

SAFETY COMMITTEE MINUTES

January 20, 2009

The Safety Committee meeting was held on January 20, 2009, 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: Larry Antoskiewicz; Administration: Mayor Robert Stefanik, Safety Director Bruce Campbell, City Engineer Mark Schmitzer, Fire Chief Mike Fabish; Other: Pat Jones, Paul Marnecheck, Ashley Petrusky.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

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

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. Cady Road/Ridge Road Intersection

Mr. Schmitzer discussed the guardrail design plan that was mapped out for the Cady Road resident whose home was partially destroyed when a driver lost control of his vehicle and drove into the house. Mr. Schmitzer designed a guardrail that will help deter drivers and may provide peace of mind for the homeowners. Mr. Schmitzer has given this design to the Service Director and as soon as the weather cooperates, this guardrail will be installed near this home on Cady Road. All of the material is in place. The only items that will need to be purchased are the bolts for the guardrail.

This item will remain on the agenda until this project is completed.

2. Mile markers in the North Royalton part of the Metroparks walkway

Mayor Stefanik said Mr. Jordan has been working on this and has received verbal approval from the Metroparks.

This item will remain on the agenda until we receive additional information.

3. Manpower in the Police Department

Mr. Kasaris said that he realizes we are in the budgetary process and asked when Council will receive the budget for their review. Mayor Stefanik said that he is meeting with Mrs. Fegan this week and department heads the following week. He said Council should have a copy of that budget by the first week of February.

Mr. Campbell said that the new police officer has just graduated from the police academy in Akron and the police officer that was sworn in recently is currently at the University of Akron Police Academy and will be ready for duty in North Royalton by August. Mr. Campbell said Chief Bican likes the University of Akron Police Academy rather than the Cleveland Police Academy as it is more academically based and he likes the end product of the officers that graduate from there.

Mr. Kasaris asked how many officers are in the Drop Program. Mr. Campbell did not have that information available. He believes there are four in the Police Department and four in the Fire Department. Mr. Campbell will email this information to Council.

This item will remain on the agenda.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Status Report on High School Traffic Situation

Mr. Campbell distributed a report outlining the cost of having officers patrol the high school for the new traffic pattern. The cost is approximately \$1500 per week. This report is attached.

Mr. Kasaris asked how the traffic situation has been. Mr. Campbell said it has been going relatively smoothly with just a few minor incidents involving parents who are upset with the traffic pattern. Mr. Campbell said the city has been plowing Memorial Park as promised and said that there are about 8-10 cars parked there per day. He said it appears to be a popular drop off and pick up point.

Mr. Kasaris asked how we are policing the pathway. Mr. Campbell said we are using reserve officers in that area and there is a police car parked there at the halfway point. Mr. Campbell said the lights have been timed a little differently so it is light in that area in the morning. Mr. Petrusky asked when officers will be reduced in this area. Mr. Campbell and Chief Bican will meet to discuss the timeframe to reduce the number officers at the school.

Mr. Petrusky asked if any of this expense is being reimbursed by the school. Mr. Campbell said that all of the patrolling is taking place in the public right of way which is not the school's area of responsibility.

Mr. Petrusky asked if any tickets have been issued. Mr. Campbell said he does not believe there have been any tickets issued.

Mr. Kasaris asked Mr. Campbell if he has seen a lot more carpooling. Mr. Campbell said he has seen more kids than usual in one car.

2. **Cost of Police at School**

This was discussed under Status Report on High School Traffic Situation above.

3. **Police Cars**

Mr. Campbell said he believes Chief Bican is looking to purchase five new replacement vehicles. Currently, the Police Department has eight silver vehicles and Chief Bican had mentioned trying to replace all of the silver to make the entire fleet black and white. Mr. Campbell said Chief Bican had discussed checking with other departments to see if they are in need of vehicles. If there are other departments that are looking to purchase vehicles, possibly they could use the silver vehicles instead of making a new purchase. Mr. Campbell said he believes the order for new vehicles needs to be placed prior to March. Mr. Antoskiewicz said that he believes we have already appropriated for five new vehicles, but if all of the silver vehicles will be replaced, we would be replacing a total of eight vehicles. Mr. Campbell said that the Chief also had on his "wish list" the purchase of a Tahoe to accommodate a couple of the officers who are a bit larger in stature.

Mr. Nickell said he had talked to someone who administers the Civil Service Test for Brecksville and he had mentioned that they are trying to form a consortium of cities to give the Civil Service Test as a group of cities instead of individually. Mr. Campbell said we are currently looking into a program administered through Tri-C where for a \$1,000 fee cities are able to join their Assessment Center and they in turn will perform all of the physical agility, written and psychological assessment tests for a fee of \$60 per applicant, per test. Mr. Campbell does not know all of the particulars, however he spoke with the Civil Service Commission and the gentleman who runs this program will be doing a presentation at the first meeting in February to give us an idea if this might be something we are interested in pursuing. Twinsburg recently joined this program. Mr. Campbell would like to find out how the testing in Twinsburg went and how they plan to merge this system with other communities.

Mr. Antoskiewicz asked if officers who are laid off are put on any type of Civil Service list.

Mr. Campbell said in most cases they hope to get called back, however if that does not happen, they have to repeat the testing process.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Mr. Nickell, seconded by Mr. Petrusky **to adjourn the meeting**. Yeas: 3. Nays: 0. **Motion carried**. Meeting adjourned at 6:50 p.m.