



Safety & Service Committee Meeting
Tuesday, August 4, 2020 - 5:00 PM
AGENDA

1. Call to Order
2. Action on Minutes
 - a. July 7, 2020
3. Construction Project Updates - Jim/Jack
4. Village Assistant Prosecutor - Chief Haroon
 - a. Mayor's Court Report
5. Disorderly Conduct Enforcement - Enacted July 2nd (See Chief opinion report under item 6a)
6. False Alarm Ordinance - Continue to explore or table
 - a. Chief of Police opinion report
7. "NO TURN ON RED" sign on Rt 62/Main St
8. Sidewalk Replacement Program
9. Lighting Needs in Village - Chief Haroon
 - a. Outages
 - b. Obscure Areas
10. Updated Speed Studies - Chief Haroon
 - a. Stonehedge Row Drive
11. Other Business
12. Adjourn



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.

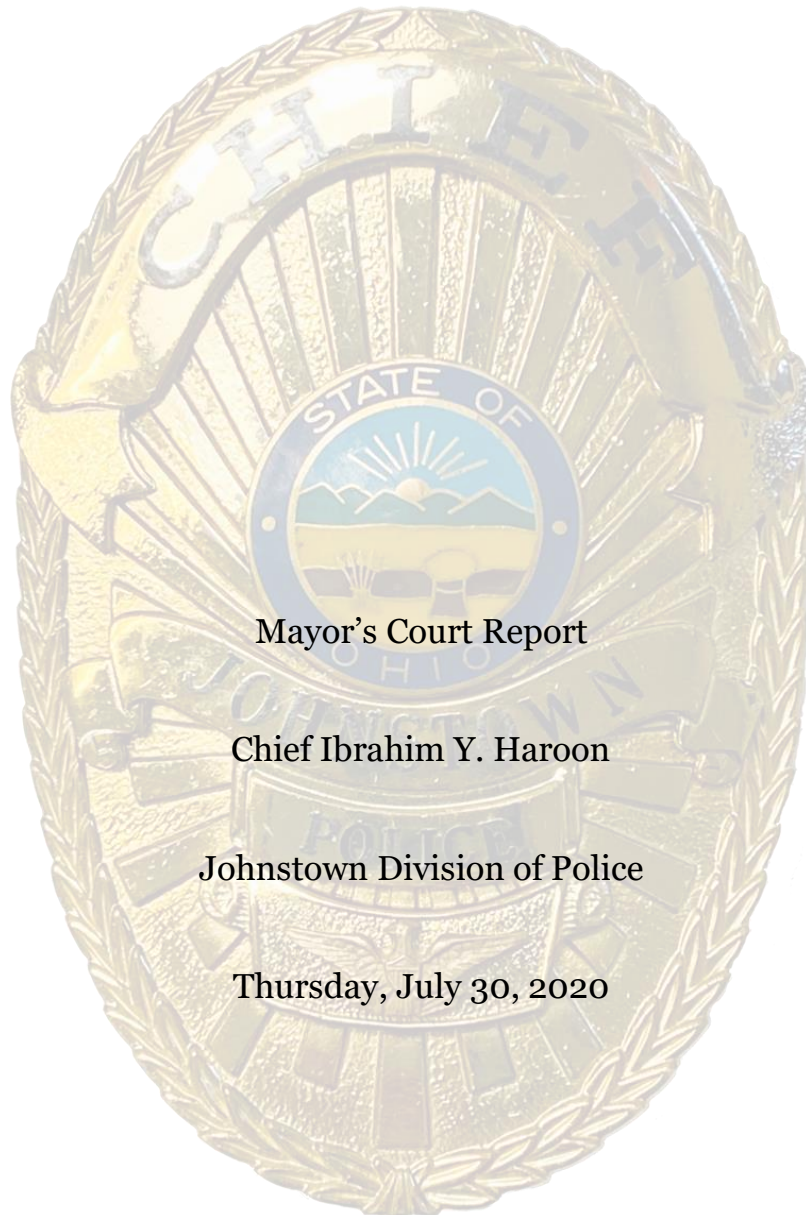
AYES: 3

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

3- 0

Meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m.



