

SAFETY COMMITTEE MINUTES

JANUARY 17, 2023

The Safety Committee meeting was held on January 17, 2023 at North Royalton City Hall, 14600 State Road. The meeting was called to order at 6:29 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:** Jessica Fenos, Joel Spatz, Kenneth Kryet.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Approval of November 15, 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 advised that he emailed all of the stats for November and December. He provided a highlight of areas on the 2022 stats, such as, calls for service. Mr. Vos asked about distracted driving pertaining to cell phones, as to whether we have any primary citations monthly for that in North Royalton. Chief Tarase explained that there have not been many of them. Officers hit it pretty hard on the distracted driving, however they are stopping for a lot of other things at this time.

Chief Tarase reported on the hiring situation. One officer will be graduating the Police Academy on Friday in Columbus. The Chief has given two conditional offers of employment to police officer candidates, whereas one will replace the SRO (School Resource Officer); for the elementary school in February. The second officer will replace a resignation that we had in December of 2022.

He addressed Crisis Intervention Training. Last year, 32 of roughly 37 officers attended 40 hours of Crisis Intervention Training. The remaining officers that are hired this year will go for the training in 2023; everybody in the department will have attended the training. Trainings are conducted by ADAMHS (Alcohol, Drug Addiction, and Mental Health Services) Board of Cuyahoga County. They reimburse the Department for every officer that attends, therefore there is no cost.

Chief Tarase provided an update on the Flock Cameras. Flock is waiting on a permit from the City before they can begin the installation. Following that, it will be roughly four weeks to install. There is a department policy in place. The transparency portal will be on the Department's web page by the end of the week. He also wanted to address some things that came up at the December Council meetings. One, the grant for the County yard cameras, whereas Mr. Dietrich had said that he would have liked to have known about that, following comments by a resident. Chief Tarase wanted to let everyone know that he advised Council of this in November, which is included in the Council minutes that were approved tonight. This grant is still open; we contacted them this week. It is only for the two cameras on the county system. As of right now, he has been informed that it is still open; it is still pending with the state. They graded each location that we requested and we were told that the one at West 130th and Route 82 was high on their list. It was his hope that we will find out about that grant soon. To his recollection, Mr. Vos had remembered the Chief saying that those systems did not communicate or have cross collaboration with the Flock system, which was why he wanted Flock.

Ms. Krejci asked if those are two additional cameras; to the ten. Chief Tarase indicated that they would be two cameras on the different system, not Flock cameras; however, we would still have access to them. Ms. Barath wanted to clarify there would only be two, in which the Chief agreed. Ms. Barath asked where he would put

those cameras. Chief Tarase commented that the two he was looking at would be in the locations where we have crime problems.

Mr. Dietrich asked if Chief Tarase wanted to do this in addition to the Flock System. Chief Tarase explained that we could use those cameras and move the two Flock cameras to different locations. Mr. Dietrich wanted to know if he wants to use both systems. Chief Tarase concurred. Ms. Carbone-McDonald questioned if these are like Strongsville's cameras. Chief Tarase indicated those are the cameras that are on that County system, yes. Mr. Vos raised question if those would have to be kept track of separately. Chief Tarase clarified that our dispatch has access to both, and they can run it through both systems. Ms. Carbone-McDonald asked how things will go through to dispatch; how that will work. Chief Tarase noted that the data goes into the system, and Strongsville dispatch has access to the County system, as do we at the Department. He went on to say they must have access to Flock as well, because he has heard them check it; they are able to check the cameras. Ms. Carbone-McDonald raised concern if that would be added work. Chief Tarase indicated no, it would not; that is work that they already do. Also, we can do our own searches.

Mr. Vos questioned how lateral transfers are going. Chief Tarase explained that we started taking requests January 3rd and will be open until February 13th. We received two applications so far. Mr. Dietrich recapped that he had asked about any interest in pursuing a grant, for perhaps getting another K9 in North Royalton. He realized that the Chief declined, however a support dog for the kids was mentioned and he wanted to know what the status was. Chief Tarase conveyed that is something he would have to sit down with the Finance Director and Human Resources about. He continued that the cost of the K9 and the training are free, however there are added benefits required for the K9 handler. The Department of Labor requires that they get a certain amount of time and he has to make sure that is in the budget. Mr. Dietrich asked if that was still on the table. Mr. Vos agreed that it can be added to the agenda. Mr. Marnecheck asked for clarity on the number of applications there had been for lateral transfers, which the Chief reiterated that it was two applications.

2. Safety Town

Chief Chegan shared that he spoke with the school Superintendent last week at another meeting. They are working with their school architect. They have roughly three or four projects, including that sight. This past week, the architect was supposed to do a sight visit to the Brecksville location, where we have mirrored ours after, however they did not get back to Chief as of yet. We should have some numbers back from the architect in the near future and some information on preliminary costs.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Fire Report

See report, which included call volume.

