

From: Austin Zuercher <auzzrch@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 4, 2026 3:57 AM
To: Mike Oberbroeckling <moberbroeckling@cityofdymersville.com>; Scott DeSousa <sdesousa@cityofdymersville.com>; Norm Pottebaum <npottebaum@cityofdymersville.com>
Subject: PD concerns

Gentlemen,

I moved to Dymersville to further my career in law enforcement in 2016. I was a member of the department for 4.5 years and was promoted to admin in August 2019 before I left in January 2021 to work as a Deputy in Delaware County. My wife, infant son, and I call Dymersville home.

I am writing to you to express my concern for the state of our Police Department. My concerns come from not only the lens of a citizen and taxpayer but also a law enforcement officer and former Assistant Chief of Dymersville PD. Many of my concerns stem from department mismanagement, lack of staffing hours, and misfeasance and nonfeasance from personnel.

There are multiple nights where we have had no PD coverage in town but have multiple officers working during daytime hours. On the night of 3/2 we had no officer on duty from at least 9PM until 5AM 3/3. We regularly have no coverage from 3AM until the dayshift comes in. Historically DPD has been a 24 hour department even for periods when we had only 4 members. This lack of staffing comes even with increases to PD budget. With more money and officers we are getting fewer covered hours.

The argument is always made that nothing happens at night or those are the slow hours. When our police department is staffed 24 hours we have personnel who can assist with fire and EMS calls available at all times. Law enforcement personnel are needed for EMS scenes that need to be secured before medical aid can be rendered. The PD is also able to give CPR, use an AED, or help with severe bleeding. All of these I have seen during my time at the PD. Anything other than someone coming from across town is longer than I want my family or friends to wait.

Additionally there have been multiple instances where DPD has failed to act, investigate, or respond to incidents in town even when they were working. I can think of 2 of which involved firearms and shots fired. I do not have exact dates but do have details of the incidents. The worst part being that even after a shot was fired, a firearm was found, and they had the shooter detained, nobody was taken to jail or charged-which is absurd.

My family, and many others that I have talked to, feels much less safe living here now than ever. When I work at night, I know there might not be anyone to show up if my wife needs help. Calls that get answered by Dubuque or Delaware county will have a significantly longer response time (up to 15+ min). In emergency situations SECONDS count.

This lack of service cannot continue - I look forward to hearing how you will address it.

If you have any questions or want more information you can reach out any day preferably after 11AM.

Thank you for your time,
Austin Zuercher
621 2nd St NW
[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone