



CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION DEPARTMENT REPORT

TO: Matthew R. Schmitz, MPA - City Manager

FROM: Chief David Niedert

DATE OF MEETING: January 2nd, 2024

ITEM TITLE: Department Report – Police

- The police department is once again working with Hawkeye Community College police science program and hosting a practicum student. This year the student is a graduate of Independence High School.
- Tactical team training has continued, and the tactical team was called out recently. This ended up being a mental health issue, and the call was diverted to our Foundation 2 crisis liaison, for a successful mental health referral.
- January will mark the first time in two years that this department will be fully staffed on the schedule.
- We have seen an uptick in shoplifting cases recently. We have been working with the retailers to make sure that they have the tools for successful prosecution in these cases.
- We once again participated in a Christmas giveaway program. Wapsie Realty, Denali's on the River and Office Towne donated Hams, Bread, Eggs and gift cards to give to persons in need. We delivered these items and helped spread some holiday cheer. We look to expand this program further next year.
- We are continuing to look at different companies to replace our aging in car and body-worn camera system. We currently have Motorola WatchGuard. Our version is no longer being produced, and will not have repair capabilities. We were able to get two brand new body cameras this year from a different department that switched to another system. You will see this as an item in the CIP budget this year.
- A new squad was ordered from Rydell of Independence. This was ordered early because we are unsure how long it will take to get delivered. Ford is not going to produce a 2024 model, but rather only 2025. This was ordered from Rydell with the agreement that if city budget does not allow, they will sell to someone else.