

SAFETY COMMITTEE MINUTES

April 17, 2007

The Safety Committee meeting was held on April 17, 2007 at North Royalton City Hall 13834 Ridge Road. The meeting was called to order at 6:35 p.m.

Present: Committee Members: Chairwoman Lisa Uffman-Kirsch, Robert Stefanik, Denise Bobulsky; Council: Larry Antoskiewicz; Police Chief Paul Bican, Fire Chief Michael Fabish; Residents: Lauren Meeks, Suzie Kim, Gary Petrusky, Nick Cinquepalmi, Karlye Drongowski, Melissa Donovan.

Mrs. Uffman-Kirsch said that Chief Bican requested an amendment to the minutes from February 20, 2007, New Business Item 1, page 5 first Paragraph the last phrase. The Chief said he actually said that, but that he requested to the Chairwoman that he did not want his input included in the official minutes until he had a chance to discuss the project with the Mayor first. Since he has discussed this project with the Mayor, the Economic Development Director and his traffic officers, there is a better understanding of the project. He would like the comment of being an utter disaster removed so the wrong idea would not be given. Mrs. Uffman-Kirsch requested the input of the committee regarding this, whether to change the February minutes or if a clear statement with regard to the position of the Police Chief on the subject in the minutes of this meeting would be better. Mr. Stefanik responded that either way was fine with him.

Mrs. Bobulsky asked the Police Chief what his thoughts were on this project now and he said if it goes the way it was explained as part of the bigger Town Center District project that this would be feasible depending on what the drawings of the engineers would be. The Chief said it was discussed previously with the Economic Development Director as only some ideas being considered. If there is still concern when the drawings of the engineers are available it will be addressed at that time. His concerns may be premature.

The Fire Chief said when this was discussed at the meetings where the traffic studies were done for the transportation and pedestrian linkages meetings that those who did the design said there would need to be something that would traverse Route 82, a tunnel, a bridge or possibly a crosswalk and the specific location was not determined.

Mrs. Uffman-Kirsch said the issue before the committee is what to do with the minutes. The Police Chief said that leaving them as presented would be fine with a clarification. Mrs. Uffman-Kirsch said this would be her preference and to include the explanation of the Police Chief for the minutes from April.

Moved by Mrs. Bobulsky, to approve the minutes from February 20 2007, seconded by Mr. Stefanik. 3 yeas/0 nays. Motion carried.

The March minutes will be voted upon at the next meeting.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. Police Department Report

The Police Chief provided an update with the phone system research. During a visit by one of the vendors it was discovered that with the exception of perhaps the new Fire station all the buildings in the city do not have adequate wiring to allow the new technology to work inside the building. He is waiting for information from Wide Open West to determine if there is anything we are entitled to with the cable agreement. The cost of this project is being sought. The police building does not have much choice right now; they need a new system. More information should be available next month. The current phone maintenance contract is over in May and there are no repairs able to be made to the system. Mr. Stefanik asked the Chief if a representative from the Attorney General's office had contacted him regarding a possible grant for radios and/or communication equipment. The Chief responded that he was not aware of any contact.

2. Fire Department Report

The Fire Chief reported that most of the radios are in and some small changes are being addressed. He is still working on obtaining the \$21,000 reimbursement.

3. Chapter 1620 Open Burning Code amendments

The updated code was reviewed. Mrs. Uffman-Kirsch had questions with:

- 1620.04(b)(3) if this should be changed that the Fire Chief shall notify the applicant and not the EPA. Other references were changed from EPA to the Fire Chief. Chief Fabish thought the change to Fire Chief should have been made.
- 1620.04(a)(7) the reference to Ohio Administrative Code section are in our sections 1620.03(d)(1) and (2). She wondered if our code sections should be the only reference instead of the Administrative Code. The discussion was that it would make things simple and it will be recommended that OAC reference be removed.
- 1620.03(d)(2) the reference to (d)(1)(A) is not in this section. The Fire Chief will provide the correct reference to Mrs. Uffman-Kirsch.
- 1620.01(a)(5) "Land clearing waste" and (6) "Landscape waste" while defined, are not referred to in the section as to how they are to be handled. The Fire Chief felt it should not be defined if it is not within the subsections. Land clearing waste is referred to within the definition of Agricultural waste. Land clearing waste also indicates it is waste involving more than one property owner. The question was if it should remain more than one property owner. The Fire Chief said in another section it states that open burning cannot be used for waste disposal purposes. In 1620(03)(b)(2)(B) it would indicate the need to keep the definition of land clearing waste. Basically, he said it boils down to just cleaning up or allowing a recreational fire and cooking and how it interacts. Mrs. Uffman-Kirsch said if the definition is left in and the reference cited then it means the prohibition does not apply to individual property owners. Is this how we want to handle our need? The Fire Chief said that we prohibited waste disposal under legal open burning that includes one property owner. The Police Chief pointed out that the way this section reads, it only applies to "plant waste removed from stream banks during projects involving more than one property." Mrs. Uffman-Kirsch will check with the Law Director.

Mrs. Bobulsky moved to recommend approval of the amendments to Council once the questions are finalized. Seconded by Mr. Stefanik. 3 yeas/0 nays. Motion carried.

4. Safe Routes to Schools Project

No report.

NEW BUSINESS

1. New Nuisance Code discussion

Mrs. Uffman-Kirsch pointed out that the subject of nuisance fire issues came up at the meeting last month under the open burning code amendments and the Law Director felt it was not an open burning code issue and that it should be covered under a nuisance code. The Fire Chief said that there were previous comments that it would have to rely on Council to make some kind of judgment declaring a nuisance. Mrs. Uffman-Kirsch said that would be difficult and that the job of Council is to define it in the code and not the enforcement. Chief Fabish said 1610.09 regarding cooking in multifamily locations will be a point of reference. The Fire Chief said that he will work with the Law Director and present something to the committee at a later time.

Moved by Mr. Stefanik, to adjourn, seconded by Mrs. Bobulsky. 3 yeas/0 nays. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:28 p.m.