



WEST ST. PAUL POLICE DEPARTMENT

1616 HUMBOLDT AVENUE, WEST ST. PAUL, MN 55118-3972

Police Administration 651-552-4200 Fax: 651-552-4199

www.wspmn.gov

May 31, 2023

TO: Mayor O'Leary and Council Members
FROM: Chief Brian Sturgeon
SUBJECT: Calls for Service - April 20, 2023 – May 19, 2023 and Public Safety Aid to Cities discussion.

Below is a summary of the calls for service during the month April 20, 2023 through May19, 2023.

911 Hangup

- Female answered didn't speak English well, said everything was ok. House is dark and no one answered the door.
- Open line in a moving vehicle. Spanish voicemail on call back. All appears okay in the area.

Burglar Alarm

- Alarm covers the front door. Alarm company received a cancellation request to please cancel dispatch.
- Office hall window. Resident stated the power went out. No issues.
- Back hall motion alarm. Alarm company received property code and cancelled.
- Main garage service door alarm. Received proper code to cancel on initial dispatch.
- General burglar alarm – no area or zone. Female set off parent's alarm and is going to wait for officers. She didn't know the passcode. Female awaited officer's arrival.

Accident

- Hit and Run – Dark pickup truck unknown plate. The reporting person requested a phone call but did not answer. Left voicemail advising reporter to call back for assistance.

Traffic

- WS – Warned for expired registration.
- MH – Cited for expired registration.
- MH – Warned for seatbelt use. Driver said there are mechanical issues with the belt.
- IG – Warned for inoperable brake light.
- MH – Cited for seatbelt violation.
- RS – Warned for license plate placement and no plate light.
- IG – Driver was warned for headlight and told that it was his 6th time in the last year for the same reason.
- IG – Warned for driving conduct.

Follow up

- Request to cancel "vacation check" son is home now from college. Address removed from extra patrol.

Disturbance/Disorderly

- Homeless people will not leave and are causing a disturbance in the parking lot. They were fed and then began asking for money. They got loud and were refusing to leave when they were not given money. Caller was advised to call back if situation escalates or if females leave. Reporter called and advised the females had left the area in a new Dodge Durango. No further assistance required at this time.

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Animal Call

- Right across from Inver Grove Toyota on Highway 62 an older lady is trying to get a dog that is chasing cars. State Patrol notified as well. Owner located dog. State Patrol was advised to cancel.

Motorist Assist

- Assisted a motorist with a private tow with Absolute Towing.

Fire Related Call

- Caller has been smelling sulfur in home for the last hour. Cleared by Fire Department.
- Exact area unknown. Per the alarm company the proper code was received. Fire has cancelled their incident.
- Landscapers hit the gas line. Residence is evacuated. Excel advises 30 – 45 minutes for a response time. Cleared by fire and they are waiting for Excel.

Civil Assist

- Neighbor had some tress cut that went onto reporter's property without permission. Requested officer respond. Reporter had property lines marked. Reporter's neighbor keeps attempting to cut trees on property. Reporter was advised to call back if neighbor comes onto property as it appears the dispute has been resolved.
- Language line determined that a female brought things to reporter earlier. Reporter's keys fell out into her car. She said she was bringing them back hours ago but hasn't returned. Female phoned while officer was there stating she is on her way. He will call back if she doesn't show up.

Premise Check

- Nice drive through Sunfish Lake with no problems observed.
- Routine Patrol

Public Assist

- Party is in police department lobby to turn in a pellet gun. Reporter will wait in the lobby and leave the gun in the car until officer arrives.

Suspicious Activity

- Blue crossover vehicle is currently at the house "right after the bridge" doesn't think it belongs to anyone in the area. Officers checked the area and the vehicle was gone. Phoned the caller and advised the vehicle was gone.

Public Safety Aid to Cities

The 2023 legislative session came to a close recently and in the Tax Omnibus bill the Public Safety Aid package was incorporated and passed. This package includes direct funding to all cities in the State of Minnesota including Sunfish Lake, which has allocated \$23, 062 to the city for public safety.

Under the bill, a county, tribal government, or local unit must use the aid under this section to provide public safety, including community violence prevent and intervention programs, community engagement, mental health crisis response, victim services, training programs, first responder wellness, equipment related to fire, rescue, and emergency service or to pay other personnel or equipment costs.

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There are restrictions on the funds however that include:

1. Cannot apply the aid towards employer contribution to the public employee's police and fire fund under many circumstances.
2. The purchase of an armored or tactical vehicle.
3. Purchase of tear gas or other chemical munitions
4. The costs of construction, reconstruction, remodeling, expansion, or improvements of a police station and related facilities.

The City of Sunfish Lake will be receiving the funds prior to December 26, 2023.

There is no need to make any decision tonight on the use of these funds, however a discussion should take place soon on suggestions or ideas to implement these funds for the citizens of Sunfish Lake.

One idea it to utilize these funds to purchase two portable camera systems that are mounted on existing electrical poles in order to monitor activity at locations of criminal or nuisance activity or locations of potential illegal activity.

The camera systems cost 9,997.00 today. I do not expect a large increase in price, if any, by the time we get closer to receiving the public safety funds from the State of Minnesota.

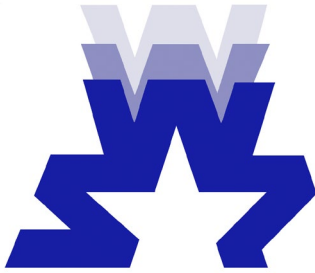
These cameras are able to provide real time video streaming through the West St Paul video management system. Additionally, all videos are recorded and stored for a period of time, so review of previously recorded video is accessible. Panning and zooming is also available.

The cameras are manufactured right here in West St Paul by LRG Technologies which West St Paul has been a customer for numerous years. LRG Technologies provides systems across the world. Some of their customers including DHS, FBI, District of Columbia, Las Vegas, Minneapolis, St Paul, Metropolitan Council, and many more. They provide products to both public and private entities.

The image below would be a similar looking product.



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Again, there is no need to approve anything tonight. I want Council to think about the potential use of the allocated public safety funds and to share your thoughts and ideas to make a decision when those funds are provided to Sunfish Lake.

Respectfully,

Chief Brian Sturgeon

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2023 ALARM CALLS

	Current	2023 YTD	2022YTD
January	3	3	3
February	3	6	9
March	6	12	10
April	5	17	14
May			15
June			18
July			18
August			22
September			23
October			25
November			27
December			30

Numbers indicate burglar alarms received regardless if a cancellation was received prior to officer arrival.

June 5, 2023