

The meeting was called to Order by Ald. Schmidt with the following Roll Call at 5:44 p.m.

Members Present: Ald. Schmidt, Ald. Sertich, Ald. Boelk

Members Absent:

Others Present: Mayor Moede, Ald. Pasbrig, Ald. Redeker, Ald. Toellner, Kathie Wild, Deanna Boldrey, Chief MacNeill, Katie Leb, Megan Sheridan, Ben Brown

Item #2 - Approve the minutes of the May 20, 2013, meeting.

Motion by Ald. Sertich, second by Ald. Boelk to approve the minutes of May 20, 2013, meeting.

Ald. Sertich questioned if the new officer was up and running on his own. Chief Chris MacNeill commented that Sergeant Vossekuil did recommend that the new officer be placed on regular patrol; and the new officer is working regular patrol. The new officer will come to a future meeting. She also questioned if the generator was being checked monthly. Chris commented that it is. Motion carried unanimously.

Item #3 - Citizens Comments.

None.

Item #4 – Monthly Fire Department Report.

A. No Report.

Item #5 – Monthly EMS Report.

A. No Report.

Item #6 – Monthly Police Department Report.

A. Report on May 22, 2013, Mayville Schools Lockdown Incident.

Chief MacNeill noted that he wanted to give an overview of the School Lockdown Incident that occurred on Wednesday, May 22, 2013, at approximately 2:28 p.m.

The Chief reported that they received a 911 call of two males with a possible gun at the location of Breckenridge Street and Clark Street which is near the High School and Middle School. The officer responded and found the vehicle unoccupied, unregistered with no plates on it. The officer made contact with the complainant to make sure of what he saw, and the complainant was absolutely sure that he saw two males with a shot gun. The officer looked in the hatchback of the vehicle and was unable to see the shotgun and so presumed the males had the shotgun and were somewhere in the vicinity. He then called the Sheriff's department to contact the schools to have the schools locked down until able to determine where these two gentlemen were. The officer then contacted the Chief at home and the Chief responded to the scene. At that point the Chief met with the Dodge County Deputy, 107, and they made contact with the apartment manager to see if she recognized the vehicle, if it belonged to anyone that lived there. At that time she was unable to pin point whose vehicle it might be, she had never seen it before. The Chief continued that at that time, we decided to set up a perimeter and move a command post over to Ziegler Park. The Fire Department was called in to set up a secondary perimeter, as normally when there is an incident around a specific area, we set up a one block perimeter around the location. In this case we wanted a secondary perimeter to keep people from coming into our primary perimeter.

There were some parents that were directed to Ziegler Park which was the command center, this was a miscommunication. All the officers that were responding from outside jurisdictions were directed to Ziegler Park for assignments. The parents were redirected to Christian Life Fellowship. Christian Life Fellowship is one of the evacuation points for one of the schools. However, the intent was not to evacuate the students to that location, but to give the parents a place to go, to keep them safe, to keep them out of the perimeter until the lockdown was released and then they would be close enough to respond to the schools.

The Chief continued that at 3:38 p.m., the officers advised that they were with one of the occupants and believed the weapons were airsoft guns. We maintained the perimeter and lockdown until able to confirm that they were actually airsoft guns. Once we were able to determine that there was no threat and they were airsoft guns, we notified the schools that the students could be released.

Chief MacNeill continued that one of the things that they learned in this lockdown was that there was so much cell phone traffic that the cell phones were not working. He was able to make contact with Lee Zarnott at the high school through cell phone and advise him that we were trying to get teams of officers together for each of the schools. The Chief commented that he was able to contact Pat Antony; however, the phone call was disconnected shortly thereafter and after that the cell phone became useless. There was so much cell phone traffic that the cell phones were not working. We are working with the Fire Department and School District on radios for a frequency to allow us to communicate better. He continued that we have been meeting with the schools, Dodge County emergency management, and the fire department to discuss some of the glitches and ways to make it better next time. Hopefully, there will not be a next time but in a situation like this we want it to run as smoothly as possible.