Mr. Nickell asked for an example of a service call. Chief Chegan gave examples such as calls about carbon monoxide, smoke detectors, pets being stuck, etc. Ms. Krejci noted that 80% are the EMS calls. Chief Chegan concurred. He referenced the numbers on the report, which he included the breakdown of the facilities as requested. Those numbers would increase. That was not a full year; as far as their occupancy. Mr. Vos asked if the 2% increase from last year was correct. Chief Chegan spoke on our man power and Fire status, while referencing those statistics on the graph, stating that it is a small increase in the 32 years that he has been here. The chart shows a steady increase, which will continue. He did not feel there would be big spikes.

Ms. Krejci recalled past conversation about whether or not the Vitalia was going to end up taking up a lot of the Fire Department's time. She asked about any calls from there, stating that perhaps we should be encouraging them to use their own independent ambulance service, so that it does not take time away from other things in the Department. Chief Chegan explained that once in a while, we do that and we speak with these facilities. The spoke of the turnover rate, which we are already on our second person in charge there. It is difficult to work with the companies that run these facilities. With that being said, what is an emergency to

them, and the healthcare people working there, they may not have the nurses to diagnose properly. Many of these, such as Royalton Woods assisted living, that is their home; although there might be a nurse on staff. There are calls from their room, when they know they are supposed to call through the nurse, however they may call through the room directly to 911; to get our services. His answer was yes, we do. On the other hand, many of these are situations such as, a doctor calling and conveying they need transport. With the staffing shortages, we are told that folks are waiting hours for these ambulances. There is not the number of medics to support that.

Mr. Nickell asked if the patient gets billed from us. Chief Chegan agreed, stating that we are recouping some money from each transport. As discussion ensued, Mr. Nickell pointed out that some of these residents have been here thirty or forty years. He realizes it is a cost, and there is a concern of man power. Chief Chegan commented that consistently, all of these cities have the Vitalia, which there is one going up in Middleburg. There is also one in Copley, whereas they are all having the same issue.

Mr. Marnecheck raised question if something could be done to cut down on the number of false reporting. Chief Chegan gave examples such as, types of smells that are not hazardous; but good intent calls. People will call and say that they may have saw smoke; therefore, burning complaints. Multiple times we get someone that drives by and thinks they see a fire, when it is someone burning in the back yard. He indicated that with false calls, if it is a nuisance and it is in our ordinances, we could fine the facility if we have warned them multiple times. If they have an alarm, which may not be properly maintained, we can fine them for that. Mr. Marnecheck brought up the recent cold spells. Chief Chegan confirmed that there are calls when pipes are bursting etc., as well as electrical issues surrounding that.

2. Ambulance Purchase (Proposed Ordinance 23-09)

Chief Chegan explained that this ambulance purchase would normally not have been made for a couple of years. However, due to the back log and the parts, issues, this ambulance is two years out with this agreement. He referenced the report. Currently, one ambulance is thirteen years old, and will be fifteen years old in a couple of years. We would like to rotate them every six years. When he first started, their ambulances would last ten years. However, we cannot do that anymore with the number of calls and miles that they get. He discussed the age of ambulances and when they go in the reserve status.

All of the ambulance manufacturers are two years out. Horton Emergency Vehicles, which have built our last few ambulances, are two years out. Chief Chegan pointed out that we do really good preventative maintenance, regular maintenance, etc. They keep up on paint issues, which one is going in soon to get redone, so that it is protected right before the warranty expires. They do great upkeep. Pertaining to the 2011 units, we have \$60,000 worth of paint on those because of the corrosion. That is what we have in the warranty.

Mr. Nickell pointed out that for a long time, the Chief has been buying the heavier truck instead of the pick-up type truck. Chief Chegan agreed, it is a medium duty. The other option would be a Ford 450 or 550. We went back to the medium duty for the safety concerns and it puts the guys slightly higher in the seat. The reliability we see, especially with the freight liners, is that they have been exceptional with not many problems. This would be basically, taking the last one that was built, which is Medic 2 (Station 2); it is pretty much a rubber stamp except for the cost. Mr. Nickell asked if it is a diesel. Chief Chegan concurred. This will take two years once the order is placed to receive this. He included the average life of the vehicles on his report. Chief Chegan spoke about the corrosion issues that we have in Northeast Ohio, which really effect vehicles, however we do some corrosion prevention every year on all of our vehicles; which seems to help get the life out of them.

