

## **2019 Cudahy 4<sup>th</sup> of July Highlights**

I want to thank all the City of Cudahy employees (DPW, Fire, Health Dept, IT, Office Services, Police), and 4<sup>th</sup> of July Celebration volunteers for a great event. The planning for the 4<sup>th</sup> of July actually started in December of 2018. From December 2018 through April of 2019, the former administration received commitments on fireworks, bands who would participate in the parade, and booking entertainment at Sheridan Park.

The Cudahy Common Council, budgeted \$25,000 for the 2019 event and the city received about \$3500 in donations. Approximately \$11,275 of the budget is allocated to fireworks. The marching bands that travel to Cudahy to participate in our parade are paid anywhere from \$1500 - \$2000 to participate in the parade. The ice cream and cracker jacks are sponsored by TruStone Credit Union at a cost of \$800.

### **Highlights**

- Beautiful day. Mother Nature cooperated.
- 60+ participants in the parade.
- Great turn out on the parade route.
- Very low participation in the park for our children's entertainment.
- Good participation in the park for the bands Superfly and Sensations.

Now the facts on the fireworks. The plan called for 20 minutes of fireworks with a decent grand finale. The fireworks were made up of a combination of 3", 4", and 5" inch shells. A 3" inch shell costs \$10 each and the larger shells cost anywhere from \$25-\$30 each.

During the build up to the grand finale, a 3" inch shell referred to as a "salute", big bright flash along with a big bang failed. This type of shell normally travels to a height of 1500ft, but this one shell failed, only traveling to a height of 20ft. The failed shell landed on the fuse that kicked off the grand finale prematurely. This was not operator error, but a failure in the shell. The company that put on our fireworks apologized immediately, but there was nothing they could do. The 4<sup>th</sup> of July event coordinator, Cindy, was notified immediately of the malfunction and she quickly set the record straight on Facebook. Luckily, there were no injuries to the fireworks crew.

### **2020 4<sup>th</sup> of July Event**

- At the July 23<sup>rd</sup> 7pm Common Council meeting, we will be discussing the 4<sup>th</sup> of July
  - Review of 2019 event – Cindy Sobczak event coordinator
  - Changing parade route in 2020 due to Packard Ave. construction
  - Discussion of 2020 entertainment
  - Need for more volunteers

Please call 414-769-2222 or email ([thomasp@ci.cudahy.wi.us](mailto:thomasp@ci.cudahy.wi.us)) with your comments.

Sincerely,

Mayor Pavlic