The Building inspectors continue to support the alcohol licensing process by performing inspections at all locations where licensees are renewed. At some locations, this takes multiple inspections in order to gain compliance.

As mentioned at the last City Council meeting, a number of inspectors supported Polk County in the damage assessments in support of the flash flood cleanup efforts.

All Board of Appeals met over the last quarter to discuss the fees.

The Building Board of Appeals also met to hear an appeal of equivalency for the Transamerica redevelopment project. The Building Services Department worked extensively with the applicant to prepare for the appeal, and staff supported the equivalent design proposal.

Complaints:
• Total number of open complaints is up 4% from this time last year.
• Total number of open cases is up 19% from this time last quarter.
• Total number of pending investigations has decreased 47% from this time last year.
• Total number of open nuisance cases is down 1% from this time last year.
• Total number of open zoning cases is up 5% from this time last year.

Staff has been working diligently to investigate cases as quickly as possible upon submission. This is represented by the decrease in the “pending investigation” caseload.

Building Services staff continue to work on vacant and dilapidated structures. Since 1/1/16, the city has completed or had a hand in 45 demolitions on a property. The city completed demolitions on 12 properties during this time, leaving 33 properties they had a hand in getting completed by the owner. Building Services have approximately 8 properties in our system that will be getting demolished yet this year, either by the owner or possibly by BSD once the court hand down a decision.

Currently (a snap shot in time), only 13 of our 90 cases in court are rental properties. The remaining 77 cases are made up of owner occupied properties (which could include exterior violations, zoning violations, placarded properties, etc.).

Youth Services Report – Faircloth
Sgt. Faircloth reviewed juvenile arrest data and the reports are attached.

A new School Resource Officer will be added to Metro High School, and SRO contracts have been updated. The SROs are working on active threat protocol, as well as interactive bias training. The schools are revamping their training and involving the school resource officers, the faculty and the students. They are also preparing for Shop with a Cop, which involves buying school supplies for children. This summer, the SROs have been involved in the Boys and Girls Club, Kids on Course University, which is a 7-week camp, that focuses on math and reading and different fun activities; as well as Catch with a Cop.
Some of their other activities they ended the school year with was their Pen Pal Program, which was a huge success. The CSU Program at McKinley is ongoing. An anti-bullying program is still being developed with the Roughriders for middle school students. They held three Youth Academies and the Hero Safety Camp, where the Police Department partnered with the Fire Department with the children. They have had three sessions of Catch with a Cop, and will have two more. One of our school resource officers partnered with children at the J Street apartments and have been doing activities with them throughout the summer. In addition, they have performed quite a few daycare presentations. During Prairie’s summer camps, they will make six visits. During August, they will be having a helmet giveaway at a Kernels games. They have been asked to partner with the Cleveland Park Association to have a Cookies with a Cop event, and they hope to fit this in by the end of July. Also, Domino’s Pizza has supplied about 200 gift certificates, which will be handed out when the officers see an individual doing something good in the community.

SAFE-CR Report – Amanda Grieder
Amanda presented the SAFE-CR Public Safety Update, which is attached.

A lot of SAFECR’s information is trending in the same way as it was in the last meeting. SAFECR’s numbers are very similar to what Building Services has for owner occupied properties versus rental properties that are nuisance properties. This is because when those properties are in court that makes it a nuisance property. That is why those numbers will be about the same. SAFECR has the same problems with owner occupied properties that Building Services has, and they meet every week regarding those properties. They continue to work as team to ensure that problems are resolved.

SAFE-CR has billed out $68,111.18, and they have collected $37,142.56. In addition, they are entering the State Offset Program, and will be working with City Finance. Perhaps a year from now, they may see some results.

Police Department Report – Chief Wayne Jerman
Chief Jerman reviewed the Cedar Rapids Police Activity Report, and the Citizen Assistance Summary, which are attached.

Violent crime continues to go down. During the same time period last year, compared to this year (the first six months of 2018), there has been a decrease of violent crime of almost 13%. The biggest area of violent crime is Aggravated Assault and Domestic Abuse.

In respect to property crime, there has been a decrease of 32 incidents of burglary. The area that drives up property crime is theft. Theft from buildings was up over 500%, with an increase of 28 incidents over the same period last year. In addition, there continues to be an increase in theft of vehicles. A large number of these stolen vehicles are stolen because keys are being left in the vehicles. Police continues to do outreach and public services announcements to our community to not leave keys in vehicles. The overall total offenses for all crime is down again; however, there is an increase of Interference with Official Acts with Injury. There has been an increase of 12 from the same time period last year. This is concerning because officers are being injured while making arrests. Interference with Official Acts is resisting arrest or fleeing from being apprehended, and they definitely want to reduce and avoid any injuries to officers in the performance of their duties.

The Chief also mentioned that two arrests from two separate murder cases were recently solved by investigators.
There are 25 incidents listed on the Citizen Assistance Summary, and 6 are OWI/Operating Under Influence of an Intoxicant. Out of the 25, there are 4 arrests where individuals were using some type of drugs or narcotics. There were 3 incidents reported from citizens regarding weapons.