Mr. Wos moved to recommend Ordinance 23-09 to Council for approval, seconded by Ms. Carbone-McDonald. Yeas: 3 Nays: 0. **Motion carried.**

3. Tasers

Ms. Carbone-McDonald asked about the estimate sent by Chief Tarase, as to why there was only one quote for tasers. Chief Tarase explained that tasers are pretty much the corner of the market. He has not been able to find additional companies, however if he could look into more if she was aware of additional ones. Ms. Carbone-McDonald expressed that North Royalton is always behind other cities with getting safety equipment for our officers. Other cities have tasers. She wanted to know why do we not have them and felt that we need to get them. She referred to an e-mail that she received today from a Council person, which left her feeling that you do not put a cost to the handful of times our officers deploy tasers. This is a safety thing, not only for the residents, but for our officers. She felt that it is very important to put it to the tax payers and see how they feel about it. She continued that we must get with the times. This is the safety of our officers, the residents, and the people that are apprehended too. We have guns, which we do not want to be deploying those. For the safety of who we apprehend, and our officers and residents, we need to look into this. She added that the email sent out was arrogant; as an elected official. She concluded that we should not be putting numbers and money over the heads of our officers.

Ms. Krejci felt that it is something worth talking about. A lot of it is the Chief's opinion and whether or not we need them in the Department. Although there are positive things, such as those that Ms. Carbone-McDonald pointed out, Ms. Krejci noted that there are probably some negatives as well. She would support looking in it further.

Chief Tarase discussed that for 2022, we had 20 use of force incidents; which 19 of those resulted in arrest. Out of those 20, three offenders were injured with minor injuries, and one officer was injured with a minor bruise. He pointed out that all of those use of force involved hands only. All the while, the subjects were in the process of being handcuffed. They did not want to be handcuffed and were taken to the ground. The Chief explained that out of those 20, none of them would have been justified in using a taser. This is what we have been seeing in the 'use of force' incidents over the years. The cost of tasers is an expensive endeavor. It is not a one-time cost like purchasing a fire arm. Fire arms are a one-time purchase and then you are done. Tasers have to be replaced every so many years. There is an expensive cost. He is not against tasers. If Council wants to give him the money to buy tasers, he would do so. Along with that, there are grants for technology. Once those open up this year, we will look into them and apply.

4. Proposed Ordinance 23-01 – PD Vehicles

Chief Tarase is asking for the purchase of three patrol vehicles. These are the Ford Explorers that would be used in patrol. Once we get to approximately 70,000 miles, we begin to rotate through them and try to keep the mileage down. Once a car is taken out of service, we either repurpose it somewhere else in the Police Department, or offer it to the City if it is still of value. If not, we sell them on GovDeals. He will be coming later on to ask to replace our motorcycles this year, which are due to be traded in; roughly \$41,000 dollars for the two motorcycles, and that is with a trade in of the two. Mr. Nickell asked about the two officers that would ride them. Chief Tarase indicated the two patrolmen would be Kimmel and Bodak.

Mr. Wos moved to recommend Ordinance 23-01 to Council for approval, seconded by Mr. Dietrich. Vote: Yeas: 3 Nays: 0. **Motion carried.**

5. Proposed Ordinance 23-02 – Chagrin Valley

Chief Chegan explained that the yearly budget for the Southwest Emergency Dispatch Center for 2023 was already completed. With that, this is for the computer aided dispatch system. We are looking, as well as the whole region, to go to a new cad system. The one that we have is a local system; his clients are in Northeast Ohio. It is not been 100% reliable at times. This will replace that, and CVD Dispatch is taking the lead on this. The whole region except for Parma is going to this new Motorola cad system. Motorola, called Premier 1, from what we know from a lot of research, it is going to be a Premier type of cad system for us. We also use Motorola radios; the radio system is in the same platform. This cad system will be able to be integrated and have a lot more features, as far as what it can do and help mostly the officers on the Police side in the field. Both Fire and Police use cad in different venues. We pay about \$28,000 per year for the tac and Fire; it

is a lot less than that. We are also going to be replacing another module we have for Fire, which is called Streetwise. We are going to save about \$5,000 on that. The total new cost is roughly \$43,000 for this cad, which is the agreement that all of the cities have. The Police Department currently pays \$28,000, and we pay \$5,000. Therefore, technically we are currently paying \$33,000 in cad fees. This is an increase however, the service and the product speaks for itself. In order to make this upgrade, although a large investment, it gives the time and equipment that the dispatch center needs. It was approved initially by CVD, which they do dispatching for many communities in the Brecksville area. Their newest Dispatch Center takes care of Cuyahoga Valley, Independence, Broadview Heights, and Newburg. They have the other two facilities and the also one in Bedford. There is a good majority that will be on this system, including the County as well; which helps. Mr. Marnecheck mentioned that he will be abstaining on this.