Mayor's Court Report

Chief Ibrahim Y. Haroon

Johnstown Division of Police

Thursday, July 30, 2020



The purpose of this document is to review the processes of Johnstown's Mayor's Court. Although my time at the Village of Johnstown has been limited, I have been exposed enough to determine that Mayor's Court needed a review and evaluation. With that being stated, I will begin this review.

The Village of Johnstown uses four systems of court structures: Common Pleas (felony cases), Juvenile (attached to Common Pleas Court), Municipal Court (misdemeanor, a court of record), and Mayor's Court (misdemeanor, a court of non-record). Being that Mayor's Court is not a court of record, some cases cannot be heard in Mayor's Court. Some examples are; Offenses involving acts of violence (domestic violence, violation of a protection order, felonious assault, aggravated assault, assault, menacing by stalking, aggravated trespass). Protection orders, some OVI (operating a vehicle impaired) related violations. Other limitations also lie within the Mayor's Court system. Probation monitoring and crime victim's rights are two considerations that are high on this manifest. More cases could be funneled through the Village's Mayor's Court if the Village employed a probation officer. However, I do not feel that this is a fiscally sound practice at this time. With that stated, I do not think that we are sending enough cases through the Mayor's Court system.

Two areas are likely to save a considerable amount of overtime.

- 1. Employing a detective**
- 2. Moving to a "cite & release" system**

If violators are cooperative, do not present a risk to themselves or others, are not capable of self-care, do not have a history of failing to appear (warrants), and have not committed an offense that requires incarceration (i.e., domestics), they should be issued a summons in lieu of incarceration. Monies for jailing and



overtime would recede. Productivity would ascend, and more time would be spent in the Community by officers.

The Current practice is to arrest if probable cause exists, complete an arrest sheet, transport prisoners to jail (possible overtime), complete the report by morning (possible overtime), and file charges in the morning with the prosecutor (possible overtime). As one can deduce, there is a significant amount of overtime that can be accumulated. Moreover, it can disrupt the arresting officer's work/life balance. Continued disruption can lead to burnout and lowered productivity as the officer is less likely to be proactive with their patrolling efforts.

Detective:

A detective will absolve the officers of their current caseload. Currently, the Johnstown Police Department (JPD) has 13-open felony cases. There are three rape or similar cases, four involving drugs, two burglary, one abduction, and others. In addition to the felony cases, officers perform follow-up on all of their misdemeanor cases. There are also five extensive background investigations. The addition of a detective would lessen the workload and allow the officers to spend more time in the Community.

Criminal Summons:

Currently, JPD uses a similar citation. However, the citations are not numbered. Numbering on the citation allows the Clerk of Courts to record each summons, know who each summons is assigned to, what officer issued the summons. and who the summons number was originally assigned to. In order to migrate to summons over the arrest, new summons would need to be printed.

Moreover, the prosecution would need to approve of the practice. The exact cost of the reprint of criminal citations is unknown. However, it is believed not to exceed \$500.

The act of using a criminal citation over an arrest has several benefits. It allows for JPD officers to remain within the Community more. Officers are not transporting prisoners to Newark, Ohio (This can be an average commute of 24-minutes one way.) Prisoner fees are likely to be lowered as the offender is not housed.

Means of filing:

With Prosecutor support, a criminal citation should not be filed the next business day. A day shift officer, or detective (if available) would submit summons twice a week. If the offender is jailed, it would need to be the next business day. This would cut overtime from officers having to file charges the next business day (our current practice). Also, it would be a more systematic and stable process.

