

SAFETY COMMITTEE MINUTES

September 16, 2008

The Safety Committee meeting was held on September 16, 2008, at North Royalton City Hall 13834 Ridge Road. The meeting was called to order at 6:30 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; Other Attendees: Pat Jones.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Moved by Gary Petrusky, seconded by John Nickell to approve the July 15, 2008, minutes. Yeas: 3. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. Intersection Safety

Chief Bican distributed a report listing the total number of traffic accidents in the last three years at every intersection in the city.

Chief Bican discussed the recent car accident on Cady Road where the driver drove into a house. He suggested placing a guardrail across Cady Road. Chief Bican will discuss with the City Engineer, the possibility of placing a guardrail on Cady Road to help prevent this type of accident from happening again. Chief Bican will report back at the next meeting.

Mr. Antoskiewicz said when he has asked for a guardrail to be installed, the answer was always that if someone hits the guardrail, it then becomes the liability of the city. Chief Bican said that

Mr. Antoskiewicz is referring to the curve going around Akins Road. He explained that there have not been a significant amount of accidents in that area.

Mr. Gentile discussed placing a three way stop at the intersection of Edgerton Road and Akins Road. Chief Bican said that would be difficult due to the angle. The solution would be to place an island on Akins Road and T off the intersection. In order to place a stop sign there, it would have to meet the traffic volumes and there would have to be five accidents a year on average.

Mr. Kasaris asked Chief Bican what his thoughts were on improving the intersection of Edgerton Road and Akins Road. Chief Bican said that the city is planning to put in new signage, possibly with reflectors, and also get rid of some of the foliage in the area so that the signs are visible. Chief Bican said he does not know if Metroparks personnel or city personnel is responsible for cutting down the foliage. He will look into this. Chief Bican will have additional information at the next meeting as to the type of sign that will be placed at the intersection of Edgerton Road and Akins Road.

Mr. Antoskiewicz asked what the Police Department considers to be a lot of accidents. Chief Bican said five (5) is the number that the State of Ohio uses as the criteria to install all traffic signs and stop lights.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Cady Road Junk Yard

Mr. Kasaris explained that a Cady Road resident emailed him to complain about another property on Cady Road that has several junk vehicles in their yard. Mr. Kasaris took pictures of this property and gave them to the Law Department. Mrs. Vozar then met with the owner of the property along with his attorney and asked that these junk vehicles be removed from the property. Mr. Kasaris reported that since that meeting, the owner has removed the junk vehicles from the property.

2. Stop light at Royalton Road and Abbey Road

Mr. Kasaris received an email from a resident who asked for an arrow light on Royalton Road (Eastbound) and Abbey Road. The Principal and the Pastor of Royal Redeemer Church also requested an arrow light at that intersection. Chief Bican said we can put a light at that intersection, but a loop will have to be installed so that the arrow will not run continuously and start backing up traffic on Royalton Road. Mr. Kasaris asked if there is money in the budget for this. Chief Bican said he does have the money for this project.

Mr. Petrusky asked if an optical light can be installed rather than placing a loop in the ground. Chief Bican said he believes there is already a loop in the ground, but he will check into it.

Mr. Antoskiewicz asked if the arrow light is installed at Abbey Road and Royalton Road, will that create a situation where the people on Abbey Road will have to wait longer to turn onto Royalton Road. He said he has had many complaints about the wait time at that intersection. Chief Bican said he believes it will cut into the timing on Royalton Road, but we have to be careful not to back up traffic on Royalton Road.

Mr. Petrusky asked if there are any grants available where we would be able to get money to update traffic lights at certain intersections. Chief Bican said that even if we are successful in coming up with money, there is a five year cycle to get into these grants. Mr. Petrusky suggested applying for these grants now, and if we are successful in obtaining the funds, we can make improvements five years down the road. Chief Bican will check to see if there is transportation money available and report back at the next meeting.

MISCELLANEOUS

Mr. Antoskiewicz received an email from a resident who was asking if police are spending more time at night patrolling areas that were blacked out due to the recent storm. Chief Bican said they are trying to patrol those areas more frequently if they are able.

Mr. Nickell said that Parkdale Drive and several other streets are still without power. Mr. Petrusky said that Oakridge Drive is also without power. Mr. Petrusky said there are several trees in that area that if they fall, they will take several sections of wires down. He is planning to discuss this at the next Storm Water Committee meeting.

Mr. Antoskiewicz said that residents are concerned about several trees in the Parkway that look like they might come down if we are hit with another storm. Mr. Antoskiewicz suggested working with the Metroparks to clear these trees. Chief Bican said that it would help cut down on complaints if we were able to clear the curbs on Edgerton Road.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Mr. Nickell, seconded by Mr. Petrusky to adjourn the meeting. Yeas: 3. Nays: 0. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 6:57 p.m.