

SAFETY COMMITTEE

May 5, 2025

The May 5, 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; Ethan Korte, Administrative Assistant; Brian Hemminger, Daily Chief Union; and Sarah Bennett, Clerk.

The summary of bills totaling \$9,964.91 was presented.

A motion was made by Mr. Wessler, seconded by Mr. Walker, for the approval and payment of bills totaling \$9,964.91. Upon Voice Vote, all members voted Yes. The Chairman declared the motion carried.

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

Mr. Ethan Korte introduced himself as he was recently hired as the Administrative Assistant.

Mrs. Lemire inquired about the status of barricades for parades with the Memorial Day parade upcoming. Chief Lucas indicated that he and Mr. Brad Taylor, Street and Sanitation Supervisor, need to visit the City of Bucyrus to see the barricades they use for parades. Chief Lucas indicated that he will also contact the City of Delaware and inquire about the barricades they use for parades.

Chief MaGinn stated that the City of Findlay is sending food truck vendors to the Upper Sandusky Fire Department for propane hose testing. Chief MaGinn noted that Fire Department personnel are not familiar with new food truck regulations that may be set by the State for this testing and Fire Department personnel are not favorable of performing these tests.

Chief Lucas presented a letter of resignation from Police Officer Joshua Gibson, effective April 28, 2025.

A motion was made by Mr. Wessler, seconded by Mrs. Lemire, to accept the resignation of Police Officer Joshua Gibson effective April 28, 2025. Upon Roll Call, all members voted Yes. The Chairman declared the motion carried.

Chief Lucas indicated that there were several applications received for the full-time police dispatcher position and there were some very good candidates for the position. Chief Lucas recommended the Safety Committee approve the hiring of Rachel Kidd-Carter as a full-time police dispatcher.

A motion was made by Mr. Wessler, seconded by Mr. Walker, to approve the hiring of Rachel Kidd-Carter as a full-time police dispatcher. Upon Roll Call, all members voted Yes. The Chairman declared the motion carried.

Chief Lucas reported that the Police Department's new cruiser is finally equipped and there are some new features on the car including a proximity alarm which alerts when the car is approached by an individual.

Chief Lucas also reported that there was an Emergency Operations Drill held on Wednesday, April 30, 2025 at the EMS Building.

Chief Lucas and Chief MaGinn noted that the Police and Fire Departments participated in the Wyandot Chamber of Commerce's Spring Fling held on Saturday, April 26, 2025. Safety personnel were set up in front of the Fire Department and there was a good turn out from the public who got to meet Fire Pup and participate in Touch a Truck.

Chief Lucas further reported that the Winter Fantasy of Lights donated \$3,000.00 to the Police Department with some of the funds to be put towards the maintenance of a bicycle to again be used for patrol. It was noted that the Police Department's bicycle patrol will resume participation in the annual St. Peter's School Bike Ride.

Discussion was held regarding issues with motorized scooters and e-bikes. Chief Lucas stated that these modes of transportation cannot be ridden under power on the City sidewalks. Chief Lucas indicated that the public needs to be reminded of the rules and regulations regarding motorized scooters and e-bikes.

Mrs. Lemire inquired about the possibility of improved safety measures at the intersection of West Wyandot Avenue and Hazel Street to assist school children crossing this intersection before and after school. Mrs. Lemire and Chief Lucas will discuss this matter further and present possible options for the Safety Committee and School to consider for the next school year.

Chief MaGinn reported that the Fire Department responded to thirty-five (35) calls in April 2025 including: fifteen (15) false alarms, two (2) structure fires, eight (8) EMS/landing zone assists, one (1) trash/rubbish fire, one (1) vehicle fire, three (3) vehicle accidents, three (3) CO or gas leaks, and two (2) good intent calls. Chief MaGinn noted that there was an average of two (2) responders to these calls.

Chief MaGinn also reported that the Fire Department has received donations over the last month in recognition of the National Fire Safety Program. Chief MaGinn expressed his appreciation to the community for their support.

Chief MaGinn further reported that inspections were conducted last week and continue this week of the Fire Department's ladders, equipment, trucks, etc.

Chief MaGinn inquired as to the status of the fireworks. Chief MaGinn recommended the fireworks be held at the high school as the Fire Department is familiar with the set up at the high school. Chief MaGinn expressed concerns about the fireworks being held in Harrison Smith Park and noted he is unsure how the set up will work in the park. Mayor McColly indicated that a representative from Pyrotechnico will be taking final measurements in Harrison Smith Park soon and provide a recommendation. Mayor McColly stated that he will present this information to the Downtown Committee at their meeting to be held on Monday, May 12, 2025.

Mayor McColly encouraged support of the proposed ½% income tax increase to be voted on by the City of Upper Sandusky residents tomorrow, May 6, 2025, at the primary election.

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

Sarah J. Bennett, Clerk

Kenneth Wessler, Chairman