Ald. Boelk questioned if the SWAT Team was called. Chief MacNeill answered that the SWAT Team was not called; however, the SWAT Team has deputies that are assigned to the SWAT Team and they carry their equipment in their vehicle, so they responded. The Chief continued that one of our officers, Officer Forster, was off duty and in the City. He did not have his weapon with him and he used one of the long weapons from the trunk of a squad vehicle. So if someone saw him with an AR15, and assumed he was SWAT he was not, he was here off duty. He had the weapon as his primary weapon. There were three or four members of the SWAT respond, but the SWAT was not called out.

Ald. Pasbrig questioned, in this line of communications are we also incorporating the parochial schools. Chief MacNeill responded that when he first came in after the officer contacted him, Chief MacNeill stated that he had, Marjean, the daytime secretary, contact St. John's and put them on lock down but they had dismissed some of their students already. It was the same with Parkview and St. Mary's. St. Mary's had already released their students. She called them and they were going to notify their daycare of what was going on. Ald. Pasbrig commented that going forward they will be a part of it and this will be a Citywide communication. Chief MacNeill responded that yes it is, and that we are working with the Sheriff's Department and that he did not want to speak for the school district but they realized their notifications were not meant to handle that much traffic. They are looking at the Sheriff's Department's system.

The Chief continued that we have been working with the School District practicing lock downs, working with the High School, Middle School, Parkview and also St. John's and St. Mary's. The problem is that we never (practiced) at this large of a scale. It has always been one at a time, never multiple at the same time. This was a learning experience. He continued that it was great that there was no threat and used as a live drill to work out the kinks.

Ald. Redeker commented that he did a lot of research on this. He obtained the 911 call and all of the reports from the Mayville Police Department and Dodge County, including a copy of their reports and radio traffic of that day to get a feel of what really happened. Ald. Redeker continued that there are a lot of different stories of what happened with this, which is very unfortunate. In general there were some very concerning things that day such as the inability to get a hold of the schools in a timely manner by Dodge County. That has to get fixed. That was very concerning. Ald. Redeker commented that he does not want to discourage a citizen from reporting anything that could be suspicious. He continued that if a citizen is going to report something like that it is helpful that they stay near the scene, the individual went home. There was a gap in time. The officer

was fairly close to the scene at that time, but there was a gap there. A lot of people in his ward lives close to the schools, as we know there are a lot of guns out there. Ald. Redeker continued that a CBS news report stated that for every 100 citizens in the United States, there are 88.1 guns. So there are a lot of guns out there and the vast majority are held by law abiding citizens. We do not want to do anything just because they have a weapon or transporting a weapon they should feel that they may be a criminal. He did go over the rules around schools. One of them has changed in 2011. Ald. Redeker stated you can transport a long gun, which this complainant thought he saw, uncased and unloaded that is within the law. The problem with this situation that day they were clearly within 1,000 feet of school property, because if you go around the corner if parked by 1004 Breckenridge, the substation is right next to school property. If it was a real gun and brought onto public road or sidewalk, he would be in violation of the 1,000 feet law. If he goes onto school property with a gun than that is a felony. Ald. Redeker continued that if you live across the street from the school on Clark Street and you have your gun, and you are transporting the gun from the house to your driveway, on private property, than you are not in violation because you are on private property.

Chief MacNeill noted it is the totality of the circumstances, and this was discussed at the command post as well when we were making our decisions, no one knew who these guys were, the apartment manager did not know who the vehicle belonged to, never seen it before. It was unregistered. We made contact with several of the apartments and were not able to make contact with anybody. If the vehicle had been properly registered and we were able to make contact with the resident, the lock down would have taken maybe ten minutes. But it was all of the circumstances together, the clothing the gentlemen were wearing and the way they pulled it out. And the complainant called them suspicious. There must have been a reason why he called. If he would have pulled it all the way out the passerby would have seen the orange tip on the barrel and that would have ended it right there. It was a totality of all of the circumstances that warranted the lock down. It was a good call. Not all situations with a gun are going to result in a lock down at the school. It was the circumstances surrounding this specific incident that warranted the lockdown. Ald. Redeker commented that he wants to make it clear for those that live near the schools, the ones that do have guns. Chief noted that they should not fear taking it to their car.

