



Richfield Village Safety Committee Minutes Wednesday, March 24, 2021

CALL TO ORDER: Meeting was called to order at 6:03 p.m.

ROLL CALL: Stoppenhagen, Domanick in person and socially distanced, Beshara via Zoom.

GUESTS: Chief Swanson, AC Pfister, Chief Seifert in person, Mayor Wheeler and Phillipbar via Zoom.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: None

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS: POLICE - AC Pfister had a video presentation on the Watchguard Cruiser & Body Cameras to show how much more effective the system is. The video was actual footage from a traffic stop and an accident.

The new cruisers are available for in-person viewing if Council would like to see them.

Chief Swanson discussed the recently purchased handguns and rifles, and he reviewed how having the same rifle in all of the vehicles will benefit the officers.

AC Pfister outlined the training goals for the year. He and Chief Swanson discussed the Virtual Training at Engage Virtual Range, how beneficial it was and the cost savings over a similar live training exercise.

The Mayor added that it would be beneficial for Domanick and Beshara to take the training so the entire Safety Committee would have received the training. He also suggested that all of Council should consider the training to see the benefit of virtual training.

Chief Swanson went over the 2022 Capital Projects he would like to see in the budget:

A. Updating/replacing the control panels with a non-proprietary system; GDP is preparing a bid package.

B. Replacing the voice recording system for all radio traffic, 911 and recorded lines. The current system is old.

C. Replacing two cruisers that are nearing end of service life.

D. New carpet and furniture, possibly as a phased project.

FIRE – Chief Seifert updated us on the new squad and discussed the steps for the purchase of a new fire truck in 2022. The new truck will replace engine 13 and will be lower than engine 14 in total height. The bid will go out in late August 2022, with the build time expected to be around a year after the order is placed. Delivery is expected in late fall 2023. Seifert said the life expectancy of the new engine would be 18-20 years.

We are starting to work with University Hospitals on a Community Health Program. Richfield is one of two communities in NE Ohio who will participate in this program; the other is Chesterland.

Staffing has seen 3 new part-time additions recently. Chief Seifert said he'd like to see 1 or 2 more PT additions for 24-hour positions over weekends to help cut down on overtime.

Chief Seifert said he'd like to have the addition of an AC considered. Adding an AC would allow him to have a non-Union person to take care of paperwork that is being done by firefighters and incurring OT.

Chief Seifert went over Capital Projects he would like to see in the budget.

A. The installation of the Exhaust System in the equipment bays.

B. Replacement of carpet & other flooring that is worn.

C. Additional racking in the equipment room. Adding racks in the middle of the room that, along with the rack on the perimeter, will give the FD more space.

Chief Seifert said the Village has an opportunity to buy 2 new Generation 4 Life Pack 15 units for \$38,000 total; the normal cost is around \$38,000 each. We currently have a Generation 1 system that is no longer supported by the manufacturer. This is a great opportunity to upgrade the Life Packs at a considerable discount, but the opportunity expires in around 10 days. Mayor Wheeler will add language for the appropriation of funds to the 4/63/21 Council session.

COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR: None

ADJOURNMENT: Moved by Stoppenhagen, seconded by Domanick. Meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.