Reporting:

An officer that makes an arrest currently has to complete the report by the end of their shift. While this is an acceptable practice, it compounds overtime and disrupts the officer's work/life balance. For example, an officer makes an arrest for theft at Kroger. The call comes in at 20:45 (8:45 p.m.). The officer's shift ends at 22:00 (10:00 p.m.). Currently, the officer does an on-scene investigation. This investigation takes 30-minutes. The time is now 21:15 (9:15 p.m.). The officer establishes that probable cause exists and makes the arrest. The violator is arrested shortly after the investigation. The officer now fills out a suspect arrest form (required by the jail). This takes 10-minutes. The time is now 21:25 (9:25



p.m.). Once the form is complete, the officer takes the violator to the Licking Co. Jail (the Village is possibly left unattended at this time). The officer also waits for the deputies to process the offender. This takes 40-minutes. The time is now 22:05 (10:05 p.m.), and the officer is now on overtime. Once the violator is incarcerated (a fee for the Village), the officer returns to the Department. This takes 24-minutes. The time is now 22:29 (10:29 p.m.). The officer starts on their report. All information is manually entered. The officer reviews video footage and completes a statement. This process takes up to two hours. The time is now 00:29 (12:29 a.m.). Once the report is complete, a supervisor reviews it. This process takes 15-minutes. The supervisor requests that some changes be made. The officer completes these tasks. This takes an additional 10-minutes. The time is now 00:54 (12:54 a.m.), and the officer reports home. The officer has logged three-hours of overtime at this point.

In this case, the officer should be able to use a criminal summons. The summons would be issued at the time the violator would have been placed under arrest. The summons would have taken 15-minutes to complete, and a further 10-minutes to serve, and then the officer would end the call. The time would now be 21:10 (9:10 p.m.), and the officer would not have logged overtime and would still be able to patrol the Village venue for a further 40-minutes actively. The officer would complete the report at the beginning of his shift the next day. The summons would be submitted to the Prosecutor the next day by an officer (or detective, if available).

Mayor's Court:

Currently, and to the best of my knowledge, little to no criminal cases are going through Mayor's Court. I, however, would like to use Mayor's Court in all cases where circumstances are appropriate. Such cases will increase revenue and allow

the Mayor's Court to sustain its weight in expenditures. Extra monies can be allocated towards community-based safety programs (e.g., click-it or ticket, OVI enhancement overtime, traffic safety enforcement overtime, National Night Out funding, etc.)

Prosecutor review:

Several ideas that I have presented will require the support of a prosecutor who is willing to support the said proposal. Although my time has been limited and my data arguably skewed due to COVID-19, I have discovered that our current processes are not as efficient as they should be.

I recommend that the Village dismiss Mark Gardner as our current Mayor's Court Prosecutor for legitimacy reasons. Although, not my sole purpose, legitimacy is nestled at the summit of my list. I do not find that it is a legitimate practice to have the same person prosecute both Mayor's Court and Municipal Court cases. If a defendant were to feel that they did not receive fair and equitable prosecution at the Mayor's Court level, they could request that their case be transferred to Municipal Court. However, they would face the same prosecutor. How would they feel if they were faced with the same prosecutor? Although I do not have data to back it up, my gut tells me that they would feel that the process is illegitimate and unfair.

Outside of legitimacy, I have received several complaints of lost paperwork, cases that have failed to be filed in a timely manner, unwillingness to resolve, and lost evidence. The processes, as described above, are also not advantageous to expenditures and staff health.



The Court should require periodical review to determine if processes are practical and efficient. This can be sufficiently obtained by interviewing the Court's Clerk, the Magistrate, and the Prosecutor. A review of neighboring venues should also be performed.

Where feasible, summons should be issued in lieu of incarceration. Unless the offense requires it, the offender is incapable of taking care of themselves, is a danger to themselves or others, or the officer or supervisor has a reasonable belief to assume that the violator will not appear to their court appearance. Adopting such a practice will increase workflow and expand productivity.