Chief Tarase stated that he likes the system, as far as what he sees on the Dispatch side. There are two sides to the system; a computer aided dispatch and a record management system, which is all of our police records. He was not happy with the way that Strongsville put this together. He felt they rushed it and they have not answered a lot of questions. They are changing cad systems, which we have no say in. If they want to change it, we have to change it. He was considering changing our records management. He felt there is a lot that Strongsville and Chagrin Valley have not told us about the change to the system; when it is going to happen. This agreement is not like a normal contract and layout. He is aware that Chief Chegan communicated with Chagrin Valley and got some things from their supervisor, however, Chief Tarase still has questions. This is a ten-year commitment.

Chief Chegan explained that Fire has their own records management system; they pay for their own. Our records management system utilizes Cad as well; it syncs. Unfortunately, we had to switch our record management system. Records are so important in both of our departments. We do not use the cad as far as records management, however we had to switch ours; our company got bought out. It has been bad for us to try and transition. We have been working on this a year. The company was not ready to buy this other one out. We invested so much time and effort. When Council asks for something, it can be obtained. Now he cannot guarantee that, because we are still working though a company that bought someone else out. We were not really ready for this platform. There is not much out there right now, however he feels that the records management is really important; he agrees with Chief Tarase. We are always looking to see what North Royalton needs, not what Southwest Dispatch needs. These are big commitments, but are also a larger part of just us.

Ms. Barath asked if we are rushing into this system because we have to. Chief Chegan explained that the agreement shows there are seven cities that are on this that are part regional. When you get into Regional Dispatch Centers, that is what you are going for. CVD has three large regional dispatch centers. Once you enter into a Regional Dispatch Center, it makes things difficult, and that is where he feels that the Chief and himself fight really hard for what North Royalton needs, and deserves; however, sometimes we are part of a group rather than an individual.

Mr. Kelly clarified that Southwest Dispatch is essentially owned and operated by the City of Strongsville. We are participants; we are members by contract. As a result, we pay the annual charge that represents our proportional share of all of the dispatch that is done there. It is not a Council of government; it is not operated that way. Strongsville essentially drives what everybody does, and in this instance, they have made a determination that the existing computer aided design software programs that they are using, are the product of one individual. He went on to say the individual is a gentleman who is not a young person and he has no back up; according to what he has been told. Therefore, if he should determine to fail or his health gives out, or he moves, the software circumstance may be in some grave jeopardy. That is partially what drove this experience. The other part is that Motorola is a big company and unfortunately, they are the only game in town. Their service is intended to be as expected, to be better than what we are getting now. Because it is in the nature of a corporate venture, there are backups; there are other people there. He wanted to convey this kindly, however we are stuck. You really do not have a choice. You can vote no; however, he do does not know where that would leave us. The fact of the matter is, if Strongsville is going there and we are participant with them in the dispatch center, we are stuck; we have to participate. What is going on here is a little overlap,

we will have already paid a full year's worth of contract service for the existing cad. The Motorola service is expected to come online in August. The theory is, we need to get on board with Motorola promptly, so that they can make their change over. As you heard, this is all seven or eight cities that are participant in Southwest Dispatch. All are mandatorily brought along to this new program. Whether the new one is better or worse, he has no way of knowing. That is the structure, or the ladder of this experience.

Mr. Dietrich mentioned that we are already in a contract agreement with Southwest Dispatch, and wanted to know if that is separate from this. Mr. Kelly responded "yes and no". It is separate in the sense that it is an existing agreement for Dispatch Services. But it also provides that we will share proportionally in all of the cost. Mr. Dietrich inquired if this was for the full ten years. Mr. Kelly concurred. Mr. Dietrich pointed out, we are committing not only to this, but Southwest Dispatch for the next ten years. Mr. Kelly agreed. Mr. Dietrich expressed, that is a massive decision and a big commitment. If we were ever to break from Southwest Dispatch, then we will still be committed with Motorola; therefore, it is separate but it is not. Mr. Kelly agreed that it is an odd arrangement. In order for Dispatch to function, they must have the computer aided dispatch service and the software. Without their computer aided dispatch software, the dispatch services cannot function.

Chief Chegan added that the answer again, is yes, we are stuck with the cad because we are going to be paying that. If we want to get out of that, you can, however you still have to pay the rest of it. As far as the dispatch center, as long as the other centers you want to go to or build your own, or go anywhere, as long as they have that cad system you could still go. We only have a one-year agreement with Strongsville. We are always looking for better opportunities for better service and we are looking to save money too. The cad is one thing; however, we only have a one-year agreement.

