

SAFETY COMMITTEE

OCTOBER 24, 2016

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Chairman Nelson Evans. Committee members present were Nelson Evans, Jim Matuszak and Rick Rettig. Also present was Bridgette Kabat, City Administrator.

REVIEW OF 2017 BUDGET – FIRE DIVISION

Deputy Chief Rudy Ruiz was present to discuss the Fire Division's proposed 2017 budget. He pointed out a few items that have changed from the previous year. He said that firefighters' wages were increased by two percent to cover step increases and retirement pay-outs. A new category was added for part-time firefighters which differs from the current part-paid firefighters. The new part-time firefighters will not exceed thirty hours a week but will be used to increase staffing numbers. Deputy Chief Ruiz explained that in the past we would have two individuals on standby for six hour blocks. They would get paid a dollar per hour to be on standby and then get a minimum of two hours of pay if they were called in. That worked when there were fewer calls but now there are too many calls so instead two individuals will be added to each shift. One of them will be a full-time firefighter paid for by the grant we were recently awarded and the other will be a part-time employee. The bulk of the funds to pay for the part-time firefighters will come from the overtime line item. Deputy Chief Ruiz said that the line item for CPR Training has been increased by \$10,000, most of which will be reimbursed to the City from individuals seeking CPR certification. There is also money in the proposed budget to purchase a bio-directional amplifier for \$44,000 to help improve radio communication with the police training center which is in the basement. Mr. Matuszak asked if there are any non-cash benefits that we can offer to the firefighters to keep up morale since their compensation is going down. Ms. Kabat said that the rate of pay is set by the bargaining unit and not all overtime is being eliminated. Mr. Matuszak asked Deputy Chief Ruiz if there was anything they asked for that was not included in the budget, and he said there is not anything he can recall that was eliminated.

OTHER BUSINESS

Dick Currie and members of the Perrysburg Slow Rollers stopped by to request bike lines on South Boundary Street and bike lanes on Indiana Avenue.

PROPERTY DISCUSSION

Ms. Kabat requested an Executive Session to discuss real property. The Committee agreed 3-0 to go into Executive Session at 6:16 p.m. They returned from Executive Session at 6:59 p.m.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:59 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Nelson Evans, Chairman
Safety Committee

Next meeting: Monday, November 28, 2016 at 6:00 p.m.