

## **SAFETY COMMITTEE REPORT**

**MARCH 26, 2019**

The meeting was called to order at 6:10 p.m. by Chairman Haraz N. Ghanbari. Committee members present were Deborah Born and Jim Matuszak. Also present were Bridgette Kabat, City Administrator and Director of Public Safety, and Laura Alkire, Law Director.

### CITIZEN'S CONCERNS

Patrick Stein, 500 Prairie Rose Drive, stated his concerns with the possibility of the new dispatch center moving to Wood County, and noted a 9-1-1 delay that he experienced personally. Mr. Ghanbari asked Ms. Kabat if she had any updates, and Ms. Kabat stated that they are waiting on the hiring of the new Police Chief. Mr. Ghanbari confirmed that there is an alert system in place in the event that the 9-1-1 system goes down. Ms. Born added that she agrees that the dispatch center needs to stay in Perrysburg.

### PERMISSION TO PURCHASE PICKUP TRUCK

Fire Chief Rudy Ruiz asked permission to enter into a contract with Ed Schmidt for \$39,308.50 for the purchase of a 2019 GMC Sierra 2500HD pickup truck for the Fire Division. He added that this purchase is budgeted for 2019 and will be replacing a pickup truck that is currently out of service due to repairs. Chief Ruiz added that this new pickup truck will aid the Fire Marshall in his daily job site inspections, fire protection activities, with the ability to tow, and to assist with snow plow prep if needed. He noted that he is also requesting a box that will be located in the bed of the pickup truck for fire investigation tools. Ms. Alkire added that three competing quotes were received, and that Ed Schmidt has provided a reduction in cost on the base vehicle. Mr. Matuszak raised a few concerns with the cost of the aluminum service body, and Chief Ruiz added that it was comparable to another quote received. Chief Ruiz confirmed that the 2019 budget allows for \$45,000.00 for the purchase. The Committee agreed 3-0 to recommend approval of the agreement with Ed Schmidt.

### OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Ghanbari asked Chief Ruiz about an update for the rescue task force equipment training. Chief Ruiz added that they have started to receive some of the equipment for the training, such as the tourniquet pouches, and that they have a good collaboration with the Police Division. Ms. Kabat stated that some PD equipment has arrived, and that they are waiting on the new Police Chief to be hired too. There was a brief discussion about training revolutions within buildings that are set to be demolished, such as the French Quarter Holiday Inn. Mr. Matuszak reminded everyone about the future demolition of the house located at 26302 Fort Meigs Road, and Chief Ruiz added that he is very interested in the demolition timeline for future trainings. Ms. Born asked Chief Ruiz about a strategic plan, he confirmed that that will be set for the fall.

Mr. Ghanbari asked about an update with the hiring process of the new Police Chief, and Ms. Kabat stated that interviews were last week, and that the Mayor is awaiting the rankings which will then be paired with the assessment center numbers. She added that

there will be additional interviews, as well. Mr. Ghanbari said that he would prefer the swearing in ceremony to be held publicly at City Council meetings.

Mr. Ghanbari asked about if a follow-up meeting had been held with the ad hoc working group on the radios, and Ms. Kabat stated that all current minutes have been sent out thus far. Ms. Kabat stated that Lucas County Emergency Services staff & Wood County Sheriff staff did provide demonstrations at their last sergeants meeting, which was well received. Ms. Born stated that she would like to see the Committee vote on a recommendation today, and Mr. Ghanbari stated that he would like to wait on the new Police Chief to move forward. Ms. Born added that she would like to see a recommendation about keeping the dispatch in Perrysburg.

Mr. Matuszak asked if the Mayor has sent out a formal request of the Police Chief interview rankings, and Ms. Kabat added that she will follow-up with Ms. Chalfant, Human Resources Manager to confirm.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:34 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jim Matuszak, President of Council  
Safety Committee

***Next meeting: Tuesday, April 23, 2019 at 6:00 p.m.***