Public Safety Committee  
Wednesday, March 13, 2019  5:00 p.m.  
City Council Chambers

IN ATTENDENCE:

Chair Brenda Stonecipher, Council member Tuohy, Council President Bader, Mayor Franklin, Julie Frauenholtz, Chief Templeman, Chief DeMarco, Kurtis Brown,

1. Juvenile Justice and Diversion Options – Chief Templeman – in 2017, increase in drive by shootings and shootings citywide. Average of 2 drive by shootings a month. 1 ½ shots fired calls a week. Gang related cases increased 59% in 2017. While focus was primarily on Opioids, obviously a huge quality of life issue utilizing many resources, what was not quite as visible was the violence in the community. This changed due to October 2017 homicide of 14-year-old David Sandoval. Suspect was a 13 year old who obtained a firearm from a 12 year old. That same year, officers noticed an increase in contacts with kids who had guns, sometimes same kid multiple times and they voiced their concerns to Chief. Chief Templeman met with Mr. Sandoval who pleaded to do something to save the kids. He also met with staff from Explorer Middle School regarding the challenges kids faced, violence and recruitment to join gangs. They also pleaded with Chief Templeman to do something. He went out to Casino Road and met with families in the community who said time after time they were afraid to let their kids out to play for fear of assault, or recruited in to gangs. Parents were afraid to let them walk to school but due to work, had to for the same reasons. These three pleas from the community came at the same time Mayor Franklin came in to office. After initial discussions and seeing the correlation, the Mayors directive on Youth and Gang Violence was born. Chief Templeman stated, “This directive is about saving kids, protecting the kids in our community.” They are some of the most vulnerable in the community. The focus is prevention and intervention. This is a community based involvement directive. Through the Community involvement piece of the directive, they engaged many community members and subject matter experts in the work to form a partnership. This included, but not limited to, the Boys and Girls Club, Mukilteo School District, Everett School District, The Health District, The YMCA, Snohomish County Human Services, Cocoon House, Hand in Hand and DSHS.

Andre Graham from the Boys and Girls Club Program, partnered with Officer Tony Fletcher, started two programs in September.

PAY (Pathways for Adolescent Youth) held at Explorer Middle School. Evergreen was trying to come up. This was another way to detour kids with becoming or the allure of becoming involved in gangs and trying to incentivize positive behavior. School already had an afterschool program
called Strengthening Families. As a requirement for PAY Program, youth who went through Families program because it included the whole family to be part of the PAY program. The age is 8 to 14 years. Voyager is now looking to do the “Strengthening Families” and Counselors have already received training. The first program, starting in November had three kids and their parents. These families participated in “Shop with a Cop” in December. This program is a way to encourage and promote positive activities for kids and then incentivize and reward them for making good decisions and volunteering in the community.

PIVOT (Positive Intervention Outreach Team) consists of different organizations throughout the Everett Area or Snohomish County. Consists of individuals more of a higher level who can help break down barriers. The issues of mental health, individuals in Denny Juvenile, to provide services and collaborating to help reach youth quicker. They collaborate on creative ways to break down barriers to be able to help youth. Team is successful in working to get youth back in school. Parents whose children took off reached out to team to work with them and help them get back on program. Now those kids want to be part of the outreach to help other kids. This goes back to the Gang response community advisory group, a small core group. So many community members wanted to be involved, they had to convene second group, who worked primarily on the PIVOT group.

At same time, the Chief does not believe the Police Department is the best department or division to be running social service programs. We will continue to look to partner with another organization or group who specializes in this type of work but will continue to be involved. Andre believes four families that have specially gone through the PAY program, but he upwards of 30 youth, Andre and his team are helping. In the 5 months, the two have had close to 150 contacts with parents and youth and conducted a dozen community presentations. They have met with all of the schools, administration and the resource officers. There are brochures at the precincts to help parents or friends who want to get involved with the programs. Every school resource officer assigned to middle and high schools in Everett and Mukilteo, also visit the elementary schools regularly and develop relationships with staff who are concerned, to make connection regarding intervention or prevention. Important to note this is really a small group of kids engaging in high-risk behavior in the community presenting a danger to themselves and to others.

