

## **SAFETY COMMITTEE MINUTES**

**July 15, 2008**

The Safety Committee meeting was held on July 15, 2008, at North Royalton City Hall 13834 Ridge Road. The meeting was called to order at 6:47 p.m.

**PRESENT:** Committee Members: Chairman Dan Kasaris, Gary Petrusky, John Nickell; Council: Vince Gentile, Don Willey, Larry Antoskiewicz; Administration: Mayor Robert Stefanik, Police Chief Paul Bican, Fire Chief Mike Fabish, Wastewater Superintendent Tim Tigue, City Engineer Mark Schmitzer; Other Attendees: Joanne DuMound, Pat Jones.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Moved by Gary Petrusky, seconded by John Nickell to approve the June 17, 2008, minutes. Yeas: 3. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

#### **1. Intersection Safety**

Mr. Kasaris asked about placing a blinking light at the intersection of State Road and Valley Parkway and/or solar powered illuminated stop sign. He asked Chief Bican to look into the cost of these stop signs. Chief Bican determined that the cost of this type of sign is \$1,200 per direction, per intersection. He said that would amount to roughly \$5,000-6,000 per intersection installed. He felt that this type of sign would have to be used very sparingly due to the cost. He does not feel the stop sign is necessarily the issue at some intersections. He suggested that in some cases the visibility issue is due to the overgrown vegetation at certain intersections.

Mr. Kasaris asked Chief Bican to put together a list of intersections throughout the city where the vegetation is an issue and/or where either a blinking yield or stop signs might be helpful. Chief Bican will bring this list to the September meeting.

Mr. Kasaris changed the title of this item from Blinking light at State Road and Valley Parkway to include all intersections and it will now be entitled Intersection Safety.

#### **2. Police Lieutenants Benefits Ordinance**

Chief Bican discussed that the Lieutenants wage increase was overlooked in the last ordinance. The Chief would like to see the salary retroactive to 2007. Mayor Stefanik stated he was not in office in 2007 therefore it was out of his jurisdiction. He stated he will take it back to January 2008.

Mr. Kasaris asked if the Jail Manager's salary was going down in 2008. Chief Bican said yes.

Mr. Nickell suggested using the change in salary of the Jail Manager for the Lieutenants 2007 retroactive wage adjustment. This \$2,000 will be split between 2008 and 2009 to bring it to the correct rate. Mayor Stefanik suggested coming up with a solution and running it by the Finance Director.

Moved by Mr. Nickell, seconded by Mr. Petrusky to recommend approval to Council passage of additional pay in the amount of \$3,250 (\$2,250 for 2008 plus \$1,000 for 2007) in 2008 and \$3,500 (\$2,500 for 2009 plus \$1,000 for 2007) in 2009 with the understanding that the rate would be adjusted back down in 2010 to the correct rate. Yeas: 3. Nays: 0.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **1. Fireworks Enforcement**

Mr. Kasaris asked how Ohio's fireworks law had been handled this year. Chief Bican said that when there was a complaint, a police officer was sent out to give a warning, If police had to go back to the same residence, that person was cited. He noted that we had 54 complaints; six of those were arrested.

Mr. Gentile suggested we draft a resolution for the September Council meeting to send to the state legislature asking to change the current fireworks law and also ask other communities to support it.

**2. Street Lights**

Mr. Kasaris said he received an email from a Highland Road resident regarding street lighting. The Mayor suggested that he talk to the police department where a recommendation is made to place a street light in the middle of the street or increase the wattage of the existing lights to better illuminate the street. There is a cost to the city for the street lights and the Fire Chief suggested that the residents can request a light and share the monthly cost as is the case with the one in front of his house. Mr. Kasaris recommended that a motion light be placed on the house to alleviate the problem. Chief Bican thought that a street light in the middle of Highland might not be necessary due to Highland being a safe area.

**MISCELLANEOUS**

Fire Chief said that the new fire truck specs should be ready for September approval from the Finance Committee.

Police Chief said the new police cars should be in next week.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Moved by Mr. Nickell, seconded by Mr. Petrusky to adjourn the meeting. Yeas: 3. Nays: 0. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:25 p.m.