

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MINUTES

Wednesday, February 10, 2016 6:30 p.m

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. in Conference Room A of the McFarland Municipal Center by Chairperson Adrian.

Committee Members Present: Trustees Jerry Adrian and Tom Mooney and citizen members Sandy Bakk, and Barbara Zabawa.

Committee Member Absent: Kathy Lyons, Ken Machtan, Dick Staley

Staff Present: Fire Rescue Chief Chris Dennis; Charles DiPiazza, Emergency Management Director; Police Chief Craig Sherven; and Dawn Graham, Deputy Clerk.

Others Present: Sam Martino (arrived at 7:20 pm.)

2. **PUBLIC APPEARANCES.** Sam Martino of 6407 Fox Run appeared out to discuss pedestrian safety at night in the Village. With the multitude of runners and dog walkers, many dressed in dark headgear for winter, he is concerned with safety. Martino would like the Village to require people to wear reflective vests, possibly pairing sales with dog licenses. He brought examples of reflective clothing. He also said police officers could occasionally stop walkers/runners to reiterate need to wear reflective gear. A review of the twelve pedestrian involved accidents since 2010 showed only one occurring at night. Chief Sherven stated that although we have not had any problem in the past, he was unable to predict the future. Martino would also like to see a flashing sign at the pedestrian crosswalk on Farwell near the high school and reflective speed limit sign. Martino also expressed concern about after school traffic on Johnson Street near Sure Avenue and Dennis drive.

3. STAFF REPORTS.

- a. **Fire/EMS Department.** Chairperson Adrian introduced new Chief Chris Dennis. Chief Dennis reported on department activities. A new 24 hour EMT/Janitor was hired and starts next Monday. Recruiting for an additional is underway. The pre-alert automated paging system will be implemented February 15 and that should further decrease response times. Engine 2 was repaired in house at significant savings.
- b. **Police Department.** Chief Sherven reported on department activities. Case numbers are down for January, but staffing is also at a low level. One officer has returned and completed a two week training refresher. Department practice requires a refresher training any time an officer is out for more than three months. Two officers should return in March. Late last year a recruitment for new officers was initiated. The Police & Fire Commission interviewed ten finalists and Chief Sherven made an offer to the top candidate over the weekend. Chief Sherven will meet with three more candidates and make an offer to one of them in the near future. Two video cameras were installed in the evidence room. New K-9 officer Jeremy Job and Boris are finishing training and will be out on patrol soon. The replacement K-9 squad has arrived and will be outfitted on Monday. A fundraiser will be held March 5 sponsored by community members to defray costs for staff and the Copeland family to attend the memorial ceremony in Washington DC in May. Officer Copeland's name will be added to both the national law enforcement and state law enforcement memorials. The Police Explorers attended the state competition and placed third. The post currently has 14 members, but will lose seven to graduation this year. Chief Sherven presented information from the last governing board meeting for DaneCom.
- c. **Emergency Management.** Chuck DiPiazza submitted the Emergency Management report. DiPiazza has been participating in several webinar trainings, including partners in worship and weather preparedness. DiPiazza is contemplating working with the Police Explorer on a youth preparedness program. DiPiazza will hold NIMS training on February 25, 2016 from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. in the Training Room.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES.

a. Review and possible approval of the draft Minutes of the November 11, 2015 meeting.

Motion by Zabawa, second by Bakk and carried 4-0 to approve the draft minutes of the November 11, 2015 meeting.

5. BUSINESS.

a. Discussion regarding proposal for convenience store/gas station at 4814 Freedom Ring Road, Madison.

On February 24th a public hearing will be held in the Village Hall regarding this proposal. Committee members were in favor of Chairperson Adrian and staff composing a letter to the City of Madison opposing the development for the following reasons: proximity to a Village well (1100 feet), therefore the potential of water contamination; exacerbation of traffic problems at Valley Drive, Siggelkow and Freedom Ring Roads; increase in the amount of mutual aid calls for the Police Department. The Committee would like to see a traffic count done at this time, along with prediction of additional traffic after development. The Committee also felt that entrance and exit to any development should be from Freedom Ring Road, not Siggelkow Road. The Committee also questioned hours of operation along with the potential of an establishment having a liquor license.

b. Follow up on finalization of outdoor sporting ordinance. The Village Board passed Ordinance 2016-01 for outdoor sports at the January 25th meeting. Spartan Bowl has submitted an application for review.

c. Follow up on crossing guard situation at Farwell and Exchange Streets. At an earlier meeting, concern was expressed about needing an additional crossing guard at the intersection during after school hours. Due to current weather, fewer kids have been walking, but the issue could arise in the spring. The potential for help from the School Resource Officer was discussed. Education in the form of posting crossing guard hours in the school newsletter was also discussed.

d. Upcoming NIMS Training on February 25, 2016. Training will be held from 6:00 – 9:00 p.m. in the training room.

6. ADJOURNMENT. Motion by Bakk, second by Mooney and carried 4-0 by acclamation to adjourn the February 10, 2016 meeting of the Public Safety Committee at 7:44 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Dawn Graham, Deputy Clerk