

City of Sheboygan  
2018-11-06

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CITY OF SHEBOYGANMAYOR'S NEIGHBORHOOD LEADERSHIP CABINETTuesday, November 6,  
2018

Mayor Vandersteen called the meeting to order at 6: 30 pm at the Police Department (Roll Call Room), 1315 N. 23 rd Street. The Pledge of Allegiance followed.

Members present: Mayor Mike Vandersteen, Police Chief Christopher Domagalski, Director of Planning and Development Chad Pelishek, Alderperson Dean Dekker, Alderperson Trey Mitchell, Alderperson Rosemarie Trester, Penny Weber, Paul Aparicio, Jody Kraemer, Peter Sjollemma, Jean Grade, and Joe Clarke.

Others present: Officer Anna Taylor and Officer Ryan Schmitt.

Minutes: Motion by Joe Clarke, seconded by Alderperson Trey Mitchell to approve minutes of September 18, 2018 meeting. All ayes.

#### ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION ONLY

Feature

Presentation:

"K 9 program at the Sheboygan Police Department" Anna Taylor.

Anna earned her Associate s Degree in Criminal Justice from LTC then worked as a police officer in Raleigh, NC for five years. She returned to her hometown of Sheboygan to begin working in our Police Department for three years ago. She is a training officer for the new staff that s hired. She became the K 9 handler for Max in June 2018. Max is a Belgium Malinois Shepherd mix he more Malinois because of his high energy and drive to work. Malinois are very working-type dogs, they re not usually people s pets. Max is about 20 months old, he came from North Carolina which is where the trainer is. Max has been on the streets for 54 days and he has been deployed 67 times. So far he s gotten the following drugs off the streets: nearly 50 grams of marijuana, 3 doses of LSD, 3 grams of fentanyl, 24 paraphernalia items, 7 grams of cocaine, 11 grams of meth, 82 pills, and various items of stolen property.

There are currently three dogs in the K 9 unit: K 9 Bud is assigned to the street crimes unit, he will be retiring in December, K 9 Max, and K 9 Dutch. K 9 Dutch is currently with Officer Heimerl in North Carolina for training which will be completed around December

5. Everyone asks How long is the training and how do the dogs know what to do? The handler s school program is 6 - 8 weeks. The first 4 weeks include teaching the dog what its name is and teaching it was the dope is and how to track. The next 2 weeks is developing the partnership between the dog and the handler. The final 2 weeks involve running through scenarios such as having a suspect who jumps out of a vehicle and how to get the scent and tracking. After the handler s school program is complete the team is ready to hit the ground running. There is subsequently ongoing training that takes place twice per month and involves handlers from other municipalities in the county and beyond so they can share knowledge. When Anna is off-shift she is continuously doing obedience training with Max. Prior to the start of their shift they often train with cars that do have dope and cars that don t.

The K 9 unit works to educate students in the local schools about the dangers of drugs. This works well because kids like animals and that can help foster the relationship between students and police. Anna does lots of community presentations with Max.

The K 9 unit is a proactive initiative of the police department that fights against drugs and crime in the community. They track criminals who have fled from scenes as well as weapons or related items that a criminal may try to hide

or discard. The dogs can track missing people. The dogs can sniff mail packages for drugs. Max is trained for five narcotics: marijuana, meth, heroin, ecstasy, and cocaine.

There are two ways that dogs can alert their handler of drugs: passively or aggressively. Our dogs do passive alerts, which is good because the aggressive alerts involve the dog scratching at the surface until they get to the drugs. The passive alert is that the dog will sit or just stop and stay still. Officer Taylor does traffic stops. The K 9 unit can be called for any traffic stop but just can't delay any stop. Max can be the search warrant into a car if he alerts onto something when he walks around the perimeter of the vehicle. That gives the officer probable cause to go into the car and search it. This comes with a lot of responsibility because the officer has to always be confident that the dog is doing the right thing. That's why continuous training is so important. These dogs are trained on human odor and crushed vegetation a lot of other K 9 units don't do that. This is significant because if for example a child is missing, the dog can sniff specifically for the scent of that child. Another example is a robbery if the suspect is dropping evidence while running, Officer Taylor can testify in court that Max followed the odor of the suspect and all of the info can be linked back to the case.

A question was asked if Max is a result of the recent fundraising campaign for the K 9 Unit or if the fundraising is for the future of the program. Officer Ryan Schmitt answered this question because he takes care of the administrative and logistical aspects for the K 9 Unit. In December 2017 the K 9 Unit consisted of Bud and Kramer, at that point both dogs were approaching retirement age so they knew that they would soon have to bring new dogs into the program. In anticipation of the expenses for new dogs is the reason they began the fundraising campaign this is for covering expenses for the next 5 - 7 years of the dog's working career. Officer Taylor did a demonstration with Max to illustrate how he alerts when he's found the item that he's tracking. A question was asked regarding how dogs are selected for the K 9 Unit. Chief Domagalski stated that they work with an external trainer who has contacts with European breeders. When the trainer goes to look at dogs he'll only select 1 or 2 out of 20. From there he gets x-rays done on the dogs to screen for hip problems.