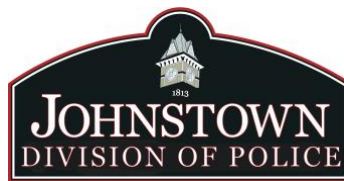
Seeking a prosecutor that is willing to work within the above guidelines is key to adopting new practices. A fresh set of eyes on an otherwise hackneyed method of operation is appealing, insightful, and needed within the organization. Although my processes may not be seamless, they are a push in the right direction. Consistency in collaboration between the Magistrate, the Clerk of Courts, Prosecutor, and myself are ideal to mold Mayor's Court into a resourceful and proficient branch of the Johnstown Government. Thus, benefiting the Community of Johnstown.

I am always open to questions and concerns. Please seek me out if either of the two should arise. Thank you for your time and consideration into this matter.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, which appears to read "Ibrahim Y. Haroon", is written over a horizontal line. The signature is stylized with a large, looped "I" and a long, sweeping underline.

Ibrahim Y. Haroon, Chief of Police



False Alarm Ordinance –

From January 2020, until June 2020, the Johnstown Police Department has experienced a total of 67 alarm calls. The mean total is 11 calls per month, with a daily average of .4 calls. Given the data, I have not found that there is an egregious frequency with these types of calls. It is my recommendation that a false alarm ordinance not be adopted at this time.

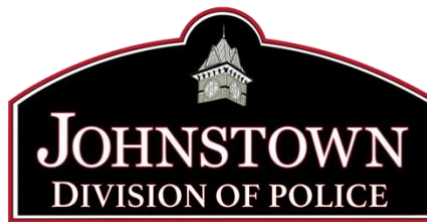
Disorderly conduct enforcement –

No cases as of this date have been noted. I have had a couple of residences make appointments with me to challenge the new ordinance. Both appeared to be in understanding of the Village's concerns of noise pollution. Officers have not addressed any violations as of the date of this memorandum.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, which appears to read 'Ibrahim Y. Haroon', is written over a horizontal line. Below the line, the name and title are printed.

Ibrahim Y. Haroon, Chief of Police



Village of Johnstown Light Outages

Metal - Pole Wood - Wood Pole or Telephone Pole TCD - Traffic Control Device

Updated 07-28-2020

Prepared by: Sergeant R. Smart

1. SW Corner of St Rt 37 / St Rt 62 -black metal pole on TCD...tallest pole - 30ft up
2. W Coshocton St. / S Oregon St.- Black TCD...S/W corner by the Family Diner
3. W Coshocton / N Oregon - TCD NE corner
4. E of 129 Parkdale
5. Corner of Parkdale Dr / Rustic Wood - Green metal street name pole
6. 119 Parkdale Dr. - Green metal Pole
7. 115 Parkdale Dr. - Green metal pole
8. Blueberry Hill / Parkdale Dr - Green metal street name pole
9. 239 Weeping Willow Run Dr. - Green Metal Pole
10. Benedict / Buena Vista - Black metal street name pole...Across from newest home build
11. Valleyview/Saratoga, Closet to 62 - Wood pole
12. Bigelow Dr / TSC Entrance - Silver metal pole...S of yellow gas pipe pole/E of trailers for sale at TSC.
13. Hannah Park - gravel path - last wooden pole at turnaround...by where old shelter house used to be.
14. Hannah Park - 2 poles S of bicycle rack between shelter house and playground
15. E Maple / Stevens St - Wood pole AEP #s: A3796984 & 127FF04 & L55A322 & X:1948466 Y:785373. **Advised In email repair Is soon.**
16. 208 S Williams AEP#s: 127FF12 L55A48 Coordinates - X 1948667 Y782803
17. Water/sewer plant Entrance/Exit near the non-potable water sign - white metal pole
18. Water/Sewer plant Entrance/Exit near round grassy area - White metal pole. In/out

