

COMMITTEE MINUTES

SAFETY COMMITTEE

November 2, 2022

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chief Urso, Marty Hura, Nina Schroeder and Heather Paisley

MEMBERS ABSENT:

OTHERS PRESENT: Mayor Clark, Tammy Meyer, Steve Thorn, Michele Stuck, Maryann Fabian

CALL TO ORDER: Chief Urso called the meeting to order at 6:00p.m. September 7, 2022 minutes were reviewed. Minutes were tabled due to Heather asking a Gear Grant question that she felt was omitted.

CHIEF'S REPORT: Appropriation Status and Vendors Reports provided. All reports on file. Nina asked Chief to explain some of the charges on the Vendors report, one specifically being Lexipol. Chief explains that Lexipol is the Departments policies and procedures manual. Chief explains that it's a one-time annual fee. Nina questions the Guardian fee, and Chief explains that is the departments dental. Nina also questions the cost for office supplies, and Chief explains that supplies are ordered twice a year. Nina questions whether an order was placed in the spring, Chief advised there was an order placed before Head Dispatcher Linda Wilke retired. Tammy states that the spring order was not listed, Chief advised he will look up the spring order and add the amount. Nina questions what Galls is, Chief explains that it's a uniform supply place.

CITIZENS: None

OLD BUSINESS:

- ❖ **Potato Festival Update** – Chief explains that at the September meeting the Potato Festival was discussed.
- ❖ **K-9 Donation-** Chief explains that at the September meeting the K-9 donation was discussed.
- ❖ **Flooring Concerns** – Chief explains that at the September meeting the flooring concern was discussed.
- ❖ **Comments** – No comments

NEW BUSINESS:

- ❖ **Halloween Event** – Chief explains that there was a Halloween event, and thanks those who came out and supported. Chief explains there was a lot of people who came, and that the police department ran out of candy. Chief thanks Niko from Detail Xpress for the tent, music and speakers. Chief thanks the Dispatchers who came out and volunteered their time to make the event successful. Chief explains there was \$83.79 in cash donations that will be sent to Council to make a motion to accept it. Chief explains that Sgt Gilbert helped, but the majority was organized by Ptl Brothers. Chief explains that the Sub Shop donated 80 pre-made hot dogs, and that the Dollar General donated refreshments. Tammy questions if there is a date set for Fill -A- Cruiser, Chief advises that the event is tentatively set for December 10th. Heather questions the location of the event, and asks Chief if he's considering the Compass Packaging employee parking lot. Chief explains no due to the supplies being provided and donated by Dollar General. Mayor Clark asks Chief if there will be a cruiser at all 3 Dollar General stores. Chief advises no that the township stores will need to check with the Portage County Sheriff's Department.

- ❖ **MSFD Contract** – Chief explains he met with Chief Roosa and they proposed to be in good faith with a 3-year contract with 0,0,0 of an increase. Chief explains he proposed a 3,3 and 3. Chief explains that Chief Roosa would take it back to his Fire Board to discuss, and Chief would take it to Safety. Chief explains with wages going up that he was unsure what the offers were from other entities. Chief explains that they all agree that the personable service that Mantua provides will not be the same with other entities. Chief explains that with costs going up he doesn't think 3,3,3 is far out of realm. Nina asks Chief to be more specific with 3,3,3. Chief explains that it means 3% each year. Chief explains the previous contract was a 0%, 2%, 2% increase due to Garrettsville being in contract at the time. Chief explains that the contract is up December 31st, and that he feels confident they will come to an agreement.

