

SAFETY COMMITTEE

September 8, 2020

The September 8, 2020 Safety Committee meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m. at the Artz Pavilion in Harrison Smith Park by Rick Roberts, Chairman. Safety Committee members present were Kyle McColly, Rick Roberts, and Kenneth Wessler.

Others present included: Scott Washburn, Mayor; Dan Ross, Police Chief; Mike MaGinn, Fire Chief; John Walker; Brad Taylor, Street and Sanitation Supervisor; Jerry Davidson, K of C Hall; Barry Wines, K of C Hall; Bill Thornton; Stacy Taylor; Carl Taylor; Cory Taylor; Colby Taylor; Abby Searfoss; Brian Hemminger, Daily Chief Union; and Sarah Bennett, Clerk.

The following bills were presented:

	<u>POLICE</u>	<u>FIRE</u>	<u>MUNI. CT.</u>
AT & T			66.49
AT & T			299.25
Casey Thompson			6.00
Cntr Education/Emp Law	264.01		
E & K Independent LLC		219.25	
First Communications	6.39		
Finley Fire Equipment		1100.00	
First Aid Now	45.70	45.70	
Galls	83.47		
Gottfried Electric			98.20
ID Networks	2325.00		
I/O Solutions, Inc.	341.00		
Karen Kline			254.00
Kerrs Automotive	255.91		
Lexis Nexis		232.10	
Michael Hedrick			6.00
OH Assn Chiefs of Police	75.00		
Ohio CAT	306.50	306.50	
Plunketts Pest Control	24.75	24.75	
Reineke Motors, Inc.	49.85		
Reineke Motors, Inc.	858.05		
Reineke Motors, Inc.	2603.93		
Richard Grafmiller			1098.00
Scott Young		700.00	
Seth Gillig	389.50		
Superior Business Solutions			710.37
Thomson Reuters			272.31
Treasurer, State of Ohio	37.00		
US Bank	444.89		
Verizon Wireless	431.10		
Watch Guard	14499.00		
Yeater's Laundry	178.00		
Zachary Smith			6.00
Total	<u>23219.05</u>	<u>2628.30</u>	<u>2816.62</u>

TOTAL BILLS: \$28,663.97

A motion was made by Mr. Wessler, seconded by Mr. McColly, for the approval and payment of bills totaling \$28,663.97. Upon Voice Vote, all members voted Yes. The Chairman declared the motion carried.

The minutes of the August 3, 2020 Safety Committee meeting, having been mailed to each Safety Committee member, were approved as received.

Mr. Roberts opened the meeting indicating that there has been no consideration by the Safety Committee for the removal of the traffic light located at the intersection of West Wyandot Avenue and Hazel Street.

Mr. Jerry Davidson and Mr. Barry Wines, K of C Hall, addressed the Safety Committee regarding parking in the downtown and the possibility of amending the parking restriction in the downtown area. As discussed at the August 3, 2020 Safety Committee meeting, there has been a problem experienced by the Street Department regarding the operation of the street sweeper with vehicles parking in the downtown area in the 100 and 200 blocks of North and South Sandusky Avenue and the 100 blocks of East and West Wyandot Avenue on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays between 4:00 a.m. and 6:00 a.m., with signs posted in the downtown indicating "No Parking" during these hours. Mr. Davidson and Mr. Wines indicated that the K of C has three apartments in the 200 block of South Sandusky Avenue and their residents have been issued warnings for being parked on Sandusky Avenue during these restricted hours. Chief Ross indicated that when the Police Department was notified of the parking situation by a Street Department employee over twenty cars were observed being parked in the downtown during the restricted hours and he has instructed his officers to issue warnings for the parking violations. Mr. Wines inquired as to how often the streets are swept in the downtown. Mr. Brad Taylor, Street and Sanitation Supervisor, noted that this year the streets have not been swept every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday. Safety Committee members agreed to research this matter further and discuss it again at the October 5, 2020 Safety Committee meeting to see if a compromise can be reached.

Discussion was again held regarding a complaint received from Mr. Pete Gottfried regarding the traffic light located at the intersection of West Wyandot Avenue and Hazel Street, as presented at the August 3, 2020 Safety Committee meeting. Mr. Bill Thornton stated that when he was a member of the Safety Committee and a similar complaint was received that he and former Police Chief Dave Olds monitored this area and witnessed many children crossing the street at this intersection before and after school, and he feels it is a necessity to keep the traffic light and keep it operational for the safety of the children. It was noted that children also cross this intersection later into the evening after school sports practices and games. Mrs. Stacy Taylor indicated that she has lived in the neighborhood for many years and for the safety of the children who cross the street and the motorists who drive in this area she is not in favor of changing the traffic light. Mr. Brad Taylor and Mr. Cory Taylor both indicated that they are not in favor of the traffic light being changed. Chief Ross reported that Captain Gillig inquired with Mr. Eric Gottfried, Gottfried Electric, about the possibility of installing pedestrian buttons, as suggested at the previous Safety Committee meeting and found this would be cost prohibitive. Safety Committee members agreed to table further discussion of this matter.

