



Safety & Service Committee
Tuesday, July 7, 2020 - 5:00 PM
MINUTES

1. Call to Order

Ben Lee called the July 7, 2020 Safety and Service meeting to order at 5:02 p.m.

Present - Benjamin Lee, Doug Lehner

Absent - Marvin Block (absent at roll call, arrived at 5:07 p.m.)

Staff present - Jim Lenner, Jack Liggett, Chief Haroon, Bailey Klimchak, Mayor Chip Dutcher, Carol Van Deest, Cheryl Robertson, Teresa Monroe

Public present - None

2. Action on Minutes

a. June 2, 2020

ACTION: Benjamin Lee moved to Approve as written; Doug Lehner seconded and the vote was as follows:

AYES: Benjamin Lee, Doug Lehner

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

Passed 2 - 0

3. Traffic Sign Study (Chief Haroon)

a. Staff report

Mr. Lee said for context, this study was prompted by complaints that drivers were running stop signs at various intersections and some possibly going the wrong way on Pratt. The Police Department was asked for opinion on any updates needed to ensure intersections are not inhibiting the ability for people to follow direction. Chief Haroon presented his department study focusing on South Oregon Street at West College, at West Pratt, at West Maple as well as West College Street at North Williams. Chief Haroon noted areas where signs are hidden by foliage, are faded or crooked, in need of replacement, stop bars that should be painted, also some areas and the necessity of the signs; he said his report is available upon request.

4. Oregon Street / Williams Street Stop Signs (Jack)

Jack Liggett reviewed history on the addition of the stop signs on Williams and Oregon; discussion resulted in committee direction to leave the signs and add painted stop bars.

5. Speed Studies around town (Chief Haroon)

a. Mink Street

Chief Haroon reviewed results of the nine day speed study completed at West Jersey (Mink) Street and Hillview Drive: approximately 1,895 vehicles per day with highest traffic activity being 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. data shared was gathered by the Police Department speed trailer. It was noted that more speed limit signage has been ordered for the area.

6. Stone Hedge Row speed callout - Traffic calming (Jim / Bailey)

Doug Lehner said resident complaints regarding speed on Stone Hedge Row Drive prompted discussion on traffic calming in the area. Among possibilities discussed were the addition of crosswalks at Leafy Knoll and Grassy Knoll, using temporary road narrowing, making a four way stop, urban painting, traffic enforcement.

7. Parking Ticket Fines (Chief Haroon)

Chief Haroon said he feels parking ticket fines are too low relative to other municipalities; currently set at thirty dollars, he proposes that the cost should be fifty or sixty dollars. Chief added that the village should bring fines up to match what money is going out for court structure; the Prosecutor and Magistrate. Committee was in favor of an increase

ACTION: Benjamin Lee moved to direct staff to prepare an ordinance to raise the parking ticket fine from thirty to fifty dollars; Doug Lehner seconded and the vote was as follows:

AYES: Benjamin Lee, Marvin Block, Doug Lehner

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

Passed 3 - 0

8. Village Assistant Prosecutor (Chief Haroon)

In review of all processes of the Police Department, Chief Haroon said he feels it is in Johnstown's best interest to move away from its current Prosecutor for Mayor's Court as well as Municipal Court, currently they are the same person and said that does not look good. Chief said he is not happy with a lot of the processes, that a lot of things could be settled without trial; officer overtime could be saved by looking at processes of other prosecutors. Chief would like to use the current prosecutor used by Granville, Mr. Mike King. Johnstown will also host a "guest" Lieutenant from Granville to review our processes, Chief is looking forward to the input. Chief Haroon will have a report for the committee next month.

9. Additional Village Lighting suggestions (Chief)

Previous discussions on lighting around town, areas that could be better illuminated, third shift officers to note poorly lit areas for the committee; P.D. waiting until street lights out are fixed. Street Department to check how many lights are AEP versus Energy Coop. Finance to check to see how the village pays for lighting, should not be paying for lights that are not working. Priority of investigations will be based on departments staffing and ability.

10. Oregon Street Project Funding update (Jim)

Gas company still needs to complete their work and get out of the way before village can start. Funding to be awarded in round thirty four and has been appropriated at the State level. Response from gas company is that COVID-19 has put them behind, no estimate given on when they will complete their work. Funding is good for two years; village is holding off on putting out to bid as the gas company has not even started their work.

11. Construction Project Updates - If anything new

1. Valleyview sewer Phase one will be awarded with Council legislation tonight; then will schedule pre-con meeting.
2. Working to secure easements for the relief sewer on Mink Street; then the project will go out to bid.
3. Bids are out for the water sewer street work for the Enterprise Center; will know on July 30th what the bids are. Once there is a set price the village will be invoiced from the Port Authority, there will be three total.
4. The village has received \$5.75 million dollars in a zero percent loan for water and sewer projects.

12. False Alarm Ordinance - Continue to explore or table

Off and on discussion on this over three years; Chief Haroon will review by next committee meeting and provide opinion on whether or not to pursue.

13. Sidewalk Replacement Program - Revisit discussions

Move discussion to August. Noted possible conversations in Finance Committee as well.

14. Other Business

Non

15. Adjourn

ACTION: Marvin Block moved to adjourn; Benjamin Lee seconded and all were in favor.

AYES: 3

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

3- 0

Meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m.