

MINUTES

COUNCIL-MANAGER BRIEFING

FEBRUARY 23, 2009

The Council-Manager Briefing was called to order by Mayor Ronald A. D'Epifanio at 6:00 p.m. at the Fairfield Community Arts Center, 411 Wessel Drive with the following Councilmembers present: Mike Snyder, Marty Judd, Mitch Rhodus, Terry Senger, Mike Oler, Tim Abbott, and Tim Meyers. Also present: Arthur Pizzano, Dena Morsch, Dennis Stuckey, Mike Dickey, John Clemmons, Tim Bachman, Dave Butsch, and Mary Hopton.

Crime Prevention Operations Update

Police Chief Michael Dickey discussed the goals put forward by Council during their goal setting session in 2008. Chief Dickey stated index crime trends are FBI measurements and are standardized across the country. He explained how the index crimes were broken down into various categories. Chief Dickey described the various statistics and trends for the city which affect the crime rate. He stated right now the city is divided into patrol enforcement areas that are proactive as well as reactive. He briefly described the four patrol areas and nine zones that the city is divided into. He stated in 2008 the average response time to calls in the city was 7.6 minutes which is the time the call came into dispatch to the time the officer arrived on the scene. He described daily routines for shift supervisors and patrol supervisors. Chief Dickey described directed activities which are crime analysis driven. He stated an action crime analysis report is prepared and then people are assigned. City Manager Pizzano commented there is a constant review and monitoring of the portion of the officers devoted to routine patrol and directed patrol. He stated we have to maintain balance between the routine patrol and the reactive and the time available for the patrol for the directed activities. Chief Dickey stated the response time is an acceptable response time and is a product of available officers. He further stated we do not hold calls for a certain area of the city. Chief Dickey stated the average number of officers on the street per shift fluctuates. He explained we average four officers plus a supervisor on up to seven or eight officers depending on the day of the week and the shift. He commented staffing levels fluctuate and we do not operate below minimums. He discussed targeting high crime areas and improving crime analysis. Chief Dickey explained how data is collected from patrol reports. He discussed the action taken in response to gang like activity in two areas of the city in 2008. Mayor D'Epifanio stated we don't want to scare residents or businesses, but we certainly want to make them aware of what to look for. Chief Dickey presented information to familiarize Council with graffiti to look for and report. Councilmember Rhodus stated Public Works getting graffiti off quickly is key. City Manager Pizzano stated Public Works is looking at a new paint product that is almost washable and makes graffiti come off easier. Chief Dickey stated graffiti is an issue and it is also an intelligence device. He stated not all graffiti is gang graffiti. Mayor D'Epifanio stated he is concerned if there are enough people to protect the safety of our officers and our residents. Councilmember Meyers referred to the city's crime statistics and noted tremendous progress has been made in this city since 1995. He stated according to the index crime chart from 2006 to 2008 there is a downward trend. Chief Dickey briefly explained the CODY system. Officer Tom Lucas and Officer Mike Rednour walked Council through use of the CODY system and how it is used in the field. They described the various features of the CODY system and LEADS. Officer Lucas stated the system is in all the police cars and is being actively used. He explained the system is better than the previous system and the problems with the CODY system are improving.

Adjournment

The Council/Manager Briefing adjourned at 6:58 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Angela Johns
Deputy Clerk of Council