

## SAFETY COMMITTEE

March 3, 2025

The March 3, 2025 Safety Committee meeting was called to order at 4:30 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; Jan Stoneburner; Drew Rall; Tom Karcher; Brian Hemminger, Daily Chief Union; and Sarah Bennett, Clerk.

The summary of bills totaling \$19,672.50 was presented.

A motion was made by Mr. Wessler, seconded by Mrs. Lemire, for the approval and payment of bills totaling \$19,672.50. Upon Roll Call, all members voted Yes. The Chairman declared the motion carried.

The minutes of the February 3, 2025 Safety Committee meeting, having been mailed to each Safety Committee member, were approved as received.

The minutes of the February 13, 2025 special Safety Committee meeting, having been mailed to each Safety Committee member, were approved as received.

Mrs. Jan Stoneburner addressed the Safety Committee requesting approval for the Star Theater to hold their second annual “Rally in the Alley” events on the first four Thursday evenings in May (May 1, 8, 15, and 22) from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., with the alleys to be closed at 5:00 p.m. prior to the events to allow for set up. Mrs. Stoneburner requested closure of the north/south alley between West Wyandot Avenue and West Johnson Street and the closure of the east/west alley between South Sandusky Avenue and South Seventh Street for the events. Mrs. Stoneburner also inquired about barricades for the alleys that were provided by the City last year. Chief Lucas will coordinate barricades for the events with Mr. Brad Taylor, Street and Sanitation Supervisor.

A motion was made by Mr. Wessler, seconded by Mr. Walker, to approve the closure of the north/south alley between West Wyandot Avenue and West Johnson Street and the east/west alley between South Sandusky Avenue and South Seventh Street on the first four Thursday evenings in May from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Upon Roll Call, all members voted Yes. The Chairman declared the motion carried.

Mrs. Stoneburner requested a waiver from the food truck regulations to allow a Chick-fil-A food truck to set up in front of the courthouse and across the street from the Premier Bank parking lot from 11:30 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. on Thursday, May 15, 2025 as part of the Rally in the Alley event.

A motion was made by Mr. Wessler, seconded by Mrs. Lemire, to approve a waiver of the food truck regulations and allow a Chick-fil-A food truck to set up in front of the courthouse and across the street from the Premier Bank parking lot from 11:30 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. on Thursday, May 15, 2025. Upon Roll Call, all members voted Yes. The Chairman declared the motion carried.

Mrs. Stoneburner noted that two other food trucks, The Wailing Onion and Flavor J’s, will be located in the Premier Bank parking lot on May 7 and May 22, 2025 as part of the Rally in the Alley events, and the Star Theater will also be offering concessions. It was also noted that food trucks will be available in the downtown area on May 1, 2025 as part of the Wyandot County Chamber of Commerce’s monthly First Thursdays event.

Mrs. Stoneburner indicated that there was trouble with trash pick-up last year. Mayor McColly will coordinate with Mr. Brad Taylor to address this issue this year.

Mrs. Stoneburner inquired as to if there are any issues with a mascot for the Rally in the Alley, being someone dressed up as an Alley Cat, roaming the streets. Chief Lucas noted that there is no problem with this request.

Mrs. Stoneburner reported that events are being planned locally as part of the Ohio Commission for the United States Semiquincentennial (AMERICA250-OH) in commemorating the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the United States, and in conjunction with the Star Theater movies featuring Ohio residents will be shown at the theater in April 2026. Mayor McColly indicated that the Downtown Committee will be in charge of events that take place in the downtown as part of the Semiquincentennial.

Mr. Drew Rall addressed the Safety Committee on behalf of the St. Pete's Festival requesting the closure of West Finley Street, west of North Eighth Street, for this year's festival to be held on Sunday, June 1, 2025 from 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m., and to allow the parade to step off at 1:00 p.m. from the high school athletic complex and travel southbound on North Eighth Street and end at St. Paul's Church parking lot on that day.

A motion was made by Mr. Walker, seconded by Mrs. Lemire, to approve the closure of West Finley Street and allow the parade for the St. Pete's Festival to take place on Sunday, June 2, 2024. Upon Roll Call, all members voted Yes. The Chairman declared the motion carried.

Mrs. Lemire inquired about the status of barricades previously discussed that can be utilized to block cross streets for parades. Chief Lucas will be checking into this matter next week as he will contact the City of Bucyrus and look at the barricades they use during parades.

Safety Committee members reviewed a notice from the Ohio Division of Liquor Control for a liquor license transfer from T & T Sports Lounge LLC, dba T & T Sports Lounge & Patio, 111 N Sandusky Ave 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, Upper Sandusky, Ohio 43351 to T&T Underground LLC, dba T&T Sports Lounge & Patio, 111 N Sandusky Ave 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, Upper Sandusky, Ohio 43351. Chief Lucas indicated that he has no concerns regarding the transfer of this license. Safety Committee members agreed that a hearing will not be requested.

It was noted that signs were posted today indicating one-way northbound for the north/south alley located to the east of 419 West Walker Street, from the east/west alley intersection to the south to West Walker Street, as approved by the Safety Committee at the February 3, 2025 Safety Committee meeting.

Chief Lucas shared a resignation notice received from full-time Police Dispatcher Hillarie Kin effective February 28, 2025. Chief Lucas noted that Miss Kin has offered to continue working as a part-time police dispatcher.

A motion was made by Mrs. Lemire, seconded by Mr. Walker, to accept the resignation of Hillarie Kin as a full-time Police Dispatcher and continue her employment as a part-time Police Dispatcher. Upon Roll Call, all members voted Yes. The Chairman declared the motion carried.

Chief Lucas reported that pre-employment examinations for Faith Fox are being completed.

Chief Lucas also reported that applications are currently being accepted for full-time and part-time Police Dispatchers.

Chief MaGinn noted that members of the Fire Department participated in ice rescue practice this past weekend and utilized the new ice rescue equipment, including ice rescue suits and the water/ice rescue boat that were reported on at the February 3, 2025 Safety Committee meeting.

Chief MaGinn reported that the Fire Department responded to thirty-four (34) calls in February 2025 including: four (4) fires, six (6) vehicle accidents, ten (10) false alarms, eleven (11) EMS assists, and three (3) gas leaks/carbon monoxide alerts. Chief MaGinn noted that for two (2) of these calls there was only one (1) full-time firefighter who responded.

Chief MaGinn asked City Council members to think about solutions to increase the staff at the Fire Department. Chief MaGinn noted that he is looking into options for additional daytime coverage at the Fire Department including recruiting off-duty firefighters from other communities and Sentinel students.

A motion was made by Mrs. Lemire, seconded by Mr. Walker, to proceed with obtaining financial information for hiring additional full-time firefighters. Upon Roll Call, all members voted Yes. The Chairman declared the motion carried.

It was noted that the Safer grant submitted to address the hiring of three additional full-time firefighters is in process.

Mayor McColly reported that there are tours coming up for school children.

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

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Sarah J. Bennett, Clerk

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Kenneth Wessler, Chairman