JOPLIN CITY COUNCIL
INFORMAL MEETING NOTES
APRIL 1, 2019

Mayor Shaw called the April 1, 2019 Informal Meeting of the Joplin City Council to order at 5:15 p.m.

In attendance were Council Members: Taylor Brown, Melodee Colbert-Kean, Keenan Cortez, Doug Lawson, Anthony Monteleone, Diane Reid Adams, Mayor Gary Shaw, Ryan Stanley, and Phil Stinnett. Also, in attendance were Interim City Manager Dan Pekarek and City Attorney Peter Edwards.

Police Dept. Annual Review presented by Police Chief Matt Stewart:

2018 By the Numbers
Calls for Service 72,415
Reports Taken **10,312**
Traffic Stops Conducted **10,759**
Traffic Crashes **1,750 (11 fatal)**

Uniform Operations
The Uniform Operations Bureau is the largest bureau within the Joplin Police Department. When fully staffed the Patrol, Division consists of five patrol teams, providing 24-hour police service to the citizens, businesses, and visitors within the City of Joplin. Weekly shift coverage is made up of five shifts: Days, 2 Days/2 Evenings, Evenings, 1 Evening/3 Midnights, and Midnights.

K-9 Unit
The K-9 program was established to supplement police operations by locating and apprehending criminal offenders, illegal narcotics and explosives. Because of a superior sense of smell, hearing, and potential aggressiveness, the trained law enforcement canine is a valuable supplement to law enforcement manpower. Utilization of canines requires adherence to procedures that properly control their use of force potential and channel their specialized capabilities into legally acceptable crime prevention and control.

Traffic Division
Another extremely important segment of Uniform Operations is the Traffic Division. The authorized strength of the Traffic Unit is 10 members, including a sergeant, a corporal, two full time DWI officers, and two motorcycle officers, the officers of the traffic team are constantly working toward crash reduction and making the streets safer in Joplin. The unit uses a data driven approach to allocate its resources in an effort to pinpoint the areas that need the most enforcement. The Traffic supervisor and members of the Traffic Team continue to develop innovative ways to enforce the traffic laws such as zero tolerance traffic details, in addition to the use of speed display trailers to measure speed in the area and increased Hazardous Moving Violation and DWI enforcement details.

Crash Team
The Joplin Police Department Crash Team is made up of Certified Crash Reconstructionist' s who have advanced training in documenting a crash using GPS points, measurements, and forensic evidence. This process helps to give closure to grieving families who have lost a loved one, secure evidence for criminal prosecution if warranted, and provide a complete and accurate record of the crash. This is a very complex and difficult certification to obtain and the training lasts for several months.

SWAT Team

The Joplin Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT) team has 27 members, who are highly trained and capable of handling high risk calls. The use of SWAT often brings a peaceful resolution to a very tense and dangerous situation. The Joplin SWAT team was activated 29 times in 2018. The team was activated 26 times to serve high risk search warrants. The team was also called out 3 times for people that were barricaded in a residence for a variety of reasons. The team assisted other agencies and served several warrants for the Ozarks Drug Enforcement Team. In 2018 Joplin SWAT hosted a Basic SWAT school and Basic Sniper school. This training is conducted by Joplin SWAT Officers. Both schools are a week long and were attended by officers from across our region.

Investigations Bureau

The Joplin Police Department Investigations Bureau is made up of a Captain, two Sergeants, three Corporals, and is authorized 20 Investigators, a civilian Investigative Assistant, and a civilian Evidence Technician. For the year 2018, the Investigations Bureau maintained an average of 13 full time Investigators. The Investigations Bureau is primarily responsible for the investigation of major felony crimes such as homicide, aggravated assault, sexual assault, burglary, robbery, forgery, and fraud. Investigators in this bureau also investigate child abuse and neglect hotline calls, vehicle thefts, thefts from vehicles, larcenies, domestic violence, and drug violations.

Joplin Police Detectives are members of the Tri-State Major Case Squad (TSMCS), with most carrying Jasper or Newton County Commissions. The TSMCS is comprised of numerous law enforcement investigators from agencies within Missouri, Oklahoma, and Kansas. With the unique demographics of the tri state area, the TSMCS, when activated allows Joplin/and or the surrounding agencies, access to a large number of highly skilled investigators who combine their efforts to solve major cases (typically homicides). For the year 2018, one investigator was assigned to the Ozark's Drug Enforcement Team. Additionally, two investigators are attached to the Southwest Missouri Cyber Crimes Task Force. Investigating complex major crimes requires the dedication, cooperation, and assistance of a variety of individuals and units. Investigators work closely with patrol officers to identify witnesses, preserve major crime scenes, gather critical information, and develop leads. They also work closely with officials from other agencies to solve crimes that cross jurisdictional lines. There were 9155 cases assigned to the Investigations Bureau during 2018. This amounted to 762 cases per month for the entire bureau and 58 cases per month per investigator. Over the year 2018, the Joplin Police Department Investigations Bureau worked 4 homicide investigations. The Bureau submitted 1047 felony probable cause statements, interviewed 493 suspects, and obtained 255 confessions. The Investigations Bureau responded to 181 child abuse hotline calls and were called in afterhours 432 times.

