

SAFETY COMMITTEE MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 20, 2022

The Safety Committee meeting was held on September 20, 2022 at North Royalton City Hall, 14600 State Road. The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Committee Members: Chair Mike Vos, Vice Chair Jeremy Dietrich, Dawn Carbone-McDonald; **Council:** Paul Marnecheck, Linda Barath, Joanne Krejci, John Nickell; **Administration:** Mayor Larry Antoskiewicz, Fire Chief Robert Chegan, Police Chief Keith Tarase, Finance Director Jenny Esarey, Law Director Thomas Kelly; **Other:** Joel Spatz, Michael McDonald.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Approval of July 19, 2022 Safety Committee minutes. Moved by Mr. Vos, seconded by Ms. Carbone-McDonald. Vote: Yeas: 3 Nays: 0 **Motion carried.**

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. Police & Safety Report

See report.

Chief Tarase reported that four new officers have been added; one in July and three in August. Three are currently in their field training on the road and one is attending Ohio State Highway Patrol Academy; that should be completed in January. Mr. Nickell raised question if we had the Flock Cameras, whether the four hit and skips could have possibly been captured. Chief Tarase clarified that it depends on where they occurred.

Mr. Vos asked if there have been any updates on the situation with the Post Office, specifically thefts involving the outside blue mailbox. Chief Tarase indicated there are still reports of theft coming in. The P.O. has provided no assistance, nor has any other federal agency. Currently, we are still investigating and waiting on information to come back on those bank transactions. It is slow dealing with subpoenas from the banks.

Ms. Carbone-McDonald and Mr. Vos wanted to know if it was the P.O.'s responsibility to have a camera on the premises. Ms. Krejci did not think they were obligated to do so. Chief Tarase indicated that there are no cameras. It is his understanding that the policy was that the outdoor box is supposed to be closed overnight and taped off; however, it is not closed. The P.O. has not changed their policies after speaking to them. The Police Department is dealing with it mostly because of the fraud that is involved.

Mr. Vos questioned if anyone has filed a formal police report for checks that may have been taken. He heard from a reliable person that there have been people taking mail inside of the PO and it was stolen as well. Chief Tarase heard the same, however he has not seen any police reports that have stated such. The Chief stated that the P.O. had conveyed that they would go with federal prosecution if the police are able to figure it out. Mr. Vos suggested talking to a federal prosecutor that lives in his Ward. He pointed out that we are up to approximately \$150,000 in check thefts.

Ms. Carbone-McDonald inquired about the high-speed chases that have happened in the City and wondered if there have been any injuries or damages. Chief Tarase recalled one from a week or two ago that Parma had through our City, however there was no damages. He was not aware of anymore high-speed chases in the City.

2. Hydrant Painting and Maintenance

Chief Chegan advised that they finished up the maintenance in August during recess; it took time again. Any hydrants that came back with water still in the barrel would be pumped in early November; which we are doing all of the data entry currently, then we will go back and make sure there is no water. That minimizes any hydrant issues during freezing temperatures.

Chief Chegan indicated that the painting has been completed. We have a tentative list for next year; if approved in the budget. The hydrants that were done last year are still looking really decent. The hydrants done this year look really good. He commented that word is starting to get out and four more cities joined in. The company is from Illinois and they do nice work. We did have one complaint of some spray on a sidewalk; however, they took care of the issue right away. Mr. Marnecheck mentioned there was some overspray on a few residents' lawns; one person had it on some of the boards for their flower beds. Chief Chegan stated that we will make sure that gets noted.

3. Safety Town

Chief Chegan explained that we got a little direction with Royalview Elementary, which is where the site is going to be. Once finished, we are starting to work with some architects to complete the design. We are trying to base the design off of Brecksville's, which is a very simple lay out. Once we get the design, we can start pricing things out. Basically, we are going to be dealing with concrete, fencing, and then buildings; those are the main components. We are working with different entities, including the schools, and also the career centers to be a part as well. We want to ensure this is a community project; what a better way to get the kids involved. He concluded that hopefully we will start another fundraiser in the next month or two.

Mr. Dietrich asked if this is a permanent structure or something that has to be taken apart and put back onto a building, and whether it sits there all year. Chief Chegan explained that it sits there all year. There are multiple small structures. We are modeling after Brecksville, in which the buildings are a little simpler and we are trying to keep it maintenance free. Mr. Dietrich inquired about what was done in the past. Chief Chegan stated that we had concrete at Valley Vista painted; no buildings or lights. Mr. Dietrich wondered if anything pertaining to fundraising could be emailed to Council, while offering his help. Chief Chegan agreed.

NEW BUSINESS

There was none.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Mr. Wos seconded by Mr. Dietrich **to adjourn the September 20, 2022 meeting.** Yeas: 3 Nays: 0.
Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 6:13 p.m.

North Royalton Police Department

Incident	July	August
MVA FATAL	0	0
MVA DEER	3	3
MVA HIT SKIP	1	4
MVA INJURY	0	0
MVA NON INJURY	23	24
MVA PRIVATE PROPERTY	9	5
PHYSICAL ARRESTS	51	57
SPEEDING CITATIONS	45	46
THEFTS (Includes Attempts)	50	46