

Law Enforcement Advisory Board Meeting JANUARY 8, 2020

x denotes presence

X Paul Soptick
X Scott Mackey
Reed Partridge
Lt Col Bob Gunja
Dixie Kaster
X Don Jolley
X Tony Carter
Maria Cecilia Ysaac
X Irene Caudillo
Don Ash
Mary Hopkins
Joan DeMoss
Dan Soptic
Jeffry Fewell
X Michael York
Terry Brockman
X Kevin Steele
David Thaxton
X Lynn Melton
JONAS CRUZ
Larry Roland
Pam Waldeck

Casey Meyer

Kent Anderson

Tony Carter opened the meeting at 4:00pm

Chief York talked about the new recruit tactics the PD is employing. One thing that is different is they changed the hiring age to 20 from 21. If they are hired the new recruit will work at city hall or in a security position until they are 21 and then they complete their school and if they pass they become police officers.

They also streamlined the application process. When the recruit team goes out of town they take the test with them and the applicant completes a large portion of their testing then. We have a couple of captains that go and give a lie detector test so the applicant does not have to travel all the way here for one day.

The applicants for the next class are; 13 White males, 4 Hispanic males, 6 Black males, 1 American Indian and 1 White female.

Chief York said no to a number of people because they were less than truthful.

Chief York said that this round of applicants was the biggest challenge to sit and read these applications and figure who is the best candidates for the job.

Out of the 30 in this next class 16 are Wyandotte County residents. 4 applicants have previous law enforcement experience so they will go through the abbreviated academy and be on the streets in a month.

We will start another recruitment drive in March.

We also have the same problem hiring in dispatch currently down 15 positions.

Crime stats for the year.

38 homicides in 2019 up from 35 homicides in 2018. We had a quadruple homicide on central ave and a triple homicide on Mill street which do not happen very often which led to the increase.

Agg batteries in 2019 363 up from 307 in 2018 which causes concern.

Total violent crime for 2019 was 1360 up from 1332 in 2018.

Total property crimes for 2019 6113 down from 6710 in 2018.

Total crime (target crimes) for 2019 7473 down from 8042 in 2018.

Don Jolley asked if human trafficking was a large issue in the city. Chief York talked about the task force made up of many jurisdictions and the work they do to solve / prevent this type of activity. He said a large percentage of human trafficking came from run aways that are forced into this activity. Chief York cannot remember a case that he had to present to the DA but it remains a concern.

In 2020 the PD will have a full time Wellness Officer. The wellness officer reached out to every officer and detective that worked the Mill Street homicide because of the nature of the crime.

Adjourned 4:35pm

Submitted 01-15-2020