Mr. Nickell asked how many years we have been with them already. Chief Chegan clarified, since 2014. As discussion ensued, Mr. Wos spoke of the dependency of the situation and whether we would have support from Motorola from a technology perspective. Chief Tarase indicate yes, the owner of the company does everything on his own. He went on to say he has very few employees, therefore if there is any programming that needs done, he takes care of it himself; he handles multiple agencies. He does not have a business plan of what to do when the time comes to step down. It has not been answered as to the service, whether it will be Strongsville dispatch that will come out and take care of things, or Chagrin Valley, or perhaps in house. Those are the options before Motorola would even come out.

Mayor Antoskiewicz added that he does not think that the gentleman running it currently is interested in putting money into upgrading. That is part of the problem they are having with the system; it is just not going anywhere. Time is moving and he is not. Mr. Wos commented that is a pretty common thing in business.

Mr. Dietrich believed it has already been explored, but wanted to know if ten years is the minimum; could we negotiate. Mr. Kelly understood, stating the deal is ten years, but our contract is roughly \$43,000. Chief Chegan thinks that what they wanted to do was spread the costs out, and that is why it went to \$43,000. Mr. Dietrich asked if the system is being paid off over ten years. Mr. Kelly explained yes, that is the way Strongsville negotiated it.

Mr. Wos moved to recommend Ordinance 23-02 to Council for approval, seconded by Ms. Carbone-McDonald. Yeas: 3 Nays: 0. **Motion carried.**

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Mr. Wos, seconded by Mr. Dietrich **to adjourn the January 17, 2023 Safety Committee meeting.** Yeas: 3 Nays: 0. **Motion carried.**

Meeting adjourned at 7:24 p.m.

North Royalton Animal Control Division of Police 2022 Annual Report

January 1st through December 31st 2022



North Roylaton Animal Control Division of Police

Annual Report and Animal Totals for 2022

Animal Control Contact Statistics:

Number of calls received directly by Animal Control = 2123

Number of calls to the Dispatch Center for animal incidents = 381

Number of times Animal Control was on scene for a call = 923

Number of "walk-ins" at Animal Control = 236

Total Donations/Adoptions = \$441.00

Total amount from transmittals sent to Finance = \$1,496.00

Dog bite reports completed = 8

Total domestic animals impounded = 181

Total wild animals impounded = 242

Total dead small animals picked up = 503

Total dead deer picked up = 144

Total number of times traps were loaned to residents (city traps) = 52

Total Lost and Found animal reports taken = 94

Total animal exemptions issued = 10

Total number of complaints Animal Control received = 335

Citations issued by Animal Control =

7 issued for - 618.01 Running at Large

North Royalton Animal Control Specific Animal Impound Information for 2022

ANIMAL #'s	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	
Dog	8	3	3	4	8	6	9	12	11	3	12	5	
Cat	9	3	20	14	14	10	6	6	6	1	4	5	
Raccoon	2	6	12	16	17	13	35	13	14	10	3	5	
Skunk			2	3	1	2		2	1	1	3		
Opossum		2	3		1	1	3	2	3	2			
Groundhog					1	4		1	4				
Deer	1				2							1	
Coyote/Fox				1									
Squirrel/ Cmunk						11	3	1	2		2		
Rabbit							1	2					
Geese/ Duck			1				1	2					
Small Birds	2				2			2		2			
Bats									1				
Reptiles			1			6	1						
Other			1			1				1	1		

Total above returned to owner = 98

Total above adopted in to new homes = 11

Total above transferred to another facility or rescue adopted = 25

Total above euthanized at Animal Control = 168

NORTH ROYALTON

Calls for Service: 01/01/2022 Through 12/31/2022

ABANDONED VEHICLE	13
ALARM	641
ANIMAL	386
ASSAULT	42
ASSIST - GENERAL	392
ASSIST OTHER AGENCY	118
ATV / DIRT BIKE MC	53
B & E	4
BURGLARY	17
DAMAGE PROPERTY - PRIVATE	64
DISABLED VEHICLES - HAZARDS	357
DISTURBANCE: GENERAL	164
DISTURBANCE: NEIGHBOR	105
DISTURBANCE: NOISE	186
DISTURBANCE: TROUBLE CUSTOMER	22
DISTURBANCE: UNWANTED PERSON	41
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE	171
ESCORT	117
FIREWORKS COMPLAINT	75
FRAUD	151
HARASSING COMMUNICATION	150
HARASSMENT (GENERAL)	73
IDENTITY THEFT	56
LOCK-OUT (VEHICLE)	264
MENACING	29
MISSING JUVENILE	26
MISSING PERSON	16
MVA - DEER	42
MVA - HIT-SKIP	46
MVA - NON INJURY	290
PSYCHIATRIC SITUATION	59
SUSPICIOUS PERSON	147
SUSPICIOUS SITUATION	281
SUSPICIOUS VEHICLE	360
THEFT	258
TRAFFIC STOP	6550
VANDALISM	11
WARRANT SERVED	255
WELFARE CHECK	509

