

CITY OF PERRIS

MINUTES: Work Session of the City Council,
Redevelopment Agency,
Perris Public Finance Authority &
Perris Public Utilities Authority

Date of Meeting: 22 February 2005

Time of Meeting: 5:00 p.m.

Place of Meeting: City Council Chambers

1. CALL TO ORDER:

The Honorable Mayor Busch called the Joint City Council, Redevelopment Agency, Perris Public Finance Authority and Perris Public Utilities Authority Meeting to order.

5:10 p.m. Called to Order

2. ROLL CALL:

Council Members Present: Yarbrough, Motte, Rogers, Busch
(Councilmember Landers absent)

*Four Council Members present.
(Councilmember Landers absent)*

Staff Members Present: City Manager Apodaca, City Attorney Dunn, Community Development Director Barnes, City Engineer Motlagh, Finance Director Carr, Assistant to City Manager Madkin, Police Chief Kestell, and City Clerk Rey.

Staff Members Present

3. WORK SESSION:

A. Annual Police Report

Annual Police Report

Introduced by: Guy Kestell, Police Chief

Police Chief Kestell introduced Sgt. Pat Chavez, new Sergeant in the Investigation Bureau; Lt. Scott Madden, formerly of the Investigation Bureau and recently promoted; Lt. Pete Herrera; Sgt. Dave Shuck, new City Sergeant; and Lt. Michael O'Donnell.

Police Chief Kestell introduced some of his staff.

Chief Kestell acknowledged the great work his staff had done during the last year, as well as the great cooperation between the City Council and the Police Department. He enumerated some of the accomplishments they had made together, including the Enchanted Heights project, the PACT Teams, the Cops & Clergy Program, which is being recognized all over Southern California, and the construction of the new Sheriff/Police Complex.

Chief Kestell acknowledged the great work his staff had done, as well as the great cooperation between the City Council and the Police Department.

Chief Kestell said that 2004 had been a very good year for the Police Department. The crime prevention program had been extended this past year at the suggestion of the Council, with 18 or 19 Neighborhood Watch programs, and the look of the City cars had been updated and improved. He said the department was currently providing 130 hours of patrol to the city daily.

The year 2004 was a good one for the Police Department, with extension of the crime prevention program.

Chief Kestell mentioned the various Police programs throughout the city, including a new storefront office that was opened last year at the north end of the city, providing citizens in that area a place to walk in and make reports. Other programs include School Resource Officer Program, Field Training Officer Program, Neighborhood Watch, Explorer Program with approximately 20 members who contributed over 2700 volunteer hours, and the invaluable Citizen Volunteers Program which includes Citizens Patrol, and the Traffic Enforcement Program.

Chief Kestell commented on the various Police programs throughout the city.

Lt. Herrera gave a report on the Special Operations Unit which covers the older part of Perris, with an emphasis on street gang enforcement. This unit is used as a rapid-response unit, and activities also include parole and probation searches, vehicle checks, pedestrian contacts, undercover prostitution programs, undercover sales of alcoholic beverages to minors, anti-automobile-theft programs, and graffiti. Regarding graffiti, it was pointed out that officers are having to learn to identify markings of new gangs that are break-offs of other prevalent criminal gangs. Also, the department is going to be re-educating business owners, reminding them that sale of spray paint to minors is illegal. In addition, they will be doing sting operations to catch any businesses that are still selling spray paint to minors.

Lt. Herrera gave a report on the Special Operations Unit.

Chief Kestell expressed appreciation to those who faithfully serve on the Citizens Patrol. There are currently 22-25 active members, with another 10 in background checks for processing into the program.

Chief Kestell expressed appreciation to the Citizens Patrol.

Chief Kestell said the number of accidents had increased in the last year, with less citations being issued. They realized that there was a definite correlation and that they needed to be out writing more citations. The "AVOID the 30" task force, managed by the Perris Police Department for all Riverside County law enforcement agencies, is an on-going effort to combat driving under the influence and related injury or fatal accidents in the County.

It was reported that the number of accidents had increased, and they realized they needed to be writing more citations.