*******New**
Outages*****

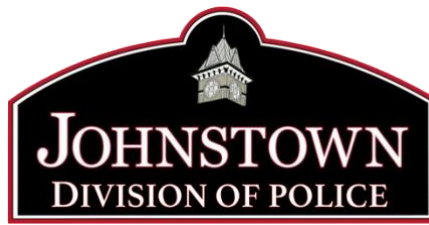
1. Weeping Willow Run / Golden Pond / Rustic Wood -Green Street name pole.
2. 203 Autumn Leaves - Green pole.
3. Creekside Preserve / TSC - Silver metal pole...beside TSC black fence N of Creekside Preserve Entrance/Exit.
4. Hannah Park - basketball fence line between small legion shed & basketball court In tree line. South West corner of the basketball court.
5. Hannah Park / 180 W Maple -Legion hall SW old tennis courts (South of white staircase leading up to the building) black camera on the smaller wooden pole.
6. Track St / John St - Wood pole AEP#: A3797123

Chief Ibrahim Y. Haroon

599 South Main Street, Johnstown, Ohio 43031

(740) 967-0911

Chief Ibrahim Y. Haroon
599 South Main Street, Johnstown, Ohio 43031
(740) 967-0911



OBSCURED “DARK AREAS” OF JOHNSTOWN

Monday July 27, 2020

Prepared by Sergeant R. Smart

1. Bike Path parking lot
2. 195-233 Sunset Drive
3. 199-212 Meadow Lane –Due to tree growth
4. Concord Road – From Main Street to first pole on south side near condos
5. East Douglas – From South Main Street to South Kasson Street
6. South Kasson Street – From East Douglas Street to East Jersey Street
7. John Street - Middle section
8. All of Hyatt Lane
9. Stevens Drive. Might be better once Pole light at Stevens & East Maple is fixed
10. West Jersey Street between Water Treatment Plant and Energy Cooperative
11. Lewis Court

Chief Ibrahim Y. Haroon
599 South Main Street, Johnstown, Ohio 43031
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Johnstown Police Department

