

SAFETY COMMITTEE

OCTOBER 23, 2017

The meeting was called to order at 6:02 p.m. by Chairman Nelson Evans. Committee members present were Nelson Evans, Jim Matuszak and Rick Rettig. Also present was City Administrator Bridgette Kabat.

PERMISSION TO PURCHASE A REPLACEMENT POLICE VEHICLE

Chief Dan Paez was present to request approval to purchase one new police vehicle. He said that the Chevy Impala and Chevy Caprice are no longer available as police vehicles. The Police Division has used the Chevy Tahoe since 2012, and it has been a good vehicle for them. They used to replace vehicles after three years and 90,000 to 100,000 miles, but the 2012 vehicle has gone five years and 150,000 miles. Chief Paez said that the base price is \$32,252 which is down \$1,400 from last year. With the police package add-on, the total is \$32,791.40. The vehicle will be purchased from Tim Lally Chevrolet of Warrensville Heights, Ohio. Mr. Matuszak asked if it can be placed into service for that price. Chief Paez said no, but most of the equipment can be swapped out from the old vehicle, but there are some changes because of a change in body type. Mr. Evans noted that the price of the Ford is cheaper, but we would not be able to swap equipment and the base price does not include the police package. Mr. Matuszak asked when we would take possession of the vehicle. Chief Paez said it would probably be January or February. The Committee agreed 3-0 to recommend approval of purchasing the new vehicle.

2018 BUDGET

The Committee reviewed the proposed police and fire budgets for 2018. Chief Paez provided information about each line item in the police budget that had a significant increase or decrease in it. There is one police vehicle budgeted, building repairs and maintenance is up \$39,800 to replace the back-up power supply, some radio base units need to be replaced, and the vehicle repairs line item has been increased by \$5,000. Chief Paez explained that this is primarily for tires and they seem to be going through them quicker, but he thinks it may be because of all of the construction. He said that they have not added any new officers since 2009 and there are approximately nine officers who will be eligible to retire in the next five to seven years. Chief Paez said that he is also concerned about communication staffing because of long term leaves, and once the second fire station is built they will be dispatching for two fire houses.

Ms. Kabat reviewed the proposed fire budget. She explained the staffing line items and said that fire training is up 5% because they have added three additional firefighters and part-time staff. The fire equipment line item includes an increase of \$117,435.79 but we have been awarded an SCBA grant for \$167,000 and you have to put the dollars in the budget to expend and then put the grant money in the general fund. She said that in the 403 fund there is \$275,000 to replace the medic unit. Mr. Matuszak asked if the fire division actual expenses are in line with the amended budget. Ms. Kabat said that fire overtime is trending higher because the hiring of part-time firefighters did not start out strong.

OTHER BUSINESS

Gayle and Sandy Duty, 105 Quail, and Greg and Nancy Szczublewski, 125 Partridge, were present again to discuss the situation with their neighbor parking recreational vehicles on the street. Mr. Rettig said that he has visited the neighborhood, and he sees their concern. Mr. Evans said that when he was there the trailers were in the driveway. He asked the Dutys and Szczublewskis what they think would solve their problem. Mr. Duty said that prohibiting recreational and utility vehicles from being parked on the street would eliminate the obstruction and allow them to safely get out of their driveway. Mr. Matuszak asked if we could put up no parking signs at this location. Ms. Kabat said that she has the authority, but you have to be consistent. She stated that there are other intersections exactly like this one where there are no issues. Ms. Kabat said that right now you can legally park for 48 hours or more if you call the police chief and let him know. Chief Paez would like to see the parking limit extended to 72 hours to cover a weekend, with no extension by calling him. Ms. Kabat added that Chief Paez is also sympathetic that not all dwellings have a double wide driveway and are narrower. She said that there have been no complaints elsewhere in the City. Mr. Evans said that the Committee will talk about this item again next month.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Nelson Evans, Chairman
Safety Committee

Next meeting: Monday, November 27, 2017 at 6:00 p.m.