CLASSIFICATION (Job Title)	MAXIMUM NO. OF EMPLOYEES	CURRENT NO. OF EMPLOYEES
Chief of Police	One (1)	One (1)
Captain	None (0)	None (0)
Lieutenant	Two (2)	Two (2)
Sergeant	Five (5)	Five (5)
Patrolman	Thirty Two (32)	Twenty Seven (27)
Office Manager/Confidential Secretary	One (1)	One (1)
Admin. Secretary/Clerical/Jail Custodian	Two (2)	Two (2)
Senior Animal Control Officer (full time)	One (1)	One (1)
Part-time Animal Warden	Two (2)	One (1)
Record Room Clerk (full time)	One (1)	One (1)
Jr. Record Room Clerk	One (1)	One (1)
Reserve Police Officers	Twenty Five (25)	Eight (8)
Maintenance	One (1)	One (1)
Lead Corrections Officer (full time)	One (1)	One (1)
Correction Officer (full time)	Nine (9)	Seven (7)
Correction Officer (part time)	Thirteen (13)	Four (4)
I.T. Systems Administrator	One (1)	One (1)
Clerical II (part time)	Sixteen (16)	Four (4)
Clerical III (full time)	Four (4)	Four (4)
School Resource Officer (part time)	One (1)	One (1)

Taser Acquisition and Training
Financial Expenses

Background

I spoke with SRO Jon Karl regarding the Department's history with Tasers. The North Royalton Police Department has had Tasers since around 2010. SRO Karl advised that currently, only himself, SRO Jezior, Chief Tarase, and Detective Skoczen are certified to carry/deploy tasers among the sworn officers of the Department (37 total). Most of the Corrections Officers are trained in the use/deployment of the tasers, the only exceptions being newly onboarded CO's. To date, **no one** has deployed a Taser against a resistant subject, either on the road, or in the jail. There have been several occasions where a Taser could have been deployed, but for whatever reason, was not. Conversely, there have also not been any situations where a Taser was deployed when it was not warranted.

Regarding training, our two instructors (Karl and Jezior) must recertify every year. Officers who would carry tasers go through an initial 8-hour training program, with a mandatory 6-hour recertification program every year. Liability issues arise if this schedule is not kept to. Recertification costs for the instructors is in the \$1400.00 range every year. When adding in certification and recertification for each officer, the manpower cost is in the \$14,000.00 range every year. Both of these numbers do not include increases due to salary, fringe benefits, or overtime. Also not included would be additional costs for the trainers, roughly \$650.00 per session, who would be running each training session. A minimum of six 8-hour training sessions (\$3900.00 total) would need to be scheduled in order to get all of the officers trained. This brings the total manpower expense closer to \$18,000.00 every year. This may also result in manpower shortages and shifts needing to be covered with overtime in order to maintain minimum manpower.

Regarding equipment, each officer would be equipped with a Taser X26P, a cross-draw holster, 2- cartridges, and two batteries (primary and spare) These units must be replaced every four years when they are out of warranty as Taser will advise you are out of compliance and liability attaches. A quote was received from Axon for the following:

40- Taser X26P

40- Cross Draw holsters (35 left, 5 right) (opposite of gun hand)

80- Batteries (1 primary/1spare per unit)

150- Live Cartridges

150-Training Cartridges

Each officer will expend at least three training cartridges in the initial training and at least two in the recertification training. All cartridges (Training and Live) have a shelf life and expire. This is another factor to consider related to expenses.

Manpower Budget for Taser Training

(All pay rates at 2023 pay rates)

Each Taser Instructor (Karl and Jezior) must recertify every year.

Instructor recertification is currently \$375.00 per officer (\$750.00 total) for

an 8-hour course. Each officer is paid for the training. Karl (\$303.84) Jezior (\$326.16)

The manpower totals are based on the hourly rate at 8-hours a day. They do not include fringe benefits, pension pickup, etc. or Overtime rate (+50%).

Total for recertification training: \$1,380.00

Each officer going through initial certification training takes an 8- hour course.

There is one Chief (\$541.36), 2-Lieutenants (\$427.84 each, \$855.68 total), 5-Sergeants

(\$378.32 each, \$1,891.60 total), 19-Step IV Patrolman (\$326.16 each, \$6,197.04 total),

5-Step II Patrolman (\$294.56 each, \$1472.80 total) 4-Step I Patrolman

(\$266.64 each, \$1,066.56 total), and 1-Part-time SRO (also instructor) (\$303.60)

The manpower totals are based on the hourly rate at 8-hours a day. They do not include fringe benefits, pension pickup, etc. or Overtime rate (+50%).