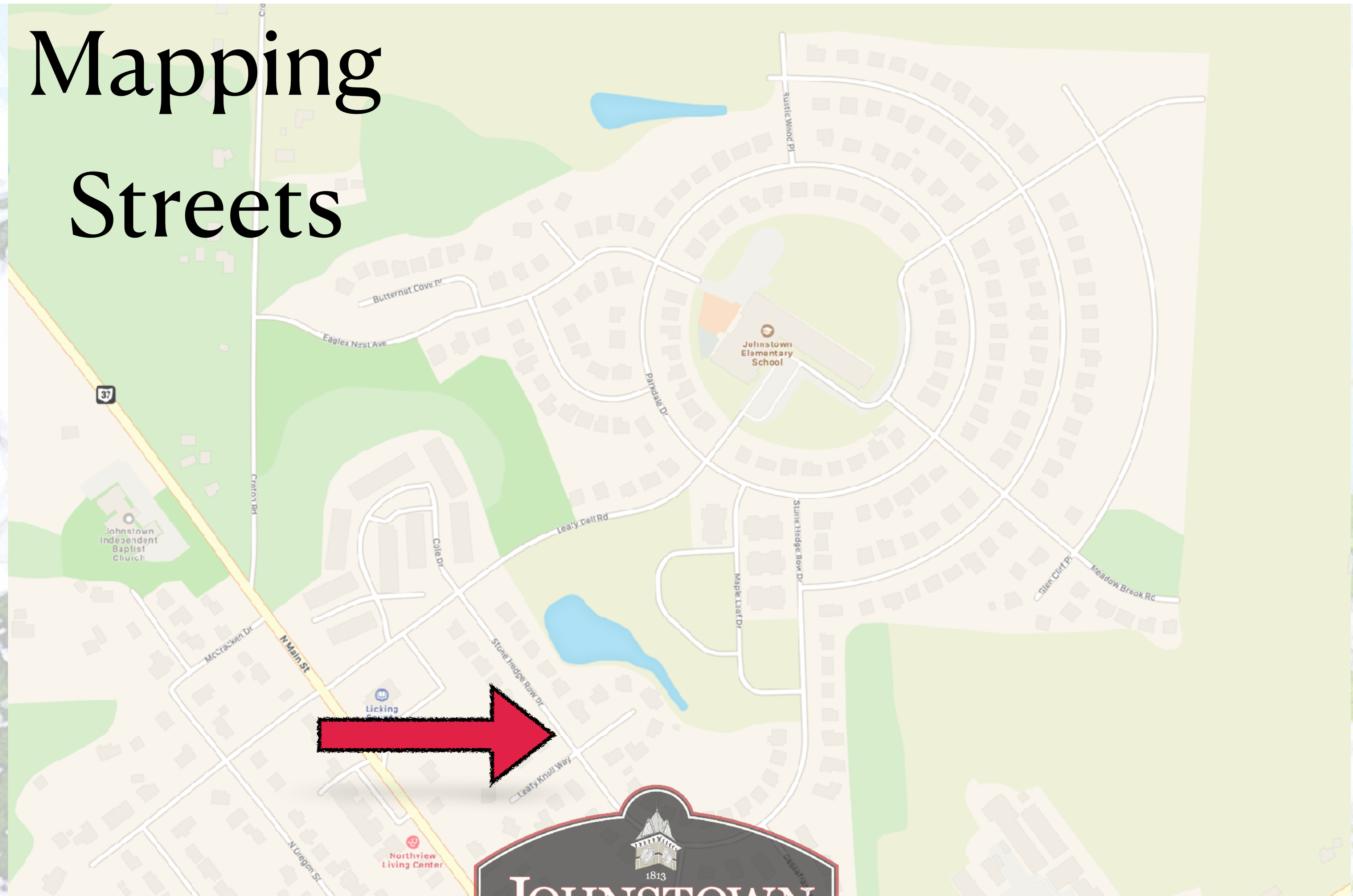
Speed Study
Stone Hedge Row Dr.
near
Leafy Knoll Way



Abe Haroon, Chief of Police



Mapping Streets



Mapping Satellite



Start date: Thursday, July 16th, 2020

End date: Tuesday, July 28th, 2020



Total time surveyed: 11-days, 18-hours

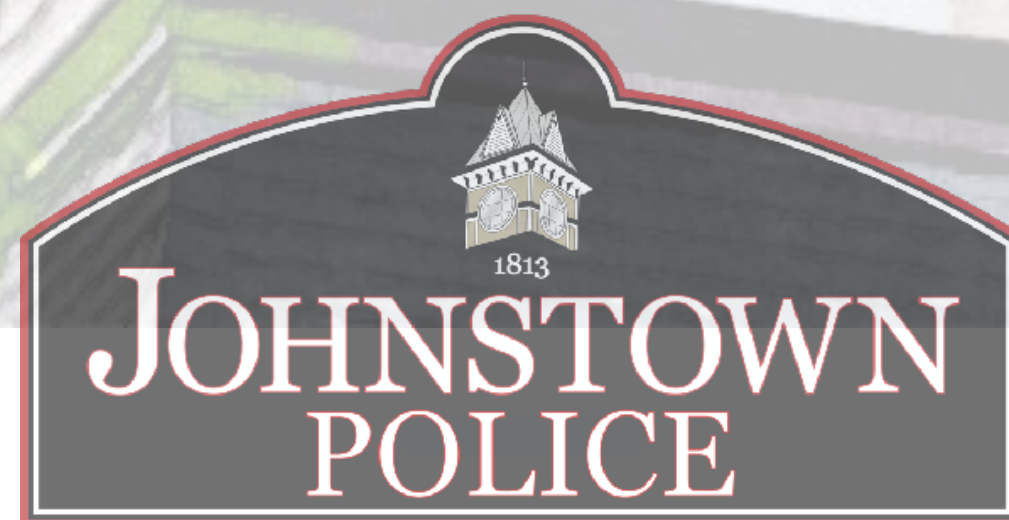
Vehicles surveyed: 3,901

Posted Speed: 25 mph

Approximately 332 vehicles a day*



Total speeders: 488
Most noted: 16 mph (85th percentile)

