

**VILLAGE OF GRAFTON**  
**PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**  
**OCTOBER 13, 2009**

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

Committee members present: Jim Grant, Sue Meinecke and David Liss

Staff/Officials present: Chief Charles Wenten, Building Inspector Tom Johnson, and Administrative Assistant Pat Hofstad

**PERSONS REQUESTING TO BE HEARD**

None.

**ACCIDENT HISTORY / IROQUOIS AVENUE AT HUNTER'S LANE**

Joseph Mathews, 2281 Hunter's Lane, was present to request additional signage at the intersection of Hunter's Lane and Iroquois Avenue. He presented a petition, signed by area residents, asking for a 4-way stop at the Iroquois Avenue and Hunter's Lane intersection. He voiced his main concern as speeding.

Chief Wenten noted there has been one accident at that location since 2006. It was discussed that this subdivision has become a shortcut for shoppers going to the Target/Home Depot and Costco shopping centers. The speed trailer has now been placed at that location. Chair Grant advised Mr. Mathews a traffic study will be conducted and this item will be placed on the agenda for review when the study has been completed.

**REQUEST TO PROHIBIT FIREPITS**

Five residents were present regarding the fire pit agenda item. When asked, none of the residents were in favor of prohibiting fire pits. Chair Grant read a letter authored by Philip and Barbara Bail, 1332 Dove Lane, who formally complained about the use of fire pits due to excessive smoke filtering into their residence. Mr. and Mrs. Bail would like the Village to ban the use of fire pits in the Village of Grafton.

Chief Wenten informed the Committee that if a fire pit is located in-ground, it is prohibited by municipal ordinance. An above ground properly enclosed outdoor fireplace is allowed. Complaints regarding an outdoor fireplace are dealt with on a case by case basis. The Committee determined there will be no action on this issue.

**AWARD OF SQUAD CAR BIDS**

The Committee reviewed the squad bids. Chief Wenten recommended the low bid of \$42,700.00 for two 2010 Ford Crown Victoria marked squad cars and

\$4,910.00 for two extended service plans. The total cost for the two vehicles and service plan is \$47,610. It was noted that the capital purchase budgeted amount for the two squads was \$48,000.00.

Motion by Trustee Liss, seconded by Trustee Meinecke, to recommend the Village Board approve the purchase of two 2010 marked squad cars and two extended service plans from Ewald Automotive, Hartford, WI for a total cost of \$47,610.00, with delivery and payment to be made after January 5, 2010. Approved unanimously.

### **POLICE OVERTIME COMPARISON / SEPTEMBER**

There was brief discussion on Police Department overtime. To date, the overtime is about one half of last year's amount at this time.

### **REPORT OF BENCHMARK MEASUREMENTS**

Chief Wenten advised that numbers in some areas are up such as violent and property crimes, criminal complaints, and calls for service. There was discussion on the increase in cellular phone calls and the misdials received. There has also been an increase in theft and retail theft.

### **OLD / NEW BUSINESS**

Property Maintenance Ordinance. Building Inspector Tom Johnson was present to answer any questions on the property maintenance issue. Chief Wenten has nothing new for this month's meeting. Chair Grant asked that this issue be re-addressed in spring.

Acceptance of Grant for HAWK Signals on 13th Avenue and State Trunk Highway 60. A report from David Murphy, Director of Public Works/Village Engineer was reviewed. The report stated that the WISDOT has approved the Village's grant for a HAWK signal to be installed at 13th Avenue and STH 60. The project is estimated at \$185,087, with a Village share of \$18,509. The report noted that installation of the HAWK signal will allow pedestrians to cross STH 60 in a safe manner resulting in increased customer parking north of STH 60 for businesses south of STH 60. A video of the HAWK signal was reviewed by the Committee.

Chair Grant was concerned where the funding for the project would be found in next year's challenging budget. He requested the Department of Public Works earmark where the funds will come from prior to acceptance of this grant.

Motion by Trustee Meinecke, seconded by Trustee Liss, to recommend the Department of Public Works designate where the Village share of \$18,509 will be found prior to acceptance of the DOT grant for HAWK pedestrian signals at 13th Avenue and Washington Street. Approved unanimously.

### **ADJOURN**

Motion by Trustee Meinecke, seconded by Trustee Liss, to adjourn at 6:32 p.m. Approved unanimously.