

Call To Order:

This meeting was called to order at 5:37 p.m. by chair Emily Rebollozo. Members present were Chunhui Xiang, William Arce, Edna Clinton, Tim Rasmussen, Roberto Dubiel, and Emily Rebollozo. Chief Huff was in attendance as well. Virginia Speight came in at 6:26p.m.

Special Guests: Commander Dan Walter - Investigations
Commander Jason Tuttle - Patrol
Support Services Manager Aaron DaLashmutt
Animal Control Supervisor Ron Edwards

Approval of minutes

Minutes were approved by Tim Rasmussen, William Arce seconded, to approve the minutes of the August 31st, 2022 ARPAC meeting. Vote to motion 6 - 0. Motion Carried

Police Chief Comments

Commander Dan Walter: Mr. Walter begins with introductions and goes over who is in the Investigations Division. He begins by explaining what a PIO is. PIO stands for Public Information Officer who works on press releases and social media. Seven detectives if you count the drug task force. Most of the detectives are general investigations so if something came in most would be able to tackle the issue. A lot of officers will go 7 to 9 years before heading over to investigations if they want to go that path. Mr. Walter also discusses how much evidence is actually maintained and how much work and how many hours it takes to do so. Most cases that Investigations get involved with are homicides, robberies, assaults, arsons, burglaries, and sexual assaults.

Commander Jason Tuttle: Mr. Tuttle has been with the department for 22 years. Before being with the department he was a deputy sheriff in Lucas County Iowa. In the department, he has worked on a variety of assignments. He worked as a detective and then was promoted. Was a field training officer as well. His most fun time was being a sergeant on the streets where he says he is closest to the work. He goes over how many officers there are in the Patrol Division, including detectives, which comes out to 57 sworn officers when they are at full strength. Last year they were down by 10 officers at one point. Currently, they are down by 5 officers. 47 officers who are on patrol and are in uniform all spread out in three shifts: Day Shift (7 a.m. – 3 p.m.), Afternoon shift (3 p.m. - 11 p.m.), then night shift (11 p.m. - 7 a.m.). At any time there is always a supervisor on duty, who may be either a lieutenant or sergeant. These supervisors are good problem solvers and assist the officers in making decisions. When looking for staff members they look for good character, building relationships, and good problem-solving. A majority of their budget is personnel costs.

Aaron DaLashmutt: Mr. DaLashmutt has been with the department for 2 years and is part of the Support Services Manager. Before working with APD he was with ISUPD for 24 years and started there as an officer on patrol and worked up the ranks. He spent a lot of time in investigations and did a lot of computer forensics for 10 years. Much of what he does is working with the budget which includes grants and other big projects that the department might be working on. Other pieces he is responsible for are communications which are dispatch and 911 operators and records which helps officers process their reports. The overall budget which includes Patrol, Investigations, Communications, and some of Parking comes out to around \$11,000,000. Animal Control comes in with \$600,000. Much of the Police side of the department (Patrol and Investigations) budget is personnel (to get an idea, \$9.500,000 is what their budget for personnel comes out be. The rest of the budget is used for training, cars, and equipment. The Records division reaches a little over \$1,000,000. Communications reaches about \$1,400,000.

Ron Edwards: Mr. Edwards is head of the Animal Control Division. He has been doing animal control and animal care for over 37 years. He moved to Ames 9 years ago and loved every minute being here. He was born and raised in California but doesn't like the heat or sun. He wants winter and snow every single day of the year. He holds transparency in high regard because most agencies in the industry do not tell the truth about some animals when they come into the facility. Mr. Edwards has a strict policy that he and other are honest about what will happen to the animals once they get to the facility. They have a team of seven employees. There are three full-time and four part-time. Incredibly, there are over 80 volunteers. Their division is split into two separate sides. The first side is the animal control part which is looking for the car in the tree or if there is an injured bird. The other side is the shelter which houses the animals up for adoption, pets who are picked up from owners after getting loose, and strays. Animal Control operates as a no-kill facility which means that they have a shoot for saving 90% or more of the animals leaving the facility. Mr. Edwards is proud of the fact that they are the only municipal government shelter in the state of Iowa that has achieved no-kill. They do limited animal calls due to the staffing. Other calls they respond to are nuisance complaints, animal rescue, picking up dead animal, dog park issues, transporting animals, hoarding cases, and much more.

Committee Member Comments

Upcoming Events

Adjourned

William Arce called for adjournment, seconded by Tim Rasmussen
Time Adjourned - 7:45 p.m.