

JOHNSTON CITY COUNCIL

Worksession No. 17-12

Johnston City Hall, 6221 Merle Hay Road

June 5, 2017

6:00 p.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Dierenfeld called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL

Present: Clabaugh, Brown

Absent: Cope, Lindeman, Temple

Mayor Dierenfeld explained that Item #4 would be removed from the Work Session agenda and discussed at a later date when more elected officials were present.

3. DISCUSSION REGARDING THE JOHNSTON POLICE DEPARTMENT INVOLVEMENT IN THE M.I.N.E TASK FORCE

Police Chief Dennis McDaniel provided background on this item. Chief McDaniel stated that the Johnston Police Department has been a part of the M.I.N.E. task force since 2008. Chief McDaniel stated that the City has provided an officer to the task force to provide support for the greater metropolitan area even though drug crimes are a relatively small portion of police activity in Johnston and as compared to the metropolitan area. Chief McDaniel stated that the City provides the salary and benefits for an officer less a small amount received back; in the past it was approximately \$15,000 that was received, but recently the number has been approximately \$5,000.

Chief McDaniel stated that as Johnston's population grows, investigations are becoming greater in number and complexity, and as such, the City is in need of an additional investigator in house. Chief McDaniel recommended exiting the M.I.N.E. task force at this time, and he mentioned depending on a variety of variables will determine when and if they City can participate again. Chief McDaniel mentioned that the City's investigator caseload is between 30-40 cases handled at one time compared to neighboring jurisdictions where it is approximately 10-20 cases. The result of that large caseload is to triage the cases and many lower level crime follow-up investigations are being handled by patrol officers, which adversely affects the department. Chief McDaniel also stated that high profile cases have increased considerably over the last couple of years to the point of occurring more frequently now than one a month.

Councilmember Clabaugh inquired as to whether or not the City could enter and exit from the 28E. Chief McDaniel stated that we could get out and that we would likely be welcome back in if we decided it was feasible. Chief McDaniel stated that due to staffing we do not currently have an investigator assigned to the task force. Clabaugh asked if we lose anything or gain when the City has a narcotics event. Lieutenant Tompkins responded and stated that follow-up with the complainant, victim and final disposition in a timely manner will be enhanced having the added investigator and that several staff members will be receiving training to help offset the expertise we would have with the Task Force. Both the State and City of Des Moines have also offered up assistance as it is needed.

Councilmember Clabaugh inquired about prioritizing needs and if we expand staff would the City then provide the task force with a member. McDaniel stated that the highest priority at this time is a community outreach officer and then to shore up the investigations and patrol functions for each shift, and that once those items happen, the MINE Task Force would be in the discussion.

4. DISCUSS THE ADDITIONS OF CHAPTER 53, WEEDS AND GRASS AND CHAPTER 161, PROPERTY MAINTENANCE TO THE CITY CODE AND THE NECESSARY AMENDMENTS OF CHAPTER 50 AND 153 OF THE CITY CODE AS RELATED TO THE ADDITION OF CHAPTERS 53 AND 161
5. INTRODUCTION AND TRAINING OF ELECTED OFFICIALS ON BOARDDOCS PRO (EXECUTIVE TRAINING) MEETING AND AGENDA MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

Diana Freeman, a trainer with the company BoardDocs, was present to provide executive level training and orientation to the Council on the new paperless meeting agenda management system.

The meeting adjourned at 7:07 p.m.

Paula S. Dierenfeld, Mayor

ATTEST:

Cyndee Rhames, City Clerk