

SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING

May 7, 2021

The Safety Committee of Chardon City Council met on Friday, May 7, 2021, at 5:18 PM in Conference Room A of the Chardon Municipal Center and via video-conference, Zoom (Meeting ID: 891 8407 8534).

Christopher Grau, Chairman of Safety Committee presiding.

Members of Safety Committee present: Christopher Grau, Heather Means.

Others present: City Manager Randy Sharpe, Law Director Ben Chojnacki, Police Chief Scott Niehus, Clerk of Council Amy Day, Fire Chief Larry Gaspar.

Mr. Grau called the meeting to order at 5:18 PM.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Grau moved and Ms. Means seconded to approve the minutes of the Safety Committee from January 7, 2021. Upon voice vote the motion passed unanimously.

Regarding continued discussions on the Emergency Operations Plan, discussion began about details in the plan.

Mr. Grau clarified that all should have received the May version of the plan.

Mr. Grau asked how future updates to the plan would be handled.

Mr. Sharpe stated that he envisioned if there would be a change, it should go to the Safety Committee for review and then to Council for their approval.

Mr. Chojnacki concurred.

Discussion occurred regarding making small changes, such as name changes, which could be made without having to go to the Committee or Council.

Chief Niehus suggested that future updates to the plan be put on the website and a letter be sent to those on the distribution list.

Committee members discussed how to adopt the plan.

Mr. Chojnacki stated that legislation is needed to adopt the Emergency Operations Plan.

Committee members asked the Law Director to prepare legislation for the May Regular Session of Council.

Ms. Means moved and Mr. Grau seconded to accept as the Safety Committee's recommended plan, the May, 2021 draft Emergency Operations Plan, and directed the Law Director to prepare legislation for Council to consider at the May Regular Session of Council. Upon voice vote the motion passed unanimously.

Discussion occurred regarding a desktop exercise for the EOP.

Mr. Grau stated that he would like the police and fire chiefs to have a date set by the July Council meeting for the tabletop exercise.

EXECUTIVE SESSION - none.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Chief Gaspar reported that he would have the 2022-2024 fire department budget finalized by the end of the week. He stated that typically a joint meeting is held with the entities in a joint meeting to review the budget; however, due to the pandemic, he can meet with the entities separately. He noted that Aquilla Village is in the process of separating from Claridon Township and he will prepare additional figures with this in mind.

Discussion occurred regarding holding a joint meeting using a combination of Zoom and in-person.

The committee members asked the Fire Chief to choose a date in the upcoming weeks to hold a meeting.

Ms. Means noted that a resident has complained about vehicle activity and noise at the Chalet in the evening and asked the Police Chief to have the area patrolled, when officers are available.

Discussion occurred regarding the status of security cameras in areas of the City.

Mr. Sharpe stated that updating the City's cameras has been a project that have been needed for quite some time. He added that he would like to address replacement cameras after the

phone system is addressed.

Ms. Means reported that she has had a resident express concern that there is not enough being done to show appreciation for first responders. She stated that he told the resident that she would present Council any ideas the she could come up with.

Mr. Sharpe asked the Committee if they are interested in having him research rectangular flashing beacons at all of the bike trail crossings in the City. Currently there are rectangular flashing beacons at South Street and Center Street. The remaining crossings are at Water Street, Park Avenue and Fifth Avenue. The average cost for the beacons and signage is approximately \$15,500.

Committee members expressed support for the City Manager to move forward with researching the bike trail beacons and signage.

Amy Day reported on the "Notify Me" subscribers which increased 25% from last year after promoting it through the newsletter and water bills.

Mr. Sharpe reported on recent complaints regarding speeding in the City. He noted that staff is reacting to the complaints and is looking into formalized traffic counts, the purchase of an additional speed sign, and traffic calming options. In addition, staffing is expected to return to regular levels which should help as well.

Chief Niehus reported on a recently passed House Bill that made changes to restraining pregnant and postpartum females. He explained the impact this will have on the Police Department's internal policies.

Chief Niehus reported on a change to the department's animal control policy.

Discussion occurred regarding how the department will handle these situations.

ADJOURN

Ms. Means moved and Mr. Grau seconded to adjourn. Upon voice vote the motion passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 6:30 PM.

Attest:

AMY DAY
Clerk of Council