Ald. Redeker commented that yes it had a temp plate and not sure how you can track that temp plate. Chief MacNeill commented that the Sheriff's Department dispatcher was trying to track that down. The new officer recognized the vehicle and who it belonged to and we were able to track it down that way. The plate itself was not registered through the DMV. We had to call the dealership then try to track down the records. That was a very time consuming task. Ald. Redeker questioned where was the citizen that owned this car actually located at? Chief MacNeill answered that he was actually found at one of the apartments at 1004 Breckenridge Street. Ald. Redeker commented that he was at the apartment the whole time. Chief MacNeill answered that he was in one of the apartments that was not checked. We had two possible leads of apartments and we checked those two and were not able to make contact so that is when we decided to set up the perimeter.

Ald. Boelk questioned if anyone was cited for unregistered vehicle or anything. Chief MacNeill answered no, the vehicle was just purchased and was legally parked. Chief MacNeill commented he had discussed this with the district attorney and the detective. The intent was not to scare anybody and did not realize that his actions caused a lockdown. He actually came out of apartment and met with officers trying to find out what was going on because he saw officers by his car. He just purchased the guns and was showing a friend the airsoft guns when the passerby drove by. If he had pulled it all of the way out the orange tip would have been clearly visibly and may not have resulted in a 911 call. It was not discharged. It is not a crime to own an airsoft gun either by state statute or City

ordinance. After reviewing all of the information we could not prove a disorderly ticket because there was not intent to cause a disturbance or weapons violation.

Ald. Redeker questioned if it were a real shotgun would there be a ticket issued. Chief MacNeill answered that depends on if were loaded. Ald. Redeker noted if he was transporting it legally and just raised it up out of the trunk bed to show someone and put it back and closed it, he did not do anything wrong.

The Mayor questioned if you can haul a gun around in a trunk that is uncased? Ald. Redeker answered yes, that changed in November 2011. He noted that he wanted to make it clear that residents who own guns around the school, should not fear school lockdown because they are transporting guns. In fact someone could legally be in driveway right across the school and clean the gun on the tail gate of truck. Not everyone does that but he could. Chief MacNeill commented that he would not recommend it.

Chief MacNeill commented that in this situation the officer made a good call. It was to just lockdown the school until we could find out what was going on. Had the vehicle been registered, had we been able to make contact with the person, it would have been very brief.

Ald. Redeker questioned past lockdown drills. Why wasn't the communication discovered at that time. Chief MacNeill responded that they only did the lockdown of the high school during school hours early enough that when the lock down was done they just resumed classes. The circumstances around this incident was something that was not anticipated. This was a lockdown right at the end of school, there were classes out on a field trip that had just come back. Everything about it was something that we had never planned for. When we had the lockdown drills and officers in the school everything went perfect. The Chief commented that everyone was using their cell phones that overwhelmed the tower. Chief noted he made contact with Lee Zarnot letting him know that we were outside and getting a team together; three man teams for the two schools. And he wanted to talk to Pat Antony, and had communication problems. He wanted to keep the schools updated, the call was disconnected. He tried calling her back and nothing. Cell phones just were not working. It was not anticipated that in Mayville there would be so much cell phone use that the cell phones would go down. The Chief continued that luckily it was something that we could use as a drill. There were a lot of problems both on the school district side and the police department side. We are using this as a learning experience to make sure this does not happen again, if by chance something like this were to happen.

The Mayor commented that there was a meeting last Friday morning with the Police Department, Fire Chief, Assistant Fire Chief, Dodge County Emergency Management, and the Schools. They realize there were some major problems. They put a book together of what should be done and will have a different type of phone at each school so that they do not have to rely on cell phones. The principal at the middle school left his cell phone at home and Pat Antony could not reach him at all.

The Mayor commented that there were a lot of mistakes made and they are doing many things to rectify the problems.

Ald. Schmidt commented that it just shows how fast rumors spread. He was sitting at home at the time and his neighbor came running over and asked what was going on. And that was while it was going on. He continued that during a drill you do not get 500 plus parents on the phone asking what is going on. That is what killed the communications.

Chief MacNeill commented that he has heard rumors that they knew it was air soft guns from the beginning and that is just ludicrous.