Officer and Department Training- Everett Police officers in many, many ways exceed state standards. They are engaging in training many other agencies are not. 2018 staff accumulated 3300 hours of training. 2017 it was 3700, primarily due to de-escalation training. State standard in any given year, state requires every sworn police officer 24 hours of continuing education. Everett require
minimum 32 hours, 8 more than the state mandate. If you take that 3300 average over 250 employees, including all noncommissioned staff, 132 hours per employee a year for training. Regarding De-escalation crisis intervention training, state requires 8 hours of training per officer. Everett requires 40 and every year 2 hours of continuing education as it relates. Going back 5 years, we have had 2600 hours of staff training in youth related matters. The state academy does not offer a lot of training on this topic. Everett incorporated in their 40-hour curriculum: De-escalation involving youth, interviewing and child interviewing techniques, juvenile holds, homeless youth and young adult training. Child abuse and family violence. The training offered all across the department including detectives. Formal training is good but community involvement to develop and maintain strong relationships offer the best type of training. Every year, every officer mandated to go thorough bias based policing as part of accreditation standards. 2017, Everett had all staff go through on line training on recognizing and mitigating implicit bias or unconscious bias in policing taught by an Associate Professor from University of South Florida. They are now in process of requiring another round in 2019, taught by Dr. Brian Marks, a professor of Psychology of Morehouse College who has taught thousands of police command level and line level on implicit bias or unconscious bias in policing.

EPD Contacts with Minors – Brief interactions and police contacts with youth. Most important an overwhelming amount of contacts with kids in the community are positive community interactions whether through School or at the camps. Most minor offense such as driving, civil, tobacco or truancy. Usually handled by warning in that low level. Misdemeanor or Gross Misdemeanor officers typically write a report but outcome usually contact with Parent or responsible adult. Those generally referred to prosecutor who is required by law to those with no criminal history, to offer diversion by law. Upon completion or diversion program, those go away. More serious such as robbery, drive by shooting, felony assault the officer will write a report and contact Denny Juvenile Justice Center to screen by Denny criteria to determine if the youth should be booked. After child released to parent, or booked in to detention, law enforcement is no longer involved. In late 2016 ear 2017, Everett Police worked with Denny Youth Center and other juvenile justice involved created tier 1 and tier 2 warrant system. Tier 1 likely booked in to Denny. Tier 2 are not bookable in to Denny. Still have to release Tier 2 to parent or responsible adult and encouraged to work with Denny to get a new court date. Mandatory bookings are very few. Domestic Violence if a parent is in reasonable fear of safety, but very few. Possession of weapon on school grounds, violation or restraining or protection are also mandatory. Any others are discretion with officer. With regards to Diversion, there are a lot of different diversion programs with multiple levels. 73% of the kids going through diversion are successful. It’s about getting kids before they are involved with police or getting in to the Juvenile Justice System.
Help kids be successful. Council members toured Denny and members of Denny shared the challenge of no place to take juveniles for cooling off. Youth ended up being booked because of no other option. They also shared there was a racial disparity of the number of youth get booked in to the Justice Center. Chair Stonecipher stated it sounds like the city is doing a lot of great work and appreciated the Chief and his department getting the word out in to the community about this great work.

2. Everett Fire Inspection Fee Schedule. Handouts provided. Kurtis Brown, Fire Marshall provided a quick overview on very complex topic. Fire Department is in process of phasing in fee schedule for services provided by the Fire Marshal’s office. Phase 1 was fees for plan review implemented in January. Next phase is fees for fire prevention inspections the Fire Marshal’s office conducts. Kurtis stated the next step is the fire safety inspections. Everett Fire performs inspections in multiple business throughout the community. The inspections or required to be done by Municipal Code and required by the State of Washington. This also includes Operational permits, which require the Department to verify certain operations within a business, being done safe and conducted per the code. These inspections are fairly time consuming and require a lot of staff time. The fee structure based off time. The cost of staff time and divide by the potential time to do the job. The fee structure is to recover as much of cost associated not to be a moneymaker. He then broke down various types of inspections and the proposed fee structure. Everett is the first department Kurtis found who does not charge fees. It will affect business as they have never paid fees before but the fees are necessary and realistic and should have charged all along. These fees are the lowest or lower half of all neighboring jurisdictions. Fees in neighboring jurisdictions are higher. Fees phased in two phases. The first will be inspectors, a smaller group; to be sure, implemented correctly and after a couple of months in will phase in to the majority of inspections later this year. After we observe the program for a couple of years will go back review and make sure the fee structure we are implementing accurately reflects the amount of work done. Chair Stonecipher asked the council be looped in as the Fire Marshal implements this fee schedule. Mayor Franklin stated even though these fees do not require Council approval they will keep Council informed of progress.

Adjourn.