



CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION DEPARTMENT REPORT

TO: Matthew R. Schmitz, MPA - City Manager

FROM: Chief David Niedert

DATE OF MEETING: May 6, 2024

ITEM TITLE: Department Report – Police

- We have two officers who have been appointed to organizations that will enhance our department's ability to deliver services to our citizens.
 - Officer Chris Cass has been deputized as a U.S. Marshall. This gives the police department immediate access to the resources that the U.S. Marshalls Office can provide, by being a member agency. Officer Cass and his K9 will be available to the U.S. Marshalls to provide assistance when needed in the surrounding counties. Any use of our officer will be reimbursed to the City.
 - Lieutenant Andy Isley has become a member of the Iowa Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force. This appointment will allow Lieutenant Isley instant access to online investigative resources, and make his investigations into crimes against children easier when it involves internet use.
- This week is the Dogs for Law Enforcement yearly training seminar in Independence. We expect over 40 dogs and their handlers, as well as certified trainers from around the United States. The majority will be staying locally, which has a nice economic impact on our community.
- Officers Graves and Christiansen recently attended Tactical Warrant Service School. This class was put on by the Midwest Counter Drug Training Center at Camp Dodge in Des Moines. This training was free and included low-cost lodging. This is just one of many free or reduced-cost training opportunities that our officers attend.
- On May 17th, our department will participate in a train derailment tabletop exercise at the Buchanan County Emergency Management. This has been in the planning stages for a few months now and will allow our officers to understand what a disaster response like this will entail.
- On May 15th, we will be dedicating the plaques that commemorate the two Independence Officers who were killed in the line of duty. The retired badges and the copy of the proclamation will be hung in our lobby, and a family member of Officer Pearce will attend.
- Our department continues its co-teaching of a forensic science class at the high school. We participated in post-prom as representatives of the Buchanan County Substance Abuse Coalition. We have our annual Guns vs. Hosers bowling tournament coming up this month, all proceeds will be donated to wipe out the lunch debts of needy children at the school.