- ❖ **Employee Update** – Chief explains he has one Dispatcher that's interviewing for a Full-Time position somewhere else. Chief explains that man-power is hurting, and he is not sure what's going to happen. Chief explains that the other agency did come and look at the personnel file and advised that their hiring process is long and we have time. Heather questions why the employee is looking to go elsewhere, and Chief explains strictly financial. Nina questions "Exit interviews" Chief explains that its in our policy. Chief explains that the employee has expressed its strictly financial, they will be making the same amount as the Chief to go dispatch somewhere else. Mayor Clark clarifies that they will be going to a City not a Village to dispatch. Steve Thorn asks Chief if it's hard-to-find dispatchers, Chief explains yes due to the mental demanding aspects. Tammy questions if the way to keep people is by doing more Full-Time employees rather than Part-Time. Nina advised Chief that in regards to staffing she had some neighbors on Prospect Street complain about the lack of police presence on Halloween. Chief explains there was 1 officer working the road, and that Chief is normally the 2nd car on the road but was at the Halloween event. Chief explains that Sgt Gilbert was the officer working the road. Nina explains that the complaint was there was only 1 pass by in the course of 2 hours. Chief advised he does not know Sgt Gilbert's route, but he was stationary on High Street with his lights on due to fast traffic going down the hill. Mayor Clark questioned if the Fire Department was still walking the streets, and Chief explains they were short staffed that evening. Mayor Clark asks Chief if there were any mishaps that evening, Chief advised there were no mishaps or calls for service. Chief explains that there is one candidate for dispatch that had completed a second interview and is being sent for fingerprints. Chief explains that the candidate is a Village resident.

NEW BUSINESS CON'T:

- ❖ **Patrol Car Status-** Chief explains that a window is opening up for patrol cars, and advised that the department was put in for a new patrol car. Chief explains whether or not the department actually orders one is one thing, but the company needs to allocate how many people want a new patrol car. Chief explains they are looking to start building sometime around February through June. Chief explains they are looking about a year out for a new patrol car. Chief advised that if something changes and we do not take the new patrol car, the company will not struggle to sell the vehicle. Chief explains that the cost has gone up, and the last Tahoe that was purchased we provided everything in the vehicle. Chief explains that this new patrol car will be a complete upfit at Lally. Chief explains the only things the department would have to provide are the wrap and the radio, and that everything else is already provided. Chief advised that it is tentatively, and not a commitment.

- ❖ **Comments or any other New Business:** Cleveland Wrap donated 100 dollars to our Halloween PR event, and with it being deposited into general fund. Chief explains that he found out that the money cannot be used due to it not being appropriated. Chief advised he needs to get appropriation legislation for PR donations. Michele asks Chief a question as to where the money gets deposited, and Chief explains that the money gets placed into the general fund. Michele explains the process of appropriations, and Maryann clarifies the placement of the PR donations. Chief explains the legislation is for strictly PR event donations, excluding the K9-Fund. Heather explains that if toys are needed to be purchased her work sells to Dollar General, and her employee discount could possibly be applied to make the purchase easier. Steve Thorn asks if cash donations have to go through the same process, Maryann and Mayor Clark advised yes for a paper trail.

COMMENTS/CONCERNS:

ITEMS RECOMMENDED TO COUNCIL: Appropriation legislation for PR donations. Motion to send to Council by Heather, 2nd by Nina. All Ayes.

ITEMS REFERRED TO FINANCE COMMITTEE: None

ITEMS REFERRED TO PARKS COMMITTEE: None

ITEMS REFERRED TO SERVICE COMMITTEE: Chief explains that the Service Department is doing a good job. Chief explains the department is still working on making all of the records digitalized, and they are working on helping the department with daily bags of paper shredding's.

ITEMS TABLED: Fire contract.

NEXT MEETING: December 7th, 2022 @ 6:00 p.m.

- ❖ Heather asked about the status of the flooring concern in the Police Department. Chief explains that he is not taking on the responsibility and it needs to be a professional.
- ❖ Heather also discussed the details regarding the Police K-9 memorial. Heather also suggests starting a fund in regards to the project. Mayor Clark asks Heather to get a more accurate total cost including shipping before asking for funds. Nina questions when the conversation in regards to the K-9 memorial happened prior to the Safety Meeting. Heather explains that it was August or September, and Tammy advises that it was at Council as well and Mayor Clark stated it needed to come to Safety first.

ADJOURNED: Meeting adjourned at 6:59 p.m. Motion to adjourn by Marty, 2nd by Heather, all ayes.

Heather Paisley, Chairperson

Joseph Urso, Chief of Police