

## **SAFETY COMMITTEE**

**SEPTEMBER 24, 2019**

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Chairman Mark Weber. Committee members present were Deborah Born, Jim Matuszak and Mark Weber. Also present was Bridgette Kabat, City Administrator.

### CROSSWALK AT FRONT STREET AND WEST BOUNDARY

Mr. Weber stated that a citizen had a concern about the intersection of Front Street and West Boundary Street but they could not be present so this item will be tabled until next month.

### DISCUSSION OF ISO REPORT – FIRE

Fire Chief Rudy Ruiz reported that the City's ISO rating has improved from a 4.4 to a 3.3 which means homeowners could see a reduction in their insurance rates. There was discussion about how the rating is figured, and Chief Ruiz noted that they only review fire protection, not EMS services. He said that his goal is to reach a 2.2 rating because the cost to attain a class 1 rating outweighs the benefits. Mr. Matuszak asked Chief Ruiz to explain, and the Chief said that to attain a class 1 rating they would need at least 15 firefighters on duty each day. Chief Ruiz said there are three more firefighters in the 2020 budget and the number of hands on training hours will continue to go up now that they are in the new station and both of these things should help them move up to the 2.2 rating. Mr. Weber thanked the Chief for his report.

### PERMISSION TO PURCHASE A 2020 FORD EXPLORER – POLICE

Police Chief Pat Jones requested permission to purchase a 2020 Ford Explorer from Mathews Ford in the amount of \$30,843.77. This vehicle is not available under the State Purchasing contract. It is available from Sourcewell, but at a higher price than Mathews. The base price is \$27,628.20 and the cost of the additional upfitting like lights and cargo storage is \$3,215.57. This vehicle will replace a 2008 Ford Taurus that has mechanical problems. It will be silver and will be used by the detective sergeant. Chief Jones said the Explorer provides more room than the Tahoe. He stated that once the vehicle is ordered it will take twelve weeks to get it so he is asking that it be passed as an emergency. The Committee agreed 3-0 to recommend approval of the purchase as an emergency.

### PERMISSION TO PURCHASE A 2020 FORD POLICE INTERCEPTOR UTILITY HYBRID

Chief Jones requested permission to purchase a 2020 Ford Police Interceptor Utility Hybrid vehicle from Mathews Ford for \$43,876.33. It will be replacing a 2009 Crown Vic. Chief Jones said that the vehicle is available through the State purchasing program but at a higher cost than Mathews Ford. The Chief said that each year the Michigan State Police and L.A. County Sheriff's departments do a test on all police vehicles. The Ford eco boost engine came out on top, but the hybrid was second. Ford says that you can

save \$3,500 a year in fuel, but Chief Jones said that his conservative estimate would be \$2,000 a year. He added that there is an eight year warranty on all hybrid components. There was discussion about going with Ford vehicles as opposed to the Tahoes. Mr. Matuszak asked about the performance of the Tahoes in pursuits, and Chief Jones said that in videos of pursuits you see other vehicles passing the Tahoes. Mr. Weber asked the Chief if he sees us phasing out the Tahoes over the years, and Chief Jones said he does. Ms. Born said that going green is very smart, and she thanked the Chief for being forward thinking. The Committee agreed 3-0 to recommend approval of the purchase as an emergency.

#### OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Weber asked about the status of the 800 megahertz radio system. Chief Jones said that he had just spoken to Lucas County and they are finishing up the template for programming. He said that the equipment is in and once the template is finished they will be ready to go.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:36 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark Weber, Chairman  
Safety Committee

***Next meeting: Tuesday, October 22, 2019 at 6:00 p.m.***