A request was made to supply information regarding fireworks calls for future meetings. Also requested was that shots fired information be included in the report. Currently the Chief emails Council the shots fired information; however, he will make an inquiry with IT to see if this information can be included.

A request was made regarding data related to the Pedestrian Safety Ordinance as well. Specifically, what data do we have to show that panhandling has gone down. The Chief stated that this is not something that they typically track, but he will make an inquiry and report back as to the number of calls that have been received, and the number of violations that have been cited.

**Massage Therapy Business License Ordinance – Chief Wayne Jerman/Amanda Grieder**

Amanda presented the proposed draft ordinance, and a copy of the draft ordinance and informational handouts are attached. The draft ordinance would require massage businesses to become licensed by the City of Cedar Rapids. Licensing Massage Therapy Business Establishments would allow Police Officers to know which employees at a business offering massage services have a state license for Massage Therapy. The proposed ordinance also allows the City to placard properties that are engaged in illegal activity and/or are not compliant with State Licensing standards. Having the component of licensing and the ability to placard properties that are not in compliance is important because it allows the City to be proactive in keeping illegitimate businesses out of the City and reactive to illegal businesses when necessary.

Several public comments were heard, and many questions from the audience were answered. Considerable committee discussion was held. Of concern were the cost of the license fee, administrative costs of service, lack of victim services and re-victimization, and the exemption for reflexology.

Councilwoman Vanorny moved to table the ordinance until the next meeting, and the motion was seconded by Councilman Todd. Motion carried.

**July 2018 Fireworks – Police Chief Jerman and Assistant Fire Chief Smith**

Chief Jerman said the past July 4th was an improvement over last year in terms of the number of calls. Through July 5, 2018, the Police Department received 483 fireworks related complaints. In 2017, when the State legislature allowed the use of fireworks, there were nearly 1,000 complaints. There were four times the police calls for service in 2017 compared to 2016. This is an improvement, due to banning the use and limiting sales to industrial zones.

Assistant Fire Chief Smith reported that there were three businesses this year that sold fireworks, with limitations of being sold only in industrial areas. They had four applications, but one was denied because it was in the downtown district and not in an industrial area. There was one serious injury where someone lost several fingers as a result of fireworks blowing up in his hand. Also, there were four fires which were related to fireworks. Two were on natural vegetation, one was a trash container fire, and one was a garage fire with a vehicle in the garage. This is down from last year’s structural damage
that was related to fireworks. Last year there were several structural fires from fireworks that caused significant damage.

Considerable discussion was held regarding the problems in enforcing the ban of using fireworks. In many cases from when the call comes in reporting fireworks use, the person using fireworks can’t be located. In addition, in order for a fireworks citation to be issued, the officer must witness the act. If an officer doesn’t witness the violation, a citizen can provide them with that information, and the citizen would be subpoenaed to testify. Assistant Chief Smith reported that the Fire Marshal’s office drafted a letter, which was given to the fireworks vendors to place in the bag at the time of fireworks purchases, stating that it is illegal to shoot fireworks in the City limits. Also mentioned was the need to better educate the community with a campaign next year, because many people didn’t know that shooting fireworks was illegal. In addition, if someone in your neighborhood is shooting off fireworks, SAFECR can be notified, and if there are enough violations, the residence can be deemed a nuisance property. Next year the Police Department and Fire Department are planning to team up and work together during the 4th of July regarding enforcement.

**Opioid/Iowa Harm Reduction Coalition - Rippy/Jerman**

Keith Rippy reported that, through the Linn County Public Health Opiate Steering Committee, they are attempting to capture accurate data in respect to opiate use and Narcan use. They plan to develop a handout with Linn County treatment center information listed. The Police Department, Fire Department, and EMS would hand out these cards at scenes of overdoses and at other appropriate places.

Chief Jerman reported that Cedar Rapids officer Al Fear, who was our representative on the Eastern Iowa Heroin Initiative, has been promoted to Sergeant, so the department has a position vacancy for his replacement on the Eastern Iowa Heroin Initiative.

Discussion was heard regarding the use of Naloxone, or Narcan, which if administered can save the life of someone who has overdosed. The Iowa Harm Reduction Coalition had offered the injectable Narcan to the Police Department; however, Chief Jerman stated that City policy dictates that purchases be made through an RFP process. He is pursuing obtaining Narcan for police officers; however, Chief Jerman stated that most law enforcement use the nasal spray versus injectable Narcan.

Several public comments were heard on this issue.

Councilwoman Vanorny moved to have the Public Safety & Youth Services Committee meet every other month, and the motion was seconded by Councilwoman Weinacht. The motion carried.

**AGENDA ITEM FORECAST**

- Approval of July Draft Minutes
- Building Services Report (Ciabatti)
- Cedar Rapids Fire Department Report (Smith)
- Area Ambulance Service Report (Rippy)
- Youth Services Report (Faircloth/Cole)
- Police SAFE-CR Report (Grieder)
Public Safety & Youth Services Committee Meeting
July 16, 2018

- Cedar Rapids Police Department Report (Jerman)
- Massage Therapy Business License Proposed Ordinance (Grieder)
- Public Comment (10 min.; 2 min. limit per person)
- __________ Agenda Forecast Items

The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jean Novak
Administrative Assistant
Cedar Rapids Police Department