

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS
VILLAGE OF PLYMOUTH
Safety Committee
18 April, 2024

The Village of Plymouth convened in Safety Committee on Thursday, 18 April, 2024 at 11:00am in person. Chairman Dwayne Cassidy called the meeting to order at approximately 11:08. The following members and visitors were present:

Mr. Dwayne Cassidy, Chair - present
Mrs. Susan Moore – present
Mr. Jeffrey Brown – absent
Mayor Cassaundra Fryman - present

EMPLOYEES: Police Chief, Tom Hintz; Police Capt. Montel Gordon; Fire Chief, Richard Metzger; Village Administrator, Jamie Burton

VISITORS: None.

Items for discussion were as follows:

- a) Police Department:
 - Update on purchase of police vehicles
 - Budget
 - Training
 - Staffing
 - Officer Positions
 - Other
- b) Fire Department:
 - Update on proposed fire station
 - Staffing
 - Training
 - Festival
 - Other

Police Department:

Chief Hintz reported that he has been in contact with Tim Lally Chevrolet and, due to a considerable slow-down in the sale of used police vehicles, the dealer is only willing to give us ½ the book value on the Explorer and the Tahoe. The book value of the Explorer is between \$10 - \$11K; therefore, the dealership is offering only \$4900 on a trade-in. The book value of the Tahoe is listed at \$27K; therefore, the dealership is offering only \$14K on that trade. Chief Hintz is going to ask Lally to give him a couple of weeks to shop other dealers to see if we can sell either or both vehicles elsewhere. He is also going to look into Govdeals.com. He will report his findings to the safety committee. He noted the vehicles we ordered are on the lot at Tim Lally; however, neither has been upgraded with the equipment we need and they are not ready to be driven off the lot at this time.

Mr. Cassidy mentioned that the fiscal officer needs the police department's budget by July and asked to meet with Chief Hintz to discuss training, staffing and equipment needs. Chief Hintz said that his budget remains fairly constant from year-to-year and that he is able to cover everything, thanks in part to private donations that fund events the department does as an outreach to the community, like Safety Town. He stated that he is prepared to submit his budget as soon as he and Mr. Cassidy have an opportunity to meet.

The Chief stated that his biggest concern is making progress on the pay scale so that the village is able to retain officers. He mentioned that council has made good progress in the past few years and that he hopes we can continue to move forward so that staff know it is possible to advance. Although our police budget and salaries are not commensurate with other larger communities, Chief Hintz emphasized that the officers we have are loyal and they recognize that the village is working to compensate them fairly. He said he is grateful that we have made progress and hopes that the village does not regress, because our residents deserve police and fire protection.

Fire Department:

Mayor Fryman clarified some details about the State House Budgeting Grant that the village applied for to help fund the proposed new fire station. The amount the village applied for covers the deficit between what the funding partner is providing and what the village will have to cover. The Mayor expects to hear whether the application has been approved within the next two months. In addition to the grant

application being submitted, soil samples have been collected on the property designated for the new fire station. Chief Metzger will report any news on the grant to our funding partner when they meet in May.

Mr. Cassidy asked who would be responsible for maintaining the land on which the new fire station will be built, since the funding partner will be the legal owner of the property. He suggested that it would be in the village's best interest to voluntarily mow the property until construction begins, since the partner is out of town and would have to hire a lawn service to mow. Administrator Burton assured the committee that it would not be a problem for the village to mow.

Chief Metzger reported that the fire department is losing two staff members. One is on disability due to health issues and the other is moving to another community. Thus far, the department has one applicant in process. The Chief also assured the committee that training is adequate and ongoing. Although much of the training is done in-house, he is working with Willard Fire Chief Joe Reiderman to arrange some joint training sessions.

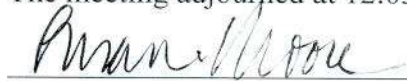
The fire department has sent two trucks in for maintenance this spring instead of waiting until fall. One unit required about \$1300 worth of repairs. The other unit was in need of a coolant hose assembly. The cost of the latter repair was \$1100.

Mrs. Moore asked Chief Metzger about the impact of the eclipse. He said the fire department had two extra members on duty for a 10-hour period on April 8th, but there were no problems, and aside from a slight increase in traffic through town, the eclipse was largely uneventful.

Mr. Cassidy asked if there was any possibility of reviving the Firemen's Festival this year. Chief Metzger said that with the staffing issues they currently have, there will not be a festival in the near future.

No date was set for the next safety committee meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 12:03pm.



Susan Moore, Safety Committee

All formal actions of the Village of Plymouth concerning and relating to the adoption of resolutions and/or motions passed at this meeting were adopted in a meeting open to the public, in compliance with the law, including Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code.