

Village Board Public Safety Committee

MINUTES

~ Tuesday, June 16, 2015 ~

CALL TO ORDER

Trustee Nero called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

In attendance were:

Trustee Addington, Trustee Nero, Mayor Gunter (arrive at 5:45 p.m.), Village Manager May, Fire Chief Weiss and Police Chief Mulhearn

Also present:

Deputy Fire Chief Connolly, Deputy Fire Chief Riley, EMS Director Dralle, Community Development Director Zeigler, Finance Director Parker and Recording Secretary Hardy

Absent:

Trustee Barker, Trustee Barry, Trustee Guzzo, Trustee Liddle and Village Clerk Szymiski.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

All present recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF APRIL 16, 2015 PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MINUTES

Trustee Addington made a motion, seconded by Trustee Nero to approve the April 16, 2015 Public Safety Committee Minutes as submitted. Motion carried.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Video Gaming Update / Discussion

Police Chief Mulhearn reviewed video gaming figures for the month of May.

- He indicated over four million dollars was gambled in May with the Village's proceeds totaling \$15,765.68. This is a slight increase from the previous month.
- Chief Mulhearn said there are currently nine businesses with video gaming licenses with another three in process. Each location is allowed a maximum of five machines.
- The question was raised on whether or not to establish guidelines or restrictions on how many video game licenses can be issued within a set area.
- Community Development Director Zeigler distributed handouts outlining current locations with 100' and 300' proposed restrictions.
- Director Zeigler indicated the Village was approached by an individual proposing to purchase an entire strip mall with the intent of opening several gaming establishments within the same strip mall.
 - Police Chief Mulhearn said the Village does not have any restrictions in place that would prohibit the proposed use.
- Police Chief Mulhearn indicated several other communities such as Berkley, Brookfield, Darien, Willowbrook and Woodridge all allow gaming. Staff is seeing more communities allowing gaming within their communities.
- After further discussion a recommendation was made to establish 500' limitations door to door for video gaming. Staff was also directed to investigate signage limitations.
- Police Chief Mulhearn said the recommendation would not apply to businesses currently holding liquor licences. A letter will be sent to all businesses requesting their intent on establishing video gaming.

Rail Grade Photo Enforcement - Continued Discussion

Police Chief Mulhearn indicated a presentation was given by Red Speed Illinois at the April 16, 2015 Public Safety Committee Meeting.

- After the meeting, Deputy Chief Gunther contacted Burlington Northern to see if they would be interested in partnering with Westmont and sharing costs. A high interest level was not received.
- Chief Mulhearn advised Western Springs has opted out of installation due to proposed State legislation and number of warranted accidents.
- He expressed his opinion that the program may be similar to the red light cameras where initially several violations were issued then after in place violations decreased.
- Village Manager May indicated the goal of the program is to change driver behavior and provide a safer railroad crossing.
- After further discussion the consensus was to not move forward with a rail grade photo enforcement program.
- Direction was given for Police Department staff to work with the railways in an effort to promote driver education. Police Department staff will also establish an enforcement program and work towards promoting a safer railway crossing.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Creation of Open Burning Ordinance

Chief Weiss indicated Fire Prevention Director Kaufman and Community Development Director Zeigler have been developing an open burn ordinance.

- Discussion would be held at a later date as staff is still compiling information.

EMS Fee Recommendations

EMS Director Dralle advised after the April 16, 2015 Public Safety Meeting staff looked at additional EMS rates and developed two proposals based on a 70th percentile and 80th percentile rate.

- Information was distributed on both proposals for Committee review and consideration.
- Dir. Dralle indicated the last fee increase was in May 2013.
- Chief Weiss said the increased fees would be in line with rates in nearby communities. He further advised the department always works with hardship cases pertaining to fees.
- Finance Director Parker stated the fees currently charged are in the 50th percentile range.
- After further discussion it was recommended that staff present the 80th percentile fee increase proposal to the Village Board.
- In closing Chief Weiss said he feels the department has been conservative with fee increases and feels the current proposal would be in line with other communities.

Several Update Items

New Engine Purchase

- Approval was obtained on the new engine contract and purchase order.
- The new engine was ordered with an expected delivery in April 2016.
- Updates will be given as they are available.

North Fire District

- Manager May, Finance Director Parker and Fire Chief Weiss met with the North Fire District on Monday, June 8th.
- The North Fire District Board recommended moving forward with investigating a Special Service Area (SSA) agreement with the Village of Westmont.
- A meeting pertaining to establishing a special service area will be held with South Fire District in August.

Accreditation and ISO

- Deputy Chief Riley is attending a class to become certified as an Accreditation Manager. This is due to the recent retirement of Administrative Director Skala.
- The Westmont Fire Department will be going through a re-accreditation process beginning in May 2016.

- The Fire Department challenged the ISO review and subsequent scoring. Staff feels there are sufficient upgrades to obtain the points needed to obtain an ISO 1 rating. An update will be provided once ISO makes its determination.

EMA, CERT, Special Events and Bike Medics

- Additional Emergency Management Agency (EMA) members are being added.
- Staff is investigating holding a CERT class and recruiting resident volunteers.
- There are currently several special events going on. Kurtz Paramedic has volunteered to staff a first aid tent and bike medics at all planned special events this year.
- The Bike Medic Program is back in place after eight years.

Home Health Care Update

- Fire Chief Weiss advised the Illinois Department of Public Health has approved the final version of the application process.
- Advocate Good Samaritan fully supports program implementation.
- EMS Director Dralle said although the application has been approved, reimbursement means have not yet been determined.
- She further advised Ottawa currently has a program in place. Staff will approach them to inquire on reimbursement methods.
- Further discussion followed pertaining to the program intent.
- Staff to report back as further information becomes available.

There being no further business to discuss, Trustee Addington motioned to adjourn, to which Trustee Nero seconded. The meeting subsequently adjourned at 6:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Chris Hardy
Recording Secretary