

SAFETY COMMITTEE

October 7, 2024

The October 7, 2024 Safety Committee meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m. in Council Chambers by Kenneth Wessler, Chairman. Safety Committee members present were Julia Lemire, John Walker, and Kenneth Wessler.

Others present included: Kyle McColly, Mayor; Jared Lucas, Police Chief; Mike MaGinn, Fire Chief; Steve Brake, Jr., Police Officer; Joshua Gibson, Police Officer; Rachel Gibson; Mahlia Gibson; Amaiah Gibson; Cruz Gibson; Linda Gibson; Jeremy Gibson; Steve Brake, Sr.; Cathy Brake; Lainey Haas; Aleeah Brake; Aubrey Brake; Devon Mallory; Brian Hemminger, Daily Chief Union; and Sarah Bennett, Clerk.

The summary of bills totaling \$11,756.60 was presented.

A motion was made by Mr. Wessler, seconded by Mr. Walker, for the approval and payment of bills totaling \$11,756.60. Upon Voice Vote, all members voted Yes. The Chairman declared the motion carried.

The minutes of the September 3, 2024 Safety Committee meeting, having been mailed to each Safety Committee member, were approved as received.

The minutes of the September 10, 2024 special Safety Committee meeting, having been mailed to each Safety Committee member, were approved as received.

Police Officers Steve Brake Jr. and Joshua Gibson were introduced and ceremoniously sworn in by Mayor McColly. Both Police Officers began work on September 23, 2024.

A revised financing report for the 2025 Ford Police Interceptor Sport Utility Vehicle with equipment was reviewed by the Safety Committee. It was noted that the Safety Committee, at their April 1, 2024 meeting, recommended to City Council to approve a quote of \$60,299.62 for this vehicle and equipment. The revised financing report includes a cost of \$60,436.92 for the vehicle and equipment, plus \$545.00 for underwriting fees for a total cost of \$60,981.92 at 7.69% interest to be paid in two (2) annual payments of \$31,619.93. Chief Lucas indicated that it will be ten (10) weeks until the expected delivery of this vehicle.

A motion was made by Mr. Wessler, seconded by Mr. Walker, to amend the recommendation from the April 1, 2024 Safety Committee meeting for the purchase price of a 2025 Ford Police Interceptor Sport Utility Vehicle to be a total cost of \$60,981.92 at 7.69% interest to be paid in two (2) annual payments of \$31,619.93. Upon Roll Call, all members voted Yes. The Chairman declared the motion carried.

Safety Committee members discussed parade safety measures. Mrs. Lemire indicated that someone driving a truck and traveling southbound on North Sandusky Avenue veered left onto Village View Acres and past a barricade prior to the Homecoming Parade reaching this location on the evening of Wednesday, October 2, 2024. It was noted that the Halloween Parade is upcoming. The possibility of utilizing City workers to assist with blocking intersections was discussed and it was noted that this would require approval by the Service Committee due to parades being held after regular work hours and those workers being paid overtime. Mayor McColly suggested a checklist be developed to continue to develop and refine the process and that the Downtown Committee possibly review parade requests too. Chief Lucas suggested a blanket approval from the Service Committee be requested to utilize City workers and City vehicles for parades. Mayor McColly will present this suggestion to the Service Committee for their consideration.

Mr. Walker indicated that he had an issue at the annual Autumn Cruise held Saturday, September 28, 2024 as he drove his golf cart into the downtown area during the cruise and was stopped by a member of the Wyandot Classics and Cruisers and was told that he was not allowed to drive his golf cart in the downtown area during the cruise. Chief Lucas indicated that the streets in the downtown area are considered a closed route during the cruise and it is at the discretion of the car club if they will allow individuals to drive in the downtown during the cruise. Mr. Walker indicated that he did not know the downtown was considered a closed route during the cruise.

Chief Lucas presented a letter of resignation from Police Officer Nicholas Temple effective October 27, 2024.

A motion was made by Mrs. Lemire, seconded by Mr. Wessler, to accept the resignation of Police Officer Nicholas Temple effective October 27, 2024. Upon Voice Vote, all members voted Yes. The Chairman declared the motion carried.

Chief MaGinn reported that the grant writer utilized in the past for an application for a Safer Grant has two (2) openings for his services. If approved, the Safer Grant will reimburse the City for newly hired full-time firefighters. The grant application period opens in one (1) month and the cost to the grant writer to resubmit a grant similar to the previous two (2) grants submitted for three (3) full-time firefighters will be \$1,500.00, and to submit a revised grant for six (6) full-time firefighters will be \$2,500.00. It was noted that the City's financial information in relation to this grant will be reviewed with the City Auditor. The Safety Committee agreed to have Mayor McColly and Chief MaGinn apply for a Safer Grant with the number of full-time firefighters to be determined at their discretion following the review of the financial information.

Chief MaGinn suggested that the payment amount from the fire truck that was recently paid off be placed each month in the Fire Department's Truck Fund for the future purchase of a truck for the Fire Department. Mayor McColly indicated that he will discuss this suggestion with Mrs. Nickie Coppler, City Auditor, but other priorities and expenses within the Fire Department will also need to be evaluated.

Chief MaGinn indicated that the breakfast held at the Fire Department on the morning of the annual Autumn Cruise held on Saturday, September 28, 2024 was well attended. The Fire Department participated in the car show and a portion of the proceeds from the 50/50 raffle held at the car show/cruise will be donated to the Fire Department.

Chief MaGinn stated that members of the Fire Department recently participated in Jaws-of-Life training.

Mayor McColly stated that he was contacted by Mrs. Bobbi Korte who indicated that the annual American Legion Halloween Parade will be held on Thursday, October 31, 2024 with line up beginning at 6:00 p.m. at the library and the parade stepping off at 6:30 p.m.

Chief Lucas reported that the Police and Fire Departments will be participating in the upcoming Career Day for Wyandot County students to be held on Wednesday, October 16, 2024 at the Wyandot County Fairgrounds.

Chief Lucas also reported that there were no incidents requiring law enforcement assistance at the Wyandot Classics and Cruisers annual Autumn Cruise held on Saturday, September 28, 2024.

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

Sarah J. Bennett, Clerk

Kenneth Wessler, Chairman