

## APRIL 25, 2017 – CITY COUNCIL PUBLIC SAFETY MEETING

### CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Ching called the meeting to order at 8:10 a.m.

### ROLL CALL

PRESENT: COUNCILMEMBERS: M/Ching, MPT/Su, C/Pacheco, C/Rodriguez, C/Tragarz  
ABSENT: COUNCILMEMBERS: None

Also present were City Manager Wishner; Administrative Services Director Ogawa; Community Development Director Weiner; City Planner Carlson, Associate Planner Vasquez, Code Enforcement Officer Kim; Administrative Assistant James; Administrative Assistant Markel and City Clerk De Dios.

### PUBLIC SAFETY REPORTS

M/Ching requested each of the officers from the Walnut/Diamond Bar Sheriff's Department and Fire Department to introduce themselves.

- **Annual Crime Statistics Report – Captain Reyes, Sheriff's Department**

Captain Reyes of the Sheriff's Department expressed his appreciation to the Council and staff for coordinating this public safety meeting. He first went over some crime statistics for Part I Crimes; based on year to date 2016-2017, there were no homicides or rapes to report this year, last year there was one rape reported. He also shared the follow statistics: robberies - one reported armed robbery; last year there were two reported, aggravated assaults - 12 reported aggravated assaults; one reported last year, though he explained that one incident can account for multiple assaults, burglaries - 76 reported burglaries, which include commercial and residential areas; last year there were 101 during this same time frame, larceny theft – 59 instances of larceny from vehicle thefts to mail theft, there were 55 last year; there were 14 auto thefts this year compared to 37 this time last year, most in the Mt. SAC area. There was one reported account of arson. Overall there was a three percent reduction of total Part I Crimes as compared to last year. He noted that violent crimes are very low to non-existent in the city.

M/Ching inquired into property crimes such as burglaries.

Captain Reyes explained that law enforcement agencies have been working together with other cities and counties which has led to the apprehension of criminals from other areas that have come into the city and attempted burglaries. He emphasized the importance of community outreach and education in helping each other to prevent burglaries.

M/Ching expressed his appreciation for the hard work and dedication displayed by our law enforcement.

MPT/Su asked to have more information placed on our website and to continue to reach out efforts to the community.

CM/Wishner announced there will be an item on the Council agenda for consideration regarding a camera program to assist in the residential burglaries.

ASD/Ogawa provided information in regards to the camera pilot program which would assist law enforcement by capturing vehicle license plates which can be used when there are burglaries the residential and commercial areas. She provided information on the installation and destinations of the cameras. She explained that this is a pilot program and staff will be monitor on the progress of the cameras and resolve any glitches it may have throughout the process.

The City Council expressed their appreciation for the crime statistics report and to the public safety agencies for their efforts in protecting the community.

There was discussion amongst the City Council and staff on the logistics of the proposed pilot programs and how other cities have had a positive response to the program; some of the deputies shared their comments and support of the program.

Lt. Marquez reported on mail theft activity in the Rowland Heights and Diamond Bar areas; he explained that there are no significant arrests at this time and that it takes many hours to sort through and resolve these types of crimes.

M/Ching requested information to be shared with the Council when available.

Captain Reyes informed the City Council that Deputy Doug Daley is currently on leave and will be retiring soon; his staff is currently working on providing a replacement.

Sgt. Warren stressed the importance of community involvement when it comes to residential burglaries. He mentioned there are applications on phones that neighbors can use to communicate with each other and alert one another of any suspicious activities in their neighborhoods.

*C/Rodriguez excused himself from the meeting at 9:05 a.m.*

- **Brush Clearance Policy/Preparation for Upcoming Fire Season – Acting Assistant Fire Chief Vela, Fire Department**

M/Ching introduced Acting Assistant Fire Chief Vela of the Fire Department.

Chief Vela reported the annual stats for the last three years and provided a handout to the City Council for their information. He reported there was a decrease in structure fires from the previous year and shared information on brush fires. He said emergency safety has decreased from last year as well. He explained the importance of conducting community

outreach on fire safety. He noted that there are two fire departments Station 61 and Station 146 located in the City of Walnut. He mentioned that the department is also bringing awareness to the annual brush clearance, which began in May. They also take part in a multi-agency drill simulated brush fire for training purposes.

M/Ching expressed his appreciation to the department for their hard work and dedication.

There was discussion on the recent incidents that occurred at the Mt. SAC campus on how communication was very important.

Chief Vela and Captain Reyes both shared how their departments have an evacuation plan and also work with the campuses for emergency purposes including: preparing command posts, resources, traffic control, stage areas, and security details. Both stressed the importance of communication and educating the community on the issues mentioned at this meeting.

### **ORAL COMMUNICATIONS**

There being no input, it was the consensus of the City Council to close oral communications. Motion carried.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:35 a.m.

**PASSED AND APPROVED on the 24th day of May, 2017.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Eric Ching, Mayor

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Teresa De Dios, City Clerk