

City of Palos Heights



Public Safety Committee
Tuesday, June 22, 2021
Minutes

Call to Order/ Roll Call

The Public Safety Committee meeting was held on June 22, 2021 at the Palos Heights City Hall. Chairman Basso called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm. In attendance were Chairman Basso, Alderman Clifford, Alderman Lewandowski, and Alderman McGovern. Also in attendance were Chief Yott, Deputy Chief Yott, and Recording Secretary Margaret Carey.

Approval of Minutes

Alderman Basso moved to approve the minutes of the May 25, 2021 Public Safety meeting, seconded by Alderman Lewandowski. All in favor. **Motion carried.**

Police Chief Yott reported as follows:

POLICE ACTIVITY REPORT

621 total calls for service May, 2021

TRAFFIC CRASH REPORT

Hit & Run	3
Property Damage	19
Personal Injury	12
<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>34</u>

MISCELLANEOUS REPORTS

- a) Police Department Budget Report
- b) SafeSpeed Report – 123 violations
- c) MSI Report – 57 citations issued
- d) Training Report - 175 hours
- e) DUI Summary - 4 arrests

Old Business

None

New Business

Chief Yott presented a photo of the department's new electric powered bicycle. There are many benefits over a traditional bicycle; enabling officers to travel longer and further distances. The Bicycle Patrol is seasonal and is comprised of officers who volunteer for the assignment and attend training.

Correspondence/Employee Recognition

- Several area residents dropped off baked goods and pizza to honor the PHPD during National Police Week (May 9-15, 2021).
- Dunkin Donuts sent over 2 dozens donuts helping to promote their Grand Opening at their

new location.

- Nicholas Rizzo, a Palos Heights resident sent a letter expressing his gratitude for the police escort for his father's funeral procession. He was very touched and commended the PHPD on their integrity and was thankful living in such a great community.
- Community Service Officer, Tyler Murphy, received a Letter of Recognition for his due diligence and awareness of a hit and run crash, where he spotted the offender's vehicle in a nearby residential area. In doing so, the driver of the vehicle was located and all necessary information needed to bring this criminal investigation to a successful conclusion.
- An area resident contacted Alderman Key and expressed his gratitude to both Officer Nick Belseth and Sergeant John Pamitzke for their swiftness and professionalism in recovering his stolen vehicle.
- Gary Hickerson, a Palos Heights resident called into the PHPD and thanked the Department for their amazing work which was done from an accident in which his parents were involved in located at Southwest Highway.
- Officer Joe Carlson received sincere gratitude from an area resident whose daughter is going through a divorce and stated how helpful Joe was to explain the process and options that were available to his daughter.
- The Villa Healthcare facility dropped off a basket full of goodies in their appreciation to PHPD police force - "YOU ARE ALL APPRECIATED MORE THAN YOU KNOW".

Public Comment

None

Aldermen's Comments

Alderman McGovern and Alderman Basso complimented Police Department staff for receiving so many wonderful letters. Alderman McGovern also wanted to add his appreciation for all the officers working the midnight shift during Sunday night's storm and removing branches from the roadway.

Alderman Basso inquired about the warning sirens. Even though he received a warning on his cell phone, he did not hear the outdoor sirens go off. Chief Yott explained that the siren system is outdated and not efficient. Residents would be better served purchasing an inexpensive weather radio and also by signing up with the City's Code Red (reverse 911) program. They will receive alerts on their landline and/or cell phones.

Chief Yott also warned of recent scams. People have received text messages saying it came from IDOT or Secretary of State. These are scams. Do not send them your information. Additionally, if you receive an email receipt of a service you did not purchase, just delete it. Don't open it.

Adjourn

There being no further business, Chairman Basso made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Alderman McGovern. All in favor. **Motion carried.**

Meeting adjourned at 6:58 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Margaret Carey, Recording Secretary