

Committee of the Whole
September 11, 2018

Present: Mayor Vulich; Councilmembers Gassman, Seeley, McGraw, Allesee, Connell, Schemers, and Odor, City Attorney, City Administrator, City Clerk, Press and interested citizens.

1. Police Department Annual Update – Police Chief Kevin Gyrion

Police Chief Kevin Gyrion stated the update would highlight how the Police Department had utilized its funding. Chief Gyrion introduced Assistant Chief William Greenwalt, Captain Tom Bohle, Captain Joseph Raaymakers and Captain Steven Kopp. Chief Gyrion stated the Department's mission was continually evolving and the Department strived to provide the best possible service.

Chief Gyrion stated since 2015 numerous improvements had been made to the Department. Chief Gyrion stated staffing had been allocated more efficiently and more patrol had been added. Chief Gyrion stated the Deputy Police Chief position had been created, as well as an Administrative Sergeant position to supervise the Public Service Officers and office staff. Chief Gyrion stated the Administrative Sergeant was responsible for implementing and maintaining hardware and software for the Department. Chief Gyrion stated a Patrol Captain had been added and with two Patrol Captains now on staff, management for patrol was available twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week. Chief Gyrion stated an Animal Protection Officer would be hired and would patrol the streets for animals at large, transport animals to the Humane Society, promote responsible pet ownership, as well as become a sworn officer.

Chief Gyrion stated the Police Reserve Unit was created in 2017 and had five police reserves that could assist with Department needs. Chief Gyrion stated a SCATT (Street Crimes and Targeted-Enforcement Team) was created, as well as a Property and Evidence Room Clerk. Chief Gyrion stated non-sworn staff was utilized for the evidence custodian position, instead of a sworn officer.

Chief Gyrion stated policies and procedures had been updated. Chief Gyrion stated the Department had rededicated its partnership with the community and formed positive and proactive relationships with citizens. Chief Gyrion stated vacancies have been filled within a timely manner. Chief Gyrion stated work had occurred to improve recognition and moral within the Department. Chief Gyrion stated the old Fire Department boat was used to patrol the river.

Chief Gyrion stated mental health and drug use were major issues in the community. Chief Gyrion stated the Department was one of four in the State of Iowa to be enrolled in the One Mind Campaign. Chief Gyrion stated all officers were to be crisis intervention trained. Chief Gyrion stated after years of inactivity, the Department was now active with the Blackhawk Area Taskforce, which assisted with drug investigations. Chief Gyrion stated the Department had renewed its activity with the Governor's Traffic Safety Bureau.

Chief Gyrion stated the Department had online and telephone reporting. Chief Gyrion stated the Department had real-life training and scenario based exercises. Chief Gyrion stated the Police Department Annex building had been remodeled and provided a command center for incidents.

Chief Gyrion stated the Department had undergone numerous technological advances, including procuring state of the art records management software. Chief Gyrion stated the

software could be utilized out in the field. Chief Gyrion stated reports and records were now digital. Chief Gyrion stated the contract with AXON provided the Department with tasers and body-worn cameras. Chief Gyrion stated AXON Citizen would be rolled out whereby citizens could submit photos and videos online as evidence. Chief Gyrion stated the Department also received new desktop computers as well as computers for the vehicles. Chief Gyrion stated in 2016 the Department implemented a social media presence on Facebook, Facebook messenger, Twitter and Instagram. Chief Gyrion stated the Department now had an automated fleet management system, whereby detailed records for each vehicle were maintained electronically. Chief Gyrion stated the camera systems had received improvements, including the recreation trail cameras and the cameras in the schools. Chief Gyrion stated the Department also had a drone.

Chief Gyrion stated in order to receive grant funding, the Department was required to provide data to the National Incident Based Reporting System (“NIBRS”). Chief Gyrion stated the NIBRS numbers for 2018 were mostly trending down. Chief Gyrion stated with improved recordkeeping and reporting, data comparisons from year-to-year would be enhanced.

Chief Gyrion stated the goals and objectives for the Department included increasing staff by four sworn officers. Chief Gyrion stated this staff increase would be necessary in order to continue to provide the same level of service currently being provided. Chief Gyrion stated other objectives included determining the future of the police facility, a Police K-9 program, a comprehensive online reporting system, updates to the Police Department website, implementation of AXON Citizen and Zuercher Mobile and a mobile command center.

Chief Gyrion stated the Department was dedicated to the City. Chief Gyrion stated all improvements and initiatives were possible due to the Council’s support.

2. Urban Revitalization Plan Amendment – City Administrator Matt Brooke

City Administrator Matt Brooke stated the Amendment would modify the City’s existing City-wide single-family abatement schedule, which provided for the abatement of 50% of the actual value added by qualifying improvements for a three year period, to provide abatement of 100% of the first \$75,000.00 of actual value added by qualifying improvements for five years. Administrator Brooke stated the proposed Amendment would add an abatement schedule for blighted areas of 100% abatement of actual value added by qualifying improvements for five years (with no limitations on the amount of increased value subject to the abatement).

Councilmember Connell inquired about the marketing and roll out of the program. Administrator Brooke stated discussions had occurred with Laura Liegois and ECIA (East Central Intergovernmental Association) regarding marketing. Administrator Brooke stated marketing would include information in *The Lighthouse*, on the Mediacom channel, Facebook, flyers and possible town hall meetings. Administrator Brooke stated the application process would be reviewed with the County Assessor. Administrator Brooke stated the abatement incentive was meant to help encourage new development in the blighted areas. Mayor Vulich inquired if Assessor Tiesman was supportive of the abatement incentives. Administrator Brooke stated he would be working with Assessor Tiesman for the program.

M/S, Connell-Allesee moved to forward the Urban Revitalization Plan Amendment to the next Council agenda. On roll call, carried unanimously.

3. Mayor and Council Updates

Mayor Vulich stated September 11, 2018 was a Day of Remembrance of the events that occurred on September 11, 2001. Councilmember Seeley stated the Clinton Half Marathon took place on September 9, 2018 and stated the event was well done and well attended. Councilmember Seeley thanked event organizers for their work on the event.

M/S, Connell-Allesee moved to adjourn. All in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lisa Frederick
City Clerk