Chief Scheckel introduced Officer James Ghrist to the Board, explaining he is in charge of the department's National Night Out. Chief Scheckel said it gets better every year and the department received an award for last year's being the best in the national for a community our size.

Officer Ghrist said he has been running the event for about sixteen (16) years. We are really excited about this year's activities as it will be in person. We are hoping for a great turn out. We have been trying to increase the attendance every year, making it bigger and better. It is a combined event with the schools, businesses, faith-based communities, and service organizations. In addition to the main event on August 3rd we will have other events leading up to it. On the Thursday prior there will be a Senior Safety Bingo at the Social Center. On Friday

there will be a can food drive at the Police Station. The following day, Officer Ghrist and two (2) members of the Fire Department will be doing car seat safety checks from 9 am to 12 noon. On Sunday, August pt there will be a softball game raising money for the Best Buddies program at the high school. The community market will also be going on at the same time so there will be music and food available. Tuesday's events will begin at 4:30 pm with a short parade from Park Drive to the south lot of the high school, on Columbia Avenue. National Night Out will be from

5 pm to 8:30 pm at the pool and Community Park. The event will include swimming,kids' games, door prizes, citizenship awards, magic show, music, gaming truck, helicopter landing, K­ g and Fire Department demonstrations, food and business vendors. There will also be fireworks at the end of the evening. Safety guidelines and information will be posted online

and will encourage residents to post positive photos as well. We have approximately forty (40) volunteers and twelve (12) officers working the event. The event has received great

community support.

Chief Scheckel explained Administrative Order #21-06 which states the School Resource Officer will report to Lt. Johnston. This change allows for both officers in the schools to report to the same administrator, allowing for a better workflow and continuity.

Munster has been nominated as one of the ten safest cities by Safewise. Chief beliefs this is a testament to the officers working the road. Considering everything the town went thru last year, it shows that our officers are doing a great job.

Officer Ghrist was nominated by Lt. Johnston for a state award through IACP. He will receive the award downstate, next week, with Lt. Broelmann making the presentation/speech. Officer Jonathan Hernandez received the Officer of the Year award from the American Legion organization locally. He was also honored with receiving the state award as well.

Mr. Baffa asked how the new K-9 puppy was doing? Chief Scheckel said Officer Brian Hernandez was selected as the new K-9 handler. Approximately seven (7) officers were interviewed with Officer Hernandez being selected. He is currently being united with the dog. Officer Hernandez was previously Django's handler and wanted to get back into the K-9 program.