Ald. Redeker also noted that when you have lockdowns it is a big deal; there were parents and kids traumatized that day. There was an irresponsible parent at Christian Life Fellowship stating that there was someone shot and killed at one of the schools. He noted that is absurd. Chief MacNeill commented that there will be an agreement, memorandum of understanding, that will come before council. He sent Pastor Barry to Christian Life Fellowship but found his radio was not working and could not communicate from the cell phone so he was basically on his own. There will now be a school staff member at the parent meeting area and which has changed from the Christian Life Fellowship because that is a reunification center for the kids and parents. We do not want any confusion.

The (Christian Life Fellowship) parking lot was used to keep the parents out of the perimeter and keep them safe. There will now be a school staff member on hand with a radio to update parents as to what is going on and where they can pick up their child. That was one of the things that came up and we were aware that there was someone there saying that.

Ald. Sertich commented that the guys did a great job and she wanted to thank the County and the State Patrol and the other people that were here. There were some disagreements and things that went back and forth. That brought this to light as there has been a misunderstanding of who would be active when this takes place. Hats off to the whole group to making sure the safety of the kids comes first.

Chief commented that there were issues with Theresa officers calling to ask if we needed help. We could not hear that because of all of the radio traffic. The Chief commented we had a lot of agencies helping out and fortunately for us, the County had their click it or ticket program so they responded. We had a good response from area agencies.

Item #7 – Emergency Government Report.

A. Report on Ruedebusch Siren.

Chief MacNeill reported that he got a call that the Ruedebusch Siren is not working. He had Badger Communication check the Siren. The batteries are fried. He said that for some reason the cabinet is causing it to reverse polarity. The batteries were replaced three years ago. He looked back and when we did the capital improvements there was one installed on Clark Street right by MEC and were going to keep Ruedebusch until it stopped working. Right now the batteries would be \$735 and the cabinet would cause issues and would need to be replaced in three years. He did look and to replace the batteries and cabinet and it would run \$7,200.

Chief MacNeill distributed a map showing the coverage with the Ruedebusch Siren and without the Ruedebusch Siren. The Ruedebusch siren is overlapping because the one on top of the Police Department and Clark Street is covering that area. Ald. Boelk questioned the battery testing. Ald. Sertich noted that we made the right choice at the time for the protection of the citizens. New Sirens were installed on German Street, Clark Street, and German Street by the Golf Course.

Item #8 – Discussion of Emergency Siren Check Process with Possible Action.

Discussion of Emergency Siren Check Process Ensued. Ald. Boelk noted that there really is not a process of checking the sirens on a monthly basis. He questioned if there was a way that we could put something in place. We should have something in place to check the sirens. He continued that he talked to about 25 citizens, and they did not know it was their responsibility to call if the sirens are not working. They were assuming that we check them once and awhile. Chief suggested to contact 8–12 residents that live around each siren. He noted that Ald. Schmidt and the Chief have the one on German Street covered because that is where they live. But contact 8-12 people and one person will take the initiative to let us know it is not working. The Chief suggested community outreach. There is no way for one officer to go from one siren to the next siren on the same day. It would take seven

weeks if he was not on another call at 12:30 p.m. We do not have the budget or staffing to monitor each siren once a week. He noted that community outreach is the most efficient and cost effective way to check the sirens. Ald. Boelk questioned why they are only tested on Saturdays? Some blow them every day. Chief MacNeill commented that the testing is done by the County. Ald. Schmidt commented that if we test them everyday then people will get so used to hearing them that they won't pay attention. The Chief commented that every siren that has not worked he has gotten a call or email on. Chief MacNeill commented another option would be to call the Fire Department. Ald. Pasbrig noted that if you have an emergency and it does not work than it is too late. Ald. Sertich commented that we have how many alderpersons and the Mayor, if we do not hear it at 12:30 p.m. on Saturday we will be checking it out. She noted she does not have a problem asking the Mayor. Chris noted his cell phone is on 24 hours a day if he gets a call he will definitely check it out. He noted that we will contact 8-12 people that live in the area of the sirens, and to contact him if they are not working.

Item #9- Adjournment.

Motion by Ald. Sertich, second by Ald. Boelk to adjourn at 6:23 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Deanna Boldrey, City Clerk