

VILLAGE OF GRAFTON
PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 11, 2012

The Public Safety Committee was called to order by Chair Jim Grant at 6:00 p.m.

Public Safety Committee members present: Jim Grant, Sue Meinecke and Lisa Harbeck

Staff present: Chief Charles Wenten and Administrative Assistant Pat Hofstad

Other Officials present: Village President Jim Brunquell and Trustee David Antoine,

Public present: State Representative Jim Ott, Grafton Fire Chief John Place, Rescue Squad Captain Matt Schaenzer

All in attendance observed a moment of silence in remembrance of 911.

GRAFTON VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT UPDATE

Fire Chief John Place was present to explain concerns regarding mandated EMS training in 2013. Concerns that additional training requirements may affect future volunteer EMS recruitment. In 2013, EMT-B training will increase from 128 – 144 hours to 180 hours. EMT-A training will increase from 96 hours to 144 hours. The cost with these programs will also increase an additional \$120 to \$190 a class.

Rescue Squad Captain Matt Schaenzer noted there is a training waiver available, but it is limited to first responders, which are not used by the Grafton Fire Department, therefore cannot benefit.

Chief Place expressed another concern. The fire department has members who are paramedics and respond to rescue calls. They are licensed individually however we can not use them for that level of service as the department is not licensed to the paramedic level. The Grafton Fire Department is only licensed to the EMT-A level, because they are unable to provide paramedic level service 24 hours a day. In many cases, a paramedic intercept must come from another jurisdiction, causing a delay in patient care. Chief Place also stated he would like the State to change the licensing rules to allow a service to use the level of care that is available to give the patient the best care if it is available.

Representative Jim Ott noted he was glad he was contacted to be present. He spoke to Brian Litza, jEMS Unit Supervisor who stated the new training requirements are not set in stone at this time. It does not sound like there is a lot of flexibility as it comes from the federal government; however, they are willing to listen. It would be beneficial to gather information that this is a widespread concern among volunteer departments, and

also bring these concerns to the League of Municipalities. He went on to state this is the time to address concerns, and hopefully some alterations can be made.

Chair Grant advised the intention of the additional training is fine; however, volunteer departments such as ours need more time to budget.

Representative Ott was thanked for his time, and will be working with Fire Chief Place on getting some further information.

PROPOSED MEIJER DEVELOPMENT AND ITS EFFECT ON POLICE SERVICES

Michael Klingl, representing the proposed Meijer development, provided committee members with plans detailing lighting and surveillance cameras.

Chair Grant indicated that the traffic issues involving the Meijer development were discussed at Monday's Board of Public Works meeting. This meeting is to discuss safety issues.

Mr. Klingl began by saying he was glad to be at this meeting to answer any questions. Public safety is a paramount issue for Meijer. He explained the locations of the interior and exterior cameras. It was noted the Village ordinance standards related to surveillance is higher than Meijer corporate standards. There will be a "panic" button in place, and officers and dispatch will be able to view live surveillance. He advised this store will have a full time store detective dedicated to loss prevention. This person will work 40 hours per week minimum, with hours to be designated after discussions with the Police Department in determining trends and needs. This will be a 24 hour facility. There will be only one entrance/exit open from 11:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m.

Chair Grant advised as long as there is this level of cooperation between the Police Department and Meijer's representative, he feels comfortable that the project move forward.

Trustee Meinecke questioned \$20,000 being used as a site amenity at the location, and believed it could be used in other areas of the Village budget, such as purchasing a squad car.

John Enright, 2360 Caribou Lane, thinks there will be hold ups at the store due to its proximity to the interstate. Criminals may enter his neighborhood, and he is afraid of this.

Michael Corrao, 2474 Caribou Lane, asked if the store detective is capable of stopping someone. Chief Wenten explained that physical restraint is not recommended. The Police Department's expectation is that loss prevention staff builds the case, and if they anticipate a criminal activity, they should call and Police personnel can utilize the surveillance.

Another resident on Caribou Lane asked what would prevent a 4 wheel drive vehicle from traveling from the business, down the embankment and on to the interstate after committing a crime. Chief Wenten believed it would be possible but difficult, noting the terrain and ditches.

An attorney representing the Corraos requested information on the traffic study, and was advised how to obtain the minutes. He asked if the loss prevention detective has any other position with the store, and was advised he/she will be dedicated to loss prevention. He then asked Chief Wenten if he has a view if a 24 hour store is less safe. It was noted that the Pick 'n Save store was open 24/7 with no issues. Trustee Meinecke also indicated the two most recent robberies in Grafton occurred during the afternoon.

Chair Grant appreciated the level of cooperation between Meijer representatives and the Police Department, and thanked Mr. Klingl for coming.

REQUEST TO REPLACE TELECOMMUNICATOR POSITION

Chief Wenten advised that a full time telecommunicator in training has recently resigned, leaving a vacancy, and he requested to fill this position.

Motion by Trustee Meinecke, seconded Trustee Harbeck, to recommend the Village Board authorize to fill one (1) vacant full time telecommunicator position. Approved unanimously.

REQUEST FOR LAKEFRONT MARATHON ON OCTOBER 7

Chief Wenten advised this is an annual event and has not caused any safety concerns. Overtime will not be needed.

Motion by Trustee Meinecke, seconded Trustee Harbeck, to recommend the Village Board approve the requests for the Lakefront Marathon Race, to be held on October 7, 2012, as presented. Approved unanimously

REPORT OF BENCHMARK MEASUREMENTS

Statistics were reviewed. Chair Grant was glad the fire and rescue stats have been included in this report. It was discussed that Sgt. Podewils continues to spread his time between patrol and school as needed.

OLD / NEW BUSINESS

Shawn Riley, a resident of Grafton, had contacted Chief Wenten's office with a concern regarding the lack of stop signs on Sixth Avenue. Chief Wenten and Village Engineer Dave Murphy will be conducting a comprehensive study of signage in the village.

ADJOURN

Motion by Chair Grant, seconded by Trustee Meinecke, to adjourn, at 7:33 p.m. Approved unanimously.