Evidence

2018 Evidence Facility Annual Report
Received items (JPD, Cyber Crimes, ODET) 8,078
Removed items (JPD, Cyber Crimes, ODET) 6,737

Federal Partners

The Joplin Police Department Investigations Bureau continues to work closely with its Federal partners in crime fighting, specifically addressing crimes that occur within the City limits of Joplin that have federal implications. Currently the Department has two detectives attached to the FBI Taskforce in Joplin, one detective commissioned through the U.S. Marshalls, one detective with the Department of Homeland Security (Customs) and one detective with an ATF commission. Due to the shortage of manpower, the officers assigned to task forces have had to work JPD cases as well as cases from their respective task force.

CYBER
The Joplin Police Department has 2 investigators assigned to the Southwest Missouri Cyber Crimes Task Force. During 2018 the local office of the task force was assigned 294 cases. The cases deal with possession of child pornography and child enticement (both state and federal cases) as well as cell phone examinations for other felony cases.

Support Services
The Joplin Police Department Support Services Bureau consist of Emergency Communications, the Jail Division, School Resource Officer Program, Crime Free Multi-Housing and Crime Free Business Programs. The Bureau has several special programs, including National Night Out, Rise Above, Citizens Police Academy, Crossing Guards, Police Explorers, and The Sentinel Program. When fully staffed, Support Services is comprised of one Captain, one Sergeant, a Corporal, and eight police officers, as well as the Jail and Communications staff.

Joplin City Jail
The Joplin City Jail has a total of 19 full and part-time employees to manage the 64-bed facility. The Joplin City Jail continues to operate the electronic monitoring program which allows inmates to serve their jail time while on house arrest. To participate in the program, the inmate must pay a daily monitoring fee. The jail uses GPS monitoring which allows for more participants and helps reduce the average daily population in the jail resulting in reduced cost for housing inmates. The jail also utilizes the Huber Work Release program, which allows inmates sentenced to serve jail days to make application to receive a furlough to go out and search for a job, as well as maintain employment while serving jail time.
The City of Joplin was awarded a Federal Grant to establish a Mental Health Court. The Mental Health Court program is 100% grant funded, and allows inmates suffering from mental illness to receive treatment free of charge. The program provides inmates the opportunity for treatment in lieu of incarceration, saving taxpayer funds by reducing inmate population. Currently the Joplin Mental Health Court has 21 participants and has screened over 400 inmates to determine whether they qualify for the program.

Emergency Communications
The Joplin Emergency Communications Center handles Police and Fire Services for the City of Joplin, and Police services for the City of Duquesne. In addition, they assist the Health Department (Animal Control) with call taking/dispatching services on nights and weekends, along with MSSU Campus Police on nights and weekends. When fully staffed the center employs 20 full-time tele-communicators: one manager, three supervisors and sixteen dispatchers. Over the course of 2018, the Joplin Emergency Communications Center answered, and entered, 97,782 calls for service. Of the total calls, 72,415 were for the Joplin Police Department and 8,898 were for the Joplin Fire Department. They also took 3,780 calls for Duquesne Police Department. The remaining were for Animal Control, EMS, and MSSU Police.

Professional Standards Bureau
The Professional Standards Bureau is comprised of 1 Captain, 1 Sergeant, 1 officer, 4 civilian clerks and 1 crime analyst. The Sergeant and Officer stay busy at the Joplin Public Safety Training Center hosting training for officers and holding in-house training for new recruits. In 2018 the Public Safety Training Facility hosted 35 classes and provided 612 hours of training to outside agencies. They also provided 5,176 hours of training to Joplin Police Officers. The crime analyst works side by side with the detective division gathering and disseminating information department wide for intelligence led policing efforts to combat crime. The four records clerks work together to answer phones, enter lobby calls, answer general questions, data entry, filing and fulfilling other requests for information.

In addition to the departments update, Chief Stewart provided the following project worksheet:

Raid vest upgrade/update	Replace old raid vests with new raid vests. Provides ability for detectives to carry more equipment and provides better protection. This is the second of three phases for replacement.	Investigations Bureau	Complete
Class "C" Uniform	Implement a Class "C" uniform for all personnel for call-in situations. This will decrease wear and tear on regular duty uniforms for when officers are called in for a search or similar activity.	Uniform Operations Bureau	Jul 2019
Bike racks	Place bike racks on a couple of our patrol vehicles.	Uniform Operations Bureau	Aug 2019
Upgrade Armory	Upgrade Armory	Support Services	Aug 2019
Range Tower	Range tower evaluation	Support Services	Sep 2019
Additional personnel	Add a Jail and Communications supervisor position	Support Services	2019-2020
Video Upgrade	Upgrade Jail video system	Jail	Feb 2019
Text to 911	Text capability to 911	Communications	May 2019
Training	Supervisor training	Communications	Oct 2019
CAD to CAD system	CAD to CAD with Newton County	Communications	mid 2019
Software update	Implement crash software Interface March 2019	Professional Standards	Mar 2019

After the presentation, Chief Stewart answered questions from the City Council.

The meeting adjourned at 5: 50 p.m.

Barbara Gollhofer, City Clerk