

February 11, 2020

Safety & Service Committee Meeting

Board Members Present

Beth Gillman
Pat Hovis
Margaret Phillips, Chairman

Board Members Not Present

Guests

Kent Johnson, Fire Chief
Rob Hickman, Police Chief
Mike Snider, Mayor
Jerry Tarolli
Evelyn Gillman
Lisa Sarty
Dina Shenker, Law Director

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m.

Review of minutes: None

Old Business

None

New Business

Chief Kent Johnson

Chief Johnson provided a recap of EMS 2019 to the committee. Since April 1, 2019, there have been 1029 EMS calls; 661 in the City limits proper, 112 in Bay Township (April to December 31, 2019), 99 in Catawba Island Township (October 1 to December 31, 2019), 157 in Portage Township, estimating 1500 to 2000 calls for 2020.

Meeting with Todd Almendinger of Magruder Hospital next week to discuss being in the non-emergency transport business. For the City to include non-emergency transports, no action by Council is needed. It is already written in the original ordinance from last year.

Chief Johnson and Captain Gutman have not experienced any failures with the EMS service. They have purchased a 4-wheel drive ambulance to assist with Catawba Island Township and Bay Township due to the roads in inclement weather.

Other stats provided were “shoot time” (time out the door) is under 90 seconds. This is all based on the ESO information. Overdoses in the City from April 2019 numbered 28. There have been many lift assists. By contract, they are not obligated to do lift assists. However, he is concerned about liability if not done.

Mr. Tarolli inquired, of the 28 overdoses how many were fatal? Chief Johnson advised 3.

Mrs. Gillman inquired if a lift assist is a no-charge call. Chief Johnson advised they are charged, but insurance will not pay for them. Insurance only pays for a transport call. How do other areas handle lift assists? Chief Johnson advised they do the lift assist and are not paid for it. The City is considering to continue the service but not billing. The Townships are being charged \$315.00 per run – no matter what type of call it is. If the run is also transported the City received an additional \$500.00, that insurance generally covers. Chief Johnson will be receiving a report from Medicount to determine how much it has cost for non-payers. The non-payers cannot be reported to Attorney General to get paid.

Chief Johnson provided the committee a Port Clinton Fire and Rescue EMS Run Summary (see attachment).

Chief Rob Hickman

Chief Hickman provided a summary handout to the committee (see attachment).

1. Three (3) of the four (4) 2020 Explorers are equipped and assigned to their respective officers and being utilized.

The 4th Explorer, our canine vehicle is awaiting the canine insert for Spike before it can be utilized by Sergeant Nelson. I am being advised the insert will be shipped in approximately two (2) weeks.

2. We have ordered our NEW repeater system through VASU Communications as of today. Once up and running, the police department can end their monthly contract with Ray's Electronics, Inc.
3. We have ordered our new iRecord system, which is video/audio recording system for both the Conference Room and Interrogation Room. Ottawa County Prosecutor James VanEerten assisted us with the purchase of \$7,500.00, which can also be used by the Ottawa County Drug Task Force Agents.
4. Due to recent investigation regarding Harley Dilly, we learned that our conference room was outdated. We elected to bring that up-to-date in case it's needed in the future.

We have decided to put equipment, which was on our 2020 Budget Request on hold to make this possible. Our employees are assisting whenever possible to lower the costs associated with the upgrade.

5. I am currently a month behind due to the above and will complete our 2019 Year End Report as soon as possible.

Golf Cart Issue

Chief Hickman advised that with George Wilber's advice in the past the City abided what the State ORC reads no low speed vehicles. Vendors in the area are selling them, the Sherriff's Department is inspecting them; they are not allowed on City Streets. We are requesting an ordinance similar to what Cincinnati has, no low speed (under speed) vehicles, just as the ORC states.

Dina Shenker advised she took a call from a very upset City resident who purchased a \$10,000 golf cart from Drew's Custom Carts. He was advised that if he paid extra they would make it street legal. Mrs. Shenker advised that in the City of Port Clinton / State of Ohio the golf cart must have VIN number to be street legal. Without that it is deemed an under speed vehicle and cannot be driven on the City Streets / State of Ohio. The City resident has filed a complaint with the Better Business Bureau against Drew's Custom Carts. The City resident requests a letter from the City of Port Clinton advising that his golf cart is not street legal and why.

Chief Hickman advised that Detective Carpenter has gone to Drew's and other establishments that sell golf carts and advised them what street legal entails.

Mayor Snider advised that a low speed vehicle is manufactured with seat belts, windshield, blinkers, brakes, VIN number and inspected prior to leaving the manufacturer. The max speed of a low speed vehicle is 25 mph, but can go on any road with a 35 mph speed limit. An under speed vehicle is a golf cart. Maximum speed limit 20 mph and can go on a road with a max speed limit of 25 mph (if municipality permits it). A modified low speed vehicle is a under speed vehicle that someone tinkered with to make it look like a low speed vehicle. Under speed and modified vehicles have to be inspected by an entity (if allowed on the road by the municipality).

Chief Hickman advised that the Ottawa County Sherriff's Department inspects the under speed vehicles for \$100.00 fee. The owners then assume they can drive on the City Streets. However, they are only allowed on private property.

According to Chief Hickman we only have three low speed vehicles in the City limits.

Mrs. Shenker provided the State Ordinance number to the committee 4511.214.

Mrs. Shenker will create and provide a new City Ordinance for the next Safety & Service Committee to review at the March meeting.

Ms. Phillips inquired with Chief Hickman how emergencies are announced within the City. Chief Hickman advised they are posted on their Facebook page and all media sources are advised.

Discussion

Next Meeting: The next scheduled meeting will be Thursday, March 10, 2020, at 6:30 p.m.

Adjourn

Mrs. Gillman moved to adjourn at 6:58 p.m. - seconded by Ms. Hovis. All agreed.

Minutes submitted by:
Sandye Ostheimer
Council Clerk