Because the trainer is an expert in identifying the dogs who possess qualities necessary for being a working dog, trust is put into him for providing dogs that will be a good fit for the K 9 Unit. Most recently when the trainer went to Europe he looked at approximately 200 dogs and only selected five of them this trip was two weeks and involved traveling to six countries. He tests the working drive of each dog.

#### Neighborhood Association Reports

Gateway No representatives present.

Ellis No representatives present.

Maple Heights Alderperson Rosemarie Trester reporting: They are in the process of re-structuring. Thanks extended to Neighborhood Officer Jeff and Nancy Maring for getting their group back up on its feet. They are working to grow the group and are currently working on recruiting. They would like to have DPW come talk to their group about winter parking.

Near North Joe Clarke reporting: The upcoming meeting is Thursday, November 8 and they are hoping to make quorum, they didn't have quorum at their previous meeting. Nancy Maring sent out the info to the neighborhood contacts via social media to encourage attendance at the upcoming meeting. They will be reviewing their bylaws to see about possibly changing the number of board members in order to meet a quorum more easily.

Indiana Corridor Alderperson Dean Dekker reporting: The upcoming meeting is Wednesday, November 14 and Jason Blasiola will be there to discuss winter parking and snow emergency information. For the Adopt-A-Park program they will be discussing during the winter months ideas that they will want to implement at Moose Park in the coming year.

King Park No representatives present.

Memorial Jody Kraemer reporting: They met on November 1, Assistant City Attorney Thomas Cameron attended the meeting to discuss the nuisance property on Clifton Avenue. They recently have had problems with tire slashings on three occasions in October, Officer Stephen provided ideas about how to combat the problem such as leaving their home lights on, put out a video camera, and to call the police when they see suspicious activities going on. On Tuesday, November 20 everyone is invited to attend a tree lighting ceremony at Aurora Hospital from 4: 00 pm to 5: 30 pm.

Historic Grant Paul Aparicio reporting: At the most recent meeting in October they had Jason Blasiola there to discuss leaf pickup, winter parking, and the automated bins for garbage pickup. The Grant Elementary school principal attended their meeting to discuss updates with the school, he said their enrollment is down because of school choice. The group is hoping to team

up with Grant Elementary school to get the word out to neighbors in the area. To have group meetings at Grant Elementary school has been challenging, but they did find out that they can get the requirement of having insurance and paying a fee waived if they have a police officer at the meeting.

Vollrath/North Point Jean Grade reporting: Their historical walk took place during the first weekend in October, there were about 40 attendees this year which is down from last year which was about 65 people. Jean passed around a brochure with information about the six hours that were in the tour. Their next meeting in November 15.

Sheboygan Neighborhood Pride Update Penny Weber reporting: They have been meeting on a monthly basis with Franklin Park, Swift, End Park, and Kuehne Park. End Park is at the point where they re ready to take the next step to work toward status as an official Neighborhood Association. Kiwanis/KMD-South/Wildwood is happy to continue meeting every six months. Kuenhe Park s next meeting is on November 16 and Chad Pelishek will be doing a presentation about what s going on in the City the five surrounding neighborhoods have been invited to attend in an effort to share the information with a larger group of people.

BEST PRACTICES DISCUSSION (Open forum)

Mayor Vandersteen opened the discussion for program ideas to use in upcoming MNLG meetings. In the past they have toured the water utility, the wastewater treatment plant, DPW, police department, etc. Everyone was in agreement that all of those ideas sound good.

Chad Pelishek reminded everyone that the community survey is currently open and to help spread the word by accessing the survey on [www.sheboyganwi.gov](http://www.sheboyganwi.gov) from now until the end of the month. AARP provided a grant of \$4,000 to help promote the survey. We have also received a community challenge grant for \$8,500 to put out

Bike Fixation Stations, they will be installed in various locations along the major bike routes. These stations will have the basic tools needed for fixing a flat tire or other common things that may need to be fixed on a bike. We have the stations and will be installing them over the next few months. The third session of Rock the Block took place on Saturday, October 13 in the 1400 - 1700 block of South 9 th Street, there were approximately 50 volunteers who worked on projects to help beautify the neighborhood and help residents with exterior projects.

Police Chief Domagalski reported that since Officer Matt Heimerl is transitioning to being part of the K 9 Unit, the department is in the process of selecting an officer to replace him as a beat officer. Beginning on January 1, 2019 the neighborhood officers will be realigning to focus their efforts on their respective assigned neighborhoods and the beat officers will focus on the three primary neighborhoods where they are assigned.

CLOSING OF MEETINGNext meeting date: Tuesday, January 22, 2019.

ADJOURNMeeting adjourned at 7: 16 pm.