Total (Manpower) for Initial taser certification \$12,328.64

Total for Trainers to recertify and each officer to Certify the first time \$13,708.64

Thereafter (2025, 2027, etc.) each trainer must recertify every year. Adjust the total from first paragraph based on increase in salaries and course cost. (\$1380.00+) Each officer must recertify in a six-hour training course (part of an eight-hour training day) Adjust the total from the second paragraph based on increase in salaries (\$13,708.64+) None of the above figures are calculated to consider the Overtime rate, which would come into play if manpower issues did not allow officers to train on straight time or if the road needed to be covered to allow training. Any of those hours would need to be adjusted by +50%.

Equipment Expenses for Taser Acquisition

A request was sent to Axon (our Taser provider) for an estimate to equip the entire Department. The request was made for 40 units, which is our authorized manpower, which we hope to reach in 2023 or 2024. In the meantime, any additional units would be kept in reserve for breakdown units/spares. The estimate requested the cost for 40 Taser X26P with 4-year extended warranty, 40 holsters (35 right-handed, 5 left-handed, 80 Extended life batteries, 150 Duty cartridges, 25ft reach, extra penetration, and 150 training cartridges. The total for the above was \$84,559.60. See attached copy of estimate. This would be the initial outlay, with batteries, training cartridges, and cartridges being restocked as needed. This total is for four years, as after that, the equipment must be replaced, again at a similar expense.

Surrounding Cities

I spoke with several surrounding cities to find out:

1. If they have Tasers?
2. If so, how many, and how are they distributed?
3. How often, if ever, are they deployed?

Broadview Heights

Chief Steve Raiff advised that Broadview Heights has had Tasers for about five years. The department currently has ten Tasers, and they are signed out at Roll Call to officers heading out on Patrol. Chief Raiff advised that the Tasers have been deployed three times in 2018, three times in 2019, no times in 2020, two times in 2021, and not at all this year so far. This amounts to eight deployments in five years.

Parma

Patrolman Tom Desmarteau advised that the Parma Police Department has had Tasers since around 2005, seventeen years. Everyone on Patrol and Traffic and some Detectives have the Tasers. PPD has approximately 92 Tasers with 115 Officers. Parma stopped carrying OC Spray (as it was flammable) and made the ASP Baton optional. They are now considering going back to having OC Spray as an option, as they have found a non-flammable option. Ptl. Desmarteau advised that they saw a drop in Use of Force incidents, which is somewhat attributed to the Taser being displayed having a deterrent effect on misbehavior. This also resulted in their officers going "hands-on" less often. Ptl. Desmarteau also advised that they are considering a \$250,000 upgrade in their Taser program. Per Parma PD records, they have deployed the Taser 13 times in 2022 and around 20 times in 2021.

Strongsville

Lieutenant Russo advised that every Strongsville Police officer has a Taser assigned to them. The department has approximately 75 Tasers. Lt. Russo advised that the City of Strongsville purchased the Tasers over 3 years at a cost of \$40,000.00 each year, for a total outlay of \$120,000. Lt. Russo further advised that he did not have numbers for 2022, but in 2021 SPD officers deployed the Tasers four times, and that generally it is less than five times a year.

Brunswick

Sergeant Laino advised that Brunswick Police officers do have access to Tasers, and that they have approximately 40 officers, with 28 of them being in Patrol. Brunswick has 12 Tasers, which are checked in and out by officers going on Patrol. They are generally deployed less than five times a year.

Hinckley

Sergeant Schroll advised that Hinckley Police Department has Tasers, between 12 and 14 of them, and that they get deployed less than five times a year.

Cost-Benefit

The cost of the acquisition of Tasers (manpower and equipment) is \$18,000.00+ for manpower every year-Equipment \$84,559.60+ every four years=\$ 21,139.90/year is about \$39,200.00 per year. This represents well more than the total Department training budget each year, not taking into account State-mandated training, or any other required training. This year, 2022, the State mandated 24 hours of Continuing Professional Training (CPT) which means each officer is off the road for three 8-hour days. For 2023 the State has mandated an additional 24 hours of CPT for each police officer, which equates to 3 full days lost to training. The manpower (training) cost is there every year, and it will only increase. The equipment cost could be reduced by purchasing less, but if some are armed and others not, invariably, it will be the ones without that end up needing the Taser. Considering that those who have had these tools have never used them in the field, there does not appear to be much benefit in relation to the cost involved. The low number of deployments in surrounding cities further shows that it would be an unjustifiable use of funds for very little actual benefit.

