



Stanwood

Public Safety Committee

Meeting Minutes

Month, Day, 2023

LOCATION: School Admin Bldg., 26920 Pioneer Hwy Stanwood WA

ATTENDANCE:

- City Council Members – Tim Schmitt, Marcus Metz, and Robert Hicks
- Stanwood Police – Chief Jason Toner
- North County Regional Fire- Chief Jon Cermak

CALLED TO ORDER: Meeting Called to Order at 6:00 pm

DISCUSSION:

Fire Update:

Chief Cermak provided an update on another successful year for the Santa Run, which traversed several neighborhoods in the Stanwood area. The event collected 3,604 pounds of food and \$518 in monetary donations for the Stanwood-Camano Food Bank.

Additionally, North County Fire and EMS deployed four firefighters and a brush truck as part of a Snohomish County task force to assist with firefighting efforts in the Los Angeles area. The task force, which includes approximately 12 fire trucks and 45 firefighters from multiple Snohomish County agencies, is expected to remain in Southern California for several weeks to support efforts in combating the fires.

Chief Cermak also shared the positive news that there were no residential fires reported during the recent holiday season.

Police Update:

Chief Toner addressed the rise in vehicle thefts during November and December, attributing the majority of these incidents to two juveniles who were recently arrested for possession of a stolen vehicle. He highlighted the challenges posed by the juvenile justice system, noting that one of the juveniles is believed to have stolen nearly 50 cars, been arrested multiple times, and received minimal jail time.

The Chief also provided an update on the installation of the Flock Safety Cameras, which are scheduled to be installed by the end of February. He assured the committee that policies and procedures are in place to prevent misuse of the system.

Chief Toner discussed a meeting with representatives from the Stanwood-Camano Community Center and the Stanwood-Camano Food Bank regarding the proposed establishment of a "Homeless Resource Hub" in an office next to the food bank. The hub aims to provide homeless individuals with access to social workers, support services, showers, and laundry facilities. The resource hub will be open five days a week, staffed by at least two workers.

While expressing concerns about the potential for increased homelessness, loitering, and calls for service in the area, Chief Toner acknowledged the representatives' assurance that the facility would serve only homeless individuals from the Stanwood-Camano community. They also emphasized their intention to be good neighbors to nearby businesses and residents.

Finally, Chief Toner shared a success story from the new Blue Bridge Alliance Program. Deputy Kargopoltsev responded to a 911 call involving a child in need of hospitalization. The child's mother had no gas in her vehicle and no means to pay for it. Through the Blue Bridge debit card program, Deputy Kargopoltsev was able to provide \$25 in gas money, ensuring the mother could accompany her child to the hospital.

Adjourn: Meeting Adjourned at 6:35