Chief Kestell was pleased to report that there had been a decrease in total persons crimes in 2004. An increase in total property crimes reflected mostly increases in vehicle burglary and auto theft, with decreases in the other areas.

Chief Kestell was pleased to report a decrease in total persons crimes.

Mayor Busch asked if checking for the sale of spray paint to minors indicated that most graffiti problems were created by

Mayor Busch asked if most graffiti problems were created

minors. Lt. Herrera said that could be one indication; however, the majority of documented gang members in the city were minors. In addition, some of the graffiti is simply done by taggers, as opposed to hard-core gang members.

by minors. Lt. Herrera said the majority of documented gang members in the city were minors.

Lt. Scott Madden shared that he had been with the Perris Police Department since 1996 and that it had been a wonderful place to work and he hoped someday to get to come back. He said that the Investigations Bureau here is the hardest working detective bureau in the whole Sheriff's Department. He said their crime analyst is the best in the County, with an amazing ability to solve cases. All investigations are handled through this department except for narcotics and vice investigations, including follow-up investigations on reports taken by patrol officers. They work jointly with the Sheriff's Centralized Homicide Unit. During the past year they handled 423 follow-up cases, made 97 felony arrests, had 96 arrest warrants, and served 101 search warrants, which is a significant number. In 2004 they handled two homicides from 2004 and one from 1995. He said they also handle the sex offenders, with 84 registered sex offenders currently in the city. Chief Kestell noted that there are 80-90 just in the city, but there are actually more than 300 offenders assigned to this station who have to report in once a year and whenever they move. One detective is handling just that.

Lt. Scott Madden said the Perris Police Department had been a wonderful place to work. He said the Investigations Bureau was the hardest working one in the whole Sheriff's Department, and that their crime analyst, the best in the County, has an amazing ability to solve cases. Lt. Madden said this department also handles the sex offenders.

Regarding response times, Chief Kestell reported that the overall response time for all calls was reduced by more than four minutes in 2004, representing an 8.25% decrease, with a very slight increase in Priority 1 calls.

Regarding response times, Chief Kestell reported a reduction in overall response time for all calls, with a very slight increase in Priority 1 calls.

Chief Kestell announced awards that had been received by Police Department employees during the past year: Deputy Michael Mejia and Corporal Wilson Padilla were awarded the Life Saving Award for their efforts as first responders in saving the life of an innocent bystander who was shot in the femoral artery. Deputy Marla Miller received the Most Arrests for Driving Under the Influence Award, and Investigator Thomas Salisbury received the Congressional Recognition Award for Prevention Child Abuse Riverside County. The Property Evidence Team comprised of CSO Paul Ferguson, SCO Silvia Tapia, CSO Roxanne Baca and CSO Donna Ewing, received the Gold Star Award for their management of evidence for the City of Perris as well as Moreno Valley for 2003-2004. In addition, the Perris Citizens Patrol Volunteers were recognized by the International Association of Chiefs of Police for their invaluable service to the Perris Police Department.

Chief Kestell announced awards that had been received by Police Department employees during the year.

Chief Kestell also reported on the many calls and services rendered by the two helicopters in the Air Unit. He said the Special Enforcement Bureau, a full-time unit operating out of the Cabazon

Chief Kestell reported on the many calls and services rendered by the Air Unit.

station, is comprised of four teams trained in homeland security. At all times, at least one of the teams is on duty to respond to critical incidents. Fortunately they have not had to be used much in the City of Perris.

In conclusion, Chief Kestell expressed appreciation to the City Council for their support and cooperation and said his department was eagerly anticipating the new Sheriff/Police complex.

Chief Kestell again expressed appreciation to the City Council and said his department was eagerly anticipating the new Sheriff/Police complex.

14. ADJOURNMENT:

By unanimous consent, the Joint City Council, Redevelopment Agency, PPFA and PPUA Work Session was adjourned at 6:00 p.m.

6:00 p.m. Joint City Council, Redevelopment Agency, PPFA and PPUA Work Session was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Margaret Rey, City Clerk