

Officer Joshua DiCicco

- Hi I am Officer DiCicco with the Haskell Police Department I will probably be terminated for some frivolous infraction after this, but there are some things I want to bring to the City Council's attention. The first thing is from the Police Department is our pay, we've been paid illegally. We get paid for 2 fourteen day pay periods, that's 84 hours per pay period, each month due to our scheduling. With that, our pay periods are the 1st through the 15th and 16th through the 30th or 31st. that means any the 15th, the 30th, or the 31st, if you work those days, you are uncompensated. So that's works out to about 15 days of pay per year that the officer misses out on which is a whole month. Right So we work Monday, Tuesday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday, Wednesday, Thursday, which any 14 day section segment of the month is 7 days, 7 work days, but due to the nature a 15-16 day pay period, you might work an 8th or 9th day however were only paid for a 7 pay periods and I know that's hard to follow. I can show anyone on a calendar or they can get with me later or they can call me. So, in 2021, I believe I actually worked 17 days without pay. The other thing that I would like to bring up, is the department is hurting for training. Almost no money is allocated for training, at all, we can do training online but serious training like fire arms or something like that that we need in case if God forbid there is an incident at the school or anything like that, it's almost entirely unavailable. I go train on my own personally, I have spent thousands of dollars on training and equipment since I've been here. I don't feel that burden should be completely on the officer. Umm...I would like to bring up the safety on how we operate here, we have one patrol officer per shift. Right. Uhh...during the week 8:00 to 4:30, there is two administrative officers over there that can assist, but on weekends or nights, its generally one officer by himself. Whenever I call for backup, I have to use the Saline County Sheriff's Office. Sometimes, you know if they are in Paron or East End, it's going to take them a minute to get here. I would like to eventually see two patrol officers per shift. Uhh..theres been instances where I've been fighting a suspect for so long where Shannon Hills was gonna come help me and I eventually had to use a great deal of force to subdue the subject and By the time Saline County got there, I finally managed to wrestle him into hand cuffs. Theres been other incidents when I been fighting a suspect and thankfully we have good citizens here in Haskell. Citizens have stopped to help me arrest the suspect before any backup was even on scene. SO uhh, the other thing I would like to bring up is the equipment. I think we are about to spend a few thousand dollars on Class A uniforms which seems pretty frivolous considering that we don't supply the officers with tourniquets, First Aid kits, we don't ballistic shields, we don't have any breaching equipment, we don't have any life saving equipment that an officer would need, and it seems like we are putting the cart before the horse.