

SAFETY COMMITTEE

July 6, 2026

The July 6, 2026 Safety Committee meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m. in Council Chambers by Aaron Korte, Chairperson. Safety Committee members present were Aaron Korte, Julia Lemire, and Scott Moore.

Others present included: Kyle McColly, Mayor; Jared Lucas, Police Chief; Mike MaGinn, Fire Chief; Stephanie Hessey, Human Resources Officer; Kate Niederkohr; John Walker; Brian Hemminger, Daily Chief Union; and Sarah Bennett, Clerk.

The summary of bills totaling \$36,485.99 was presented.

A motion was made by Mrs. Lemire, seconded by Mr. Korte, for the approval and payment of bills totaling \$36,485.99. Upon Voice Vote, all members voted Yes. The Chairperson declared the motion carried.

The minutes of the June 1, 2026 Safety Committee meeting, having been mailed to each Safety Committee member, were approved as received.

Chief MaGinn again inquired about the wage status of the paid-on-call (fka: volunteer) firefighters. Considerable discussion was held regarding amending the current pay of \$12.00 per hour for the paid-on-call firefighters and instead paying those individuals \$15.00 per hour for three (3) hours of call-out (not at an overtime rate). Chief MaGinn noted that these individuals would be paid at this rate from the time of the page to the time the truck(s) are back in service and only be paid at the three (3) hour call-out rate only if the truck(s) leave the station in response to a call. Any calls requiring time beyond three (3) hours would be paid at an hourly rate of \$15.00 per hour for the excess time. When individuals assist with parades or school functions, etc. they would be paid at the \$15.00 per hour rate with no three (3) hour call-out pay.

A motion was made by Mr. Korte, seconded by Mr. Moore, to recommend to City Council to increase the rate of pay for the paid-on-call firefighters to \$15.00 per hour (not at an overtime rate) for three (3) hours of call-out only if the truck(s) leave the station in response to a call. Upon Roll Call, all members voted Yes. The Chairperson declared the motion carried.

Chief Lucas also inquired about an increase in pay for the Auxiliary Police Officers and requested that the current pay of \$10.00 to \$20.00 per hour be increased to be the equivalent of a probationary Police Officer at \$26.33 per hour. Considerable discussion was held regarding this request. Mayor McColly suggested the Safety Committee look at the possibility of increasing the paid-on-call firefighters pay to be the equivalent of the probationary full-time Firefighters also.

A motion was made by Mr. Moore, seconded by Mr. Korte, to recommend this matter be tabled and revisited at the August 3, 2026 Safety Committee meeting. Upon Voice Vote, all members voted Yes. The Chairperson declared the motion carried.

Chief Lucas reported that he is currently waiting on information from Mr. Ben Buckland, Law Director, regarding the possibility of hiring uncertified police officer applicants and pay for their training. Safety Committee members were asked to contact Mr. Buckland regarding this matter.

Resignation notices from Police Officer Richard Gage Ebert, effective June 29, 2026, and Auxiliary Police Officer Shawn Taylor, effective July 6, 2026, were presented to the Safety Committee by Chief Lucas.

A motion was made by Mr. Moore, seconded by Mrs. Lemire, to accept the resignations of Police Officer Richard Gage Ebert, effective June 29, 2026, and Auxiliary Police Officer Shawn Taylor, effective July 6, 2026. Upon Voice Vote, all members voted Yes. The Chairperson declared the motion carried.

Chief Lucas indicated that former Police Officer Justin Dick has expressed an interest in possibly returning as a Police Officer, and Section 14.02 Reinstatements Generally of the City's Civil Service Commission Rules and Regulations allow for reinstatements within one (1) year from the employee's date of separation from service.

A motion was made by Mr. Korte, seconded by Mrs. Lemire, to approve the reinstatement of Justin Dick as a Police Officer. Upon Roll Call, all members voted Yes. The Chairperson declared the motion carried.

Chief MaGinn inquired about the tax collections allocation for the Safety Services for renovations to the current Safety Building to allow for additional staff. Mayor McColly indicated he will talk to Mrs. Nickie Coppler, City Auditor, regarding the finances for the renovations and he also noted that the Fairhaven property is currently on hold for the reconstruction and relocation of the offices in the Municipal Building and the Police Department. Mayor McColly will also be discussing the selection of an engineer for the renovations to both buildings with Mr. Ben Buckland, Law Director.

Chief MaGinn inquired about the recent full-time firefighter civil service examination. It was noted that twelve (12) of the fourteen (14) applicants took the examination on Saturday, July 13, 2026 and the results have been certified by the Civil Service Commission for further consideration and hiring.

Chief Lucas reported that former Police Officer Charles Seeley has applied to be an Auxiliary Police Officer. Considerable discussion was held regarding the hiring of Charles Seeley as an Auxiliary Police Officer and Mr. Korte indicated that he would prefer that Charles Seeley not be hired for the Police Auxiliary and he would prefer to table further discussion of this issue.

A motion was made by Mr. Korte, seconded by Mrs. Lemire, to table the hiring of Charles Seeley as an Auxiliary Police Officer. Upon Voice Vote, all members voted Yes. The Chairperson declared the motion carried.

It was noted that the Civil Service Commission has certified the results of the June 6, 2026 Police Officer civil service examination and an eligibility list has been formed. Mr. Korte indicated that he will work with Mrs. Stephanie Hessey, Human Resources Officer, to schedule interviews for police officer candidates.

Chief Lucas reported on the following:

- The flashing stop signs on North Eighth Street at the intersection of West Walker Street, making this a 3-way stop, have been installed and people are learning the new traffic pattern as a result of these stop signs.
- Chief Lucas will be working with Mrs. Stephanie Hessey, Human Resources Officer, on scheduling interviews for part-time Police Dispatcher and full-time Police Officer applicants.
- Chief Lucas recently attended a CAD demonstration, and the cost of this system is \$84,000.00 and can be financed at 0% interest for five (5) years. Chief Lucas is waiting on a Motorola flex quote and noted there will be three (3) options available.
- A repeater was installed for the radio console at the Police Department recently and improvements are still needed.
- The Police Department's new Ford Explorer cruiser will be delivered on Wednesday, July 8, 2026.
- The Police Department participated in the 4th of July parade.
- The Police Department also participated in a recent benefit sponsored by Joe Bayliff's Route 30 Harley Davidson dealership.
- Chief Lucas will contact Mrs. Mandie Bayliff and address any concerns regarding Joe Bayliff's Route 30 Harley Davidson's "Route 30 Rodeo" event to take place beginning Thursday, August 20, 2026 and ending on Sunday, August 23, 2026 at the Wyandot County Fairgrounds.
- Chief Lucas presented the Police Department's Activity Report for June 2026 showing a total of two hundred eighty seven (287) calls for service and a breakdown of those calls.

Chief MaGinn reported on the following:

- During the month of June the Fire Department responded to thirty-nine (39) calls as follows:
 - o Six (6) fire calls.
 - o Eleven (11) false alarms.
 - o Eleven (11) smoke/odor/electrical calls.
 - o Four (4) vehicle accidents.
 - o Five (5) EMS assists.
 - o Two (2) good intent.
- Engine 110 has been repaired and is back in service.
- A fault was found on the electrical panel of the Ladder Truck for a pump. The truck is still in service but waiting on this repair.
- Truck 120 and the tanker truck need to also be serviced.

Chief MaGinn inquired about the timeframe for the hiring of three (3) additional full-time firefighters. Safety Committee members indicated that these hirings will be addressed following the hiring of a full-time Fire Chief.

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

Sarah J. Bennett, Clerk

Aaron Korte, Chairperson