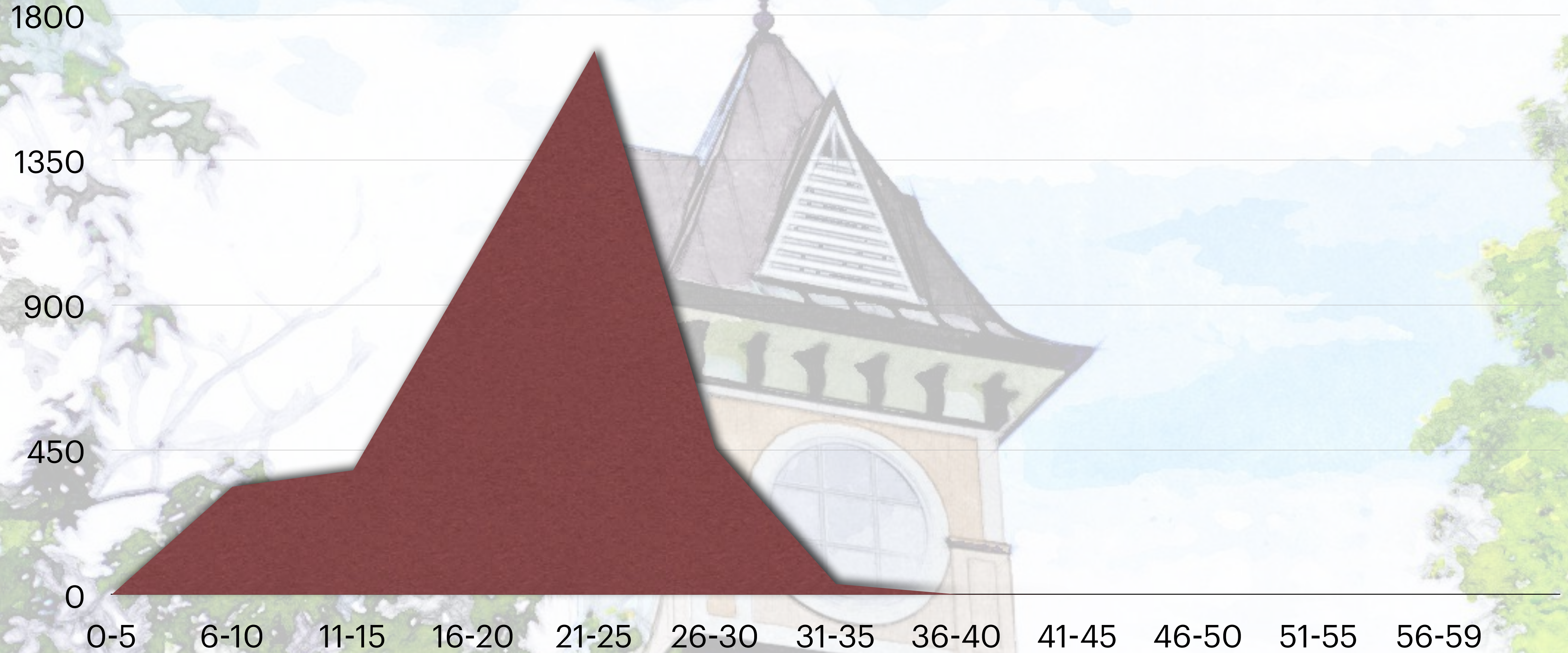




Slowest speed: 6 mph
Highest speed: 39 mph



Total number of cars



Questions?
aharoon@johnstownohio.org