Respectfully submitted,

Lt. Chuck Redrup 5405

North Royalton Police Department



Axon Enterprise, Inc.
17800 N. 85th St.
Scottsdale, AZ 85255
ecommerce@axon.com

Quote Expires on: 10/14/2022

Buyer:

Charles Redrup
ltredrup@police.northroyalton.org

Bill To:

14000 Bennett Rd
North Royalton
OH - 44133-4827
USA

Ship To:

14000 Bennett Rd
North Royalton
OH - 44133-4827
USA

Quote Items:

PRODUCT	PRICE	QUANTITY	TOTAL
11003+80398 TASER X26P - Yellow with 4 Yr Extended Warranty	1599.68	40	63987.20
11501 X26P Blackhawk! Holster - Right Hand	77.35	35	2707.25
11504 X26P Blackhawk! Holster - Left Hand	77.35	5	386.75
11010 eXtended Performance Power Magazine (XPPM)	87.23	80	6978.40
22190 X26/X26P - Live - 25ft (Extra Penetration)	37.85	150	5677.50
44205 Cartridge - X26/X26P - Training - 21ft	32.15	150	4822.50

Quote Subtotal: \$84559.60

Tax calculated at checkout. Ground shipping is no additional cost.

Thank you for being a valued Axon customer. For your convenience, continue checkout with a credit card / PO / invoice on our online store my.axon.com/buy

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North Royalton Police Department

Incident	# of for November and December	
MVA FATAL	0	0
MVA DEER	8	8
MVA HIT SKIP	3	6
MVA INJURY	0	0
MVA NON INJURY	21	26
MVA PRIVATE PROPERTY	3	3
PHYSICAL ARRESTS	57	51
SPEEDING CITATIONS	25	15
THEFTS (Includes Attempts)	21	11
Stopping for school bus	3 total	
Harvested deer total	74 as of January 12, 2023	
Bucks	28	
Doe	46	



Robert Chegan
Fire Chief

NORTH ROYALTON FIRE DEPARTMENT

7000 Royalton Road
North Royalton, Ohio 44133-4817
Phone: 440 237-4315
Email: firedepartment@northroyalton.org

TO: Council

FROM: Chief R. Chegan

DATE: January 17, 2023

RE: 2022 Fire/EMS Statistics

The Fire Department is an all-hazard preparedness and emergency response agency. We are called for the simplest service calls to massive structure fires. We are responsible for paramedic service, fire suppression, hazardous materials response, fire prevention, public education and more. Training is a mandatory and vital aspect of what we do. We pride ourselves by offering the highest level of these services every day. Here are the Fire & EMS Statistics that were requested:

CALL VOLUME

Total Calls 2022: 4112

Total Calls 2021: 4018

- EMS Calls: 3255
- Fire Calls: 71
- Hazardous Conditions: 73
- Service Calls: 220
- False/Invest/Intent/Weather: 493

EMS Calls 2022 To:

Vitalia	123
Traditions	134
Pavilion	186
Royalton Woods	82
Diplomat	95
Royalton Apart.	<u>31</u>
	651

STAFFING

<u>Administrative</u>	<u>Shift</u>
Chief (1)	12 per shift – 3 Shift Rotation (A, B, C) 24 hours
Assistant Chief (1)	Includes 2 Lieutenants and 10 Firefighter/Paramedics
Admin. Assistant (1)	9 minimum per day
Fire Inspector – Part Time (1)	Six (6) at Station 1, Three (3) at Station 2

VEHICLES

<u>Station 1</u>	<u>Station 2</u>	<u>Storage</u>
Ladder 1 (2017)	Engine 2 (2022)	Engine 3 (2003)
Engine 1 (2017)	Medic 2 (2020)	Utility 3 (2009)
Medic 1 (2019)	Utility 2 (2021)	
Medic 3 (2011)		
Medic 4 (2009)		
Utility 1 (2022)		

Staff Vehicles

Car 1 (Chief) (2012)
Car 2 (Asst. Chief) (2013)
Car 3 (Fire Prevention) (2013)

Average Unit Life Span
Engine/Ladder: 20 years
Front Line Medic: 6 years (Total 12 years with reserve time)
Utilities/Cars: 10 years

FIRE PREVENTION

Occupancy Inspections	617
Pre Plans	6
Foster/Adoption	1
Plans Review	17
Food Truck Inspections	11
Bi-Directional Amp	4
Freedom of Info. Requests	11
Above Ground Tank	13
Residential House Inspec.	92 * conducted by shift personnel

OTHER

Residential Lock Box Installations	29	* 135 total
CPR Classes	17	
Total number students trained	147	
Car Seat Installations	19	
Tour/Vehicle Display	12	