

DODGEVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT

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Chief of Police Brandon Wilhelm

TO: Dodgeville Police and Fire Commission
FROM: Chief Brandon Wilhelm
RE: Third Quarter Report October 2024
DATE: October 21st, 2024

Dear Mayor and PFC Members,

This document represents the 3rd quarter report for 2024 for the Dodgeville Police Department. The 4th quarter report will contain a summary of statistics for 2024 as well as the annual report.

Activities-

-We are continuing work on the implementation of our new reporting system (Central Square/Zuercher). Training for Admin personnel will be held October 29th through 31st to familiarize the Dept. with the processes utilized.

-Mobile displays have been placed into squad cars allowing Officers to see calls for service immediately as well as details of calls. This has been well-received by Officers and appears to greatly increase efficiency and safety throughout their shifts.

-We have done some redecorating and organization at the Police Department over the past few months. Feel free to stop by and check out some of the old photos of Officers as well as the new ones. We also have obtained approval from City Council for the construction of the interview room in the upstairs area at the Police Department which will be ADA accessible and increase security when conducting interviews at the Department.

-Throughout 2024 Officers were assigned to specific wards in the City and were responsible for checking businesses and residences regarding ordinance violations. Approximately 70 letters were sent out to various businesses/residences for compliance. Overall, we noticed that almost all residences alleviated their identified issues. We are still working with some to come into compliance.

- I have been working with the Ordinance committee to update and address multiple ordinances that required language changes. Specifically, this included regulating food trucks, creating a special-events permit, reevaluating our licensing for alcohol and pets, and updating our

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archery ordinance. Throughout winter we will begin addressing remaining ordinances, especially the burning ordinance.

-The Council has also approved the purchase of new squad rifles to upgrade our existing rifles and to allow for additional rifles in large-scale incidents.

-Stop Sticks (Spike Strips) have been obtained and placed into each of the squad cars. We previously did not have Stop Sticks. This allows us the ability to potentially end a pursuit that may be entering our jurisdiction before that incident causing a problem within the City of Dodgeville.

- We have updated our City-wide camera system with new software that allows the cameras to be immediately accessed via the use of the cell phones which are in the squads. This system also cost considerably less than the previous system.

- Via a donation from a citizen, we were able to place LIFE-Vacs into each of the squad cars which can be used when responding to a person choking.

- Our first 2025 Squad has arrived and is currently being upfitted. Our next squad will arrive within the next few months. We will then sell our oldest squad which will still provide us with one extra squad car (four total). This will help in those instances where a squad is broken down, we have multiple officers on, there is a special event, or we have difficulty in the future acquiring a new squad. The oldest squad will also primarily be used for the School Resource Officer and to transport Charlie.

Training-

-All Officers took part in at least one Rescue Task Force training in September and/or October which relates to assisting EMS during a mass casualty incident. Most Officers took part in at least two of these trainings to provide for additional repetitions. All officers also attended the large-scale training incident on October 3rd at Health and Human Services. A memo from an involved Officer is attached.

Personnel-

-Lt. Benjamin Conway has been busy investigating incidents and helping with administrative duties. He is doing a phenomenal job.

-Mandi Andrews has completed her field training and is on her own as of October 16th. She too is doing a great job.

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-Garrett Faull has completed his probationary period and has been a valuable asset already to the Department assisting with field training, the Drone program and ERT.

- We currently have eight full-time Officers, a Sgt. Lt. and a Chief, as well as two part-time administrative professionals. As I noted at the second quarter meeting- A 2020 Study from the US Department of Justice states that the average number of Officers per 1000 people in a town less than 10,000 population, is 2.8 officers. We would need 14 Officers to meet that threshold. At the October 15th Council meeting, the City Council approved the 2025 budget in which I included a \$100,000 request for an additional officer. I believe that within the agenda there will be an item to approve this position. I can speak more to this position at that time if needed.

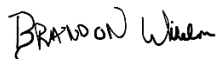
Calls for Service-

- Due to a transition to the new CAD with Iowa County, statistics may be slightly skewed as Officers are no longer using the old system in some instances. We currently have 2580 calls for service for the year. Last year at this time we had 2816. Because of the transition to the new system we are likely right at the same pace of calls for service as many were entered into the new system. For the annual report, attempts will be made to correctly determine the 2024 final statistics.

Remaining 2024 Goals-

- Update the department Website with information and updated forms
- Review and update all Dept. Contracts including Officer Wellness Programs
- Work with the Union during negotiations to determine a retainment incentive

Respectfully



Chief Brandon Wilhelm