

SAFETY COMMITTEE

April 7, 2025

The April 7, 2025 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; Nickie Coppler, City Auditor; Brittney Walton, Wyandot County Chamber of Commerce Director; Matt Walton; Laith Banekhalid, 325 Hyaf Sunoco, Inc. owner; Brian Hemminger, Daily Chief Union; and Sarah Bennett, Clerk.

The summary of bills totaling \$10,131.31 was presented.

A motion was made by Mr. Wessler, seconded by Mr. Walker, for the approval and payment of bills totaling \$10,131.31. Upon Voice Vote, all members voted Yes. The Chairman declared the motion carried.

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

The minutes of the March 7, 2025 special Safety Committee meeting, having been mailed to each Safety Committee member, were approved as received.

The minutes of the March 17, 2025 special Safety Committee meeting, having been mailed to each Safety Committee member, were approved as received.

Mrs. Brittney Walton, Wyandot County Chamber of Commerce Director, addressed the Safety Committee and requested road closures for the Chamber's Spring Fling to take place on Saturday, April 26, 2025 from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. The requested closures include South Sandusky Avenue, between Wyandot Avenue and Johnson Street; Court Street, to allow the Health Department to conduct car seat inspections; and East Walker Street, between North Sandusky Avenue and North Fifth Street. Mrs. Walton also requested the closure of Court Street from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. during the First Thursday events on a case-by-case basis. It was noted that Chief Lucas presented a request to the Safety Committee at the February 3, 2025 Safety Committee meeting that was approved by the Safety Committee for the closure of Court Street on Thursday, May 1, 2025 to allow for car seat inspections. Mrs. Walton indicated that the courthouse lawn is no longer available for activities that take place during First Thursdays and the county parking lot on the south side of Court Street will now be utilized for entertainment during the events. Mrs. Walton also presented a request for a waiver of the food truck regulations to allow Angeline to have food trucks in the downtown area on Thursday, August 21, 2025 from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. It was noted that the waiver would have to be approved by the Downtown Committee.

A motion was made by Mrs. Lemire, seconded by Mr. Walker, to approve the street closures request from Mrs. Brittney Walton, as presented. Upon Roll Call, all members voted Yes. The Chairman declared the motion carried.

Mr. Laith Banekhalid, owner of Hyaf 325 Sunoco, Inc. located at 325 North Sandusky Avenue, addressed the Safety Committee regarding a TRES application for the transfer of a D1, D2, and D6 liquor permit to his business from Rite Aid of Ohio Inc., Marysville, Ohio. A copy of the application from the Ohio Department of Commerce was presented with a signature from a representative of the City needed to proceed with this application.

A motion was made by Mr. Walker, seconded by Mrs. Lemire, to authorize the Mayor to sign the TRES application for the transfer of a liquor permit from Rite Aid of Ohio Inc., Marysville, Ohio to Hyaf 325 Sunoco, Inc., 325 North Sandusky Avenue, Upper Sandusky, Ohio. Upon Roll Call, all members voted Yes. The Chairman declared the motion carried.

A date for trick-or-treat was discussed and it was noted that the Elks has set Saturday, October 25, 2025 as the date for their annual Halloween walk-thru.

A motion was made by Mrs. Lemire, seconded by Mr. Walker, to set trick-or-treat to be held on Saturday, October 25, 2025 from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Upon Roll Call, all members voted Yes. The Chairman declared the motion carried.

Safety Committee members reviewed a lease agreement with Connection Recovery Services for an office space at the Municipal Building, 119 North Seventh Street. It was noted that counseling will not be offered at this office. The office will be utilized for writing reports, use of Wi-Fi, and as a home base. City Council will consider an ordinance to address this lease at their meeting to be held later this evening.

Chief Lucas presented a letter of resignation from Police Officer Charles Seeley, effective April 13, 2025.

A motion was made by Mr. Wessler, seconded by Mrs. Lemire, to accept the resignation of Police Officer Charles Seeley effective April 13, 2025. Upon Roll Call, all members voted Yes. The Chairman declared the motion carried.

Chief MaGinn reported that the Fire Department responded to thirty-three (33) calls in March 2025 including: twelve (12) false alarms, six (6) structure fires, seven (7) EMS assists, one (1) car fire, one (1) smoke/odor call, two (2) vehicle accidents, two (2) brush/grass fires, and two (2) miscellaneous/good intent calls. Chief MaGinn noted that seven of these calls were responded to by one (1) full-time firefighter and one (1) volunteer.

Chief MaGinn also reported that there were some issues with the tornado sirens recently including two (2) with dead batteries and one (1) where the power had been shut off, but right now all of the tornado sirens are working and the annual service of the sirens will be conducted soon.

Chief Lucas reported that the passage of House Bill 315, effective April 3, 2025, addresses the allowance for charging for video records requests and limits the maximum charge at \$750.00. Chief Lucas recommended a \$60.00 per hour or \$1.00 per minute charge for these records. It was noted that an exemption could be granted for victims. Chief Lucas will consult with Mr. Ben Buckland, Law Director, about implementing a fee for video records.

A motion was made by Mrs. Lemire, seconded by Mr. Walker, to allow Chief Lucas to charge for video recordings at a rate of \$60.00 per hour or \$1.00 per minute. Upon Voice Vote, all members voted Yes. The Chairman declared the motion carried.

Chief Lucas asked the Safety Committee to request the Civil Service Commission to proceed with a civil service examination for Police Officer candidates.

A motion was made by Mr. Wessler, seconded by Mrs. Lemire, to request the Civil Service Commission to proceed with a civil service examination for Police Officer candidates. Upon Roll Call, all members voted Yes. The Chairman declared the motion carried.

Chief Lucas and Chief MaGinn explained the potential benefits of the proposed ½% income tax increase to be voted on by the City of Upper Sandusky residents at the May 6, 2025 primary election. Benefits include upgrades at the Safety Building and the hiring of additional full-time firefighters.

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

Sarah J. Bennett, Clerk

Kenneth Wessler, Chairman