

**CITY OF STANWOOD
PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**

July 22, 2021

LOCATION:

The Public Safety Committee meeting was held via ZOOM meeting.

ATTENDANCE:

- City Councilmember – Steve Shepro
- City Councilmember – Darren Robb
- City Councilmember – Tim Pearce
- Stanwood Police – Chief Rob Martin
- North County Regional Fire – Chief John Cermak
- North County Regional Fire – Assistant Chief Don Bartlett
- City Administrator – Jennifer Ferguson
- City Clerk- Sara Robinson

AGENDA:

1. Fireworks ordinance discussion
2. Legislative changes overview
3. Body worn camera discussion

CALLED TO ORDER:

Meeting called to order at 5:00 pm

DISCUSSION:

- Chief Martin provided committee members with calls for service relating to fireworks, both police and fire, from 2018 to present. The data represents calls for service over the New Year and July 4th holidays. Additional information presented included crimes associated and community outreach efforts by police and fire. Committee members were asked if there was interest in banning fireworks and what a ban might look like. Chief Cermak stated a fireworks ban would negatively impact local businesses who sale the fireworks. AC Bartlett stated most aerial fireworks, those that cause the most concern in the community, are already illegal. Councilmember Robb said he was happy with how the community responded to messaging, and given the dry environment, there were minimal incidents this year. Councilmember Shepro said he is interested in getting the community's perspective. Noise complaints and impacts on pets in the community are a concern. Councilmember Shepro said he wants Council to have a

broader discussion, with input from the community. Councilmember Pearce said he was not interested in a ban on fireworks but would consider restricting the number of days fireworks can be discharged. Councilmember Shepro agreed with reducing the number of days. Councilmember Rob agreed. Councilmember Shepro inquired about the possibility of holding a public hearing in the future. City Administrator Ferguson said a public hearing, town hall or on-line survey are all options. Committee members agreed to continue working on the issue.

- Chief Martin provided committee members an update on legislative impacts to the profession. Legislation was signed by the Governor and goes into effect on July 25th. What law enforcement does will not change, but how they do it will. The police response model will have impacts to community members, specific to non-criminal calls for service. Councilmember Shepro asked about messaging the changes to the community. The message will be consistent with the Sheriff's Office.
- Chief Martin discussed the introduction of body worn cameras at Stanwood PD. Two deputies will be working with the Sheriff's Office on a pilot project designed to test and evaluate three different vendors. During this phase, we'll be looking at the technology and what will work best. We'll also be taking a close look at how it will impact our records unit with public disclosure requests.
- Chief Cermak had no report for the committee.
- Meeting adjourned at 5:43 pm