

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chief Urso, Mayor Clark, Ben Prescott, Dave Stuka, Marty Hura

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: Lt. Ken Justus, Linda Wilke

CALL TO ORDER: Chief Urso called the meeting to order at 6:00p.m.  
April 03 2019 minutes were reviewed. Motion to approve minutes by Ben, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Marty all ayes.

CHIEF'S REPORT: Appropriation Status, Vendors, and SRO handed out. All reports on file.  
Dave asked about the Clothing Allowance at \$6400, Chief advised the vests were purchased out of there and when the reimbursement arrives it will go into that fund.

CITIZENS : None

OLD BUSINESS:

- ❖ Auxiliary Officer – Last meeting we were looking at possibly hiring 2 Auxiliary Officers. first one declined offer due to being hired at Sheriff Dept., 2<sup>nd</sup> one has a questionable background and we chose put that person on hold.
- ❖ Crosswalk – Received an email about crosswalks. we have put the crossing man out. we are currently down one due to it being hit by a truck. Dave at SD is trying to find parts.

NEW BUSINESS:

- ❖ Park Camera's – Concern about vandalism at park Chief suggested that Parks could repurpose the old cameras that the PD has replaced if parks does not want to purchase all new equipment. We have one working camera at the park right now.
- ❖ Water Plant Camera's – Needs IT work – we currently cannot monitor them at PD
- ❖ Dispatch Contracts – Talks ongoing met with Fire Chief Roosa today, last contract was 0%-0%-3%. Chief Urso offered 3%-3%-3%, Chief Roosa offered 11/2%-11/2%-11/2. We will be sitting down again and working together. Spoke with Chief Gregory, HPD, he is interested in coming back here for dispatch for Police only, not fire. Gave him a ball park figured of \$44,000 for the first year. We have the old contract and will be looking at it closely, will bring to committee as we move forward.
- ❖ Regan Street – Tree leaning over the road, just east of new basin. about 45 degree hanging over the road. Actually 3 growing out of the bank. Committee discussed and agreed we need to determine if they are in the Right of Way or not.
- ❖ MARCS Radios – Waiting on our radios to be programmed. G-Ville looking at last July or August. Lt. working with Geauga Co to get our radios programmed for free, however getting them to give me a time is getting more difficult. The used mobiles and portables one programed and installed and then down the road, purchase a new one each year and intergrade them into the old instead of going out and buying all new at once. Mayor asked if there is someone she could contact to help this process along. Lt. advised person has to be approved by the State of Ohio, Eric Bartholmew works for Geauga Co SO part time.

NEW BUSINESS CONT:

- ❖ **MARCS Radios** – He has taken time off after rehabbing the dispatch center there. If I can't get him to move forward we may have to pay a one time cost to get them programmed.
- ❖ **New Patrol Car** -Suppose to be built the week of June 3<sup>rd</sup>, received nothing saying it was delayed. Lt. Justus called to try to get a VIN number. John Cuvella is suppose to call back.
- ❖ **Back Lot** – Chief asked about fixing the back driveway with some cold patch before it gets to bad and starts to heave.
- ❖ **Watchguard** – This is our firewall provided thru TAC Computer, he advised me that in September 2020 we must upgrade ours due to an upgrade that is required. He quoted \$3983.00.
- ❖ **Dispatch** – Looking at hiring 2 more part time dispatchers, we have 3 part time dispatchers going to 3 other local departments part time causing scheduling issues and we cannot compete in wage. We have done initial interviews and will be moving forward. IF we do take on HPD Dispatch we are going to need to run a power shift atleast 3 -4 days a week requiring additional dispatchers. It would be too much for one person to handle Mantua PD, Mantua Fire, Hiram PD and Garrettsville PD especially during their busy times.
- ❖ **SRO Officer** – Ptl Osborn has resigned her position as SRO at the end of school year. School was notified at the end of the school year. We have no commissioned officers interested. As of now we have no SRO for the school this year. Chief discussed with Committee about making this a Full Time Position people do not want to leave a full time job to take that position. Committee asked Chief to calculate out on paper for finance to see and discuss on how much it would cost us for full time with benefits for the additional months that the school does not pay for. Chief advised he does not want to cut the program and regress, Committee agreed.
- ❖ **P/T Officer** – Ptl. Jeff Koehn has resigned his position with Mantua Police. He could not commit to one 8 hour shift a month with his other obligations.
- ❖ **Full Time Position** – Chief Discussed with Committee that since layoffs we have never replaced our full time people. Chief and Lt. with help from part timers that have other obligations and full time jobs are unable to cover open shifts. We cannot force part time to work and are in desperate need of another full time position. Mayor advised Chief and Lt. cannot continue on this path, all agreed. Ben questioned budget and funding for a full time position. Chief discussed the issues we face, cannot close – we have to provide a service to the Village and cannot just leave open shifts. Finding people to work for free as Auxiliary for the first year and low wages is getting impossible. We currently have 11-12 officers and we cannot fill the schedule. Chief is maxed out on Comp Time and we are currently paying overtime that is costing more. Committee discussed possible ways of funding, Chief pointed out he is under appropriations at this time and have generated funding thru dispatch services. Committee recommends Finance needs to look closely at this.
- ❖ **Retirement** – Lt. Justus has submitted a letter of intent to retire November 01, 2019. Lt. has been here since 2003, working 200 plus hours a month at times here. In 2012 when Lt. took on the K9 he promised to work 30 hours a week and atleast 6 years. Vader is approaching 9 years old and on daily medication. Lt. discussed this is not an easy decision. Next few months there will be reassigning duties in the department.

NEW BUSINESS CONT:

- ❖ Lt. Justus discussed with Committee that Council has to vote to retire K9 Vader and per Ohio State Law once Council retires him Lt. Justus has to be given first choice to purchase K9 Vader from the Village of Mantua Police Department for \$1.00 and keep him at his home and not repurpose him. Committee suggested to take Retirement of K9 Vader to Council.
- ❖ **Comments or Concerns:** Ben asked about the possibility of a traffic light at Main St and Prospect St., with the increase of traffic thru the Village and activity at that intersection. It is an ODOT decision. Committee discussed and advised they will speak to Village Administrator John Trew.

ITEMS RECOMMENDED TO COUNCIL: Retiring of K9 Vader, November 1<sup>st</sup> 2019

ITEMS REFERRED TO FINANCE COMMITTEE: Full Time Positions

ITEMS REFERRED TO PARK COMMITTEE: Camera's

ITEMS REFERRED TO SERVICE COMMITTEE: None

ITEMS TABLED: None

NEXT MEETING: August 07, 2019 @ 6:00 p.m.

ADJOURNED: Meeting adjourned at 6:50p.m. Motion to adjourn by Ben, 2nd by Dave, all ayes.

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Dave Sluka, Chairperson

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Joseph Urso, Chief of Police