Mrs. Abby Searfoss addressed the Safety Committee regarding High Street, between Pleasant View Street and Marseilles Avenue, and commercial and farm vehicle traffic on this street, the need for sidewalks, children playing in the area, and speeding motorists. Mrs. Searfoss requested sidewalks, "Children at Play" signs, and speed limit signs for this street. Chief Ross noted that signs are in place on this street indicating "No Thru Trucks", and since there is no parking along this street there is no place for patrol vehicles to park and monitor speeding motorists and officers will not park on private property for this purpose. It was suggested that information pertaining to habitual speeding motorists be reported to the Police Department, and Chief Ross further noted that if the Police Department knows the time these motorists travel this street it could be monitored but officers have to witness the speeding violation in order to write a citation. Mr. McColly inquired about the possibility of placing speed bumps on this street. Chief Ross indicated that cars traveling the 25 mph speed limit could lose control hitting a speed bump, and Mayor Washburn added that speed bumps would cause issues with Street Department vehicles plowing snow in the winter.

A motion was made by Mr. Roberts, seconded by Mr. McColly, to place two "Children at Play" signs, one east bound and one west bound, along High Street. Upon Voice Vote, all members voted Yes. The Chairman declared the motion carried.

Discussion was held concerning trick-or-treat this year. Mayor Washburn indicated that he has been in communication with Mr. Jeff Ritchey, Director of Environmental Health at the Wyandot County Health Department, who indicated that the Governor has not issued any guidelines yet pertaining to trick-or-treat with the current COVID-19 (coronavirus) situation. Mr. Roberts indicated that he does not want to prohibit traditional door-to-door trick-or-treat. It was also noted that the Elks have scheduled their annual Halloween Walk-Thru to be held on Saturday, October 31, 2020 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. It was noted that the Park Board has been approached and will be again be discussing a suggestion for drive-thru trunk-or-treat to be held in Harrison Smith Park. Chief Ross suggested that trunk-or-treat be held earlier in the day since lighting in the park is a concern as the park is not well lit and sunset for that date is 6:30 p.m. and the Police Department will need to assist with both trunk-or-treat and door-to-door trick-or-treat. Chief Ross indicated that the Police Department's collection of candy from the community to hand out on trick-or-treat night is in limbo due possible restrictions that may be put in place due to COVID-19, so letters will be mailed out requesting monetary donations only this year that could be paid back or rolled over to next year, if necessary.

A motion was made by Mr. Roberts, seconded by Mr. McColly, to set door-to-door trick-or-treat to be held on Saturday, October 31, 2020 from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Upon Voice Vote, all members voted Yes. The Chairman declared the motion carried.

Mayor Washburn presented a request he received from Pastor Charles Steward for the placement of "Children at Play" sign(s) on Greenview Street.

A motion was made by Mr. Roberts, seconded by Mr. Wessler, to place two "Children at Play" signs, one east bound and one west bound, along Greenview Street. Upon Voice Vote, all members voted Yes. The Chairman declared the motion carried.

Chief MaGinn reported on the following:

- The Fire Department recently conducted an occupancy measurement for the fairgrounds.
- He is currently waiting to hear from the Wyandot County Fire Association regarding coverage of the fairgrounds during the upcoming Wyandot County Fair.
- State Farm Insurance has generously donated smoke detectors to the Fire Department to hand out.
- The Fire Department is waiting to hear from FEMA regarding the air compressor and there is a possibility that the bottles for the air compressor can be changed out to extend the life of the air compressor.

Chief Ross reported on the following:

- The Police Department's two new SUVs, approved for purchase/lease by City Council in March 2020, are scheduled for production next week.
- A civil service examination for police officer candidates was held on Saturday, August 29, 2020, and the Civil Service Commission will be meeting tomorrow evening to certify the results of this examination.
- Mr. Dave Yeater, Wyandot Classics and Cruisers, has indicated that since the car show was cancelled due to COVID-19 that a downtown cruise night is being planned for Saturday, September 26, 2020 from 6:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. Chief Ross is asking people to be mindful of safety protocols.

Mayor Washburn reported that he was contacted today by Ms. Kathy Davis, an employee of Cheers to U, about the possibility of closing the east/west alley located between Cheer to U, located at 119 North Sandusky Avenue, and the VFW, located at 123 North Sandusky Avenue, and having an event in conjunction with the VFW for one evening in the alley with food and music. Chief Ross noted that alcohol cannot be served unless a permit is obtained from the Ohio Division of Liquor Control. Mayor Washburn will reach out to Ms. Davis to obtain additional information.

There being no further business, the Chairman declared the meeting adjourned.