

**HEALTH & SAFETY COMMITTEE MINUTES**  
**OF MARCH 11, 2019**

Municipal Council of the City of Vermilion  
Municipal Complex, 685 Decatur Street, Vermilion, Ohio 44089

**Attendance:** *Steve Herron, President of Council; Monica Stark, Council at Large; John Gabriel, Ward 1; Frank Loucka, Ward 2; Steve Holovacs, Ward 3; Barb Brady, Ward 4. Absent: Brian Holmes, Ward 5*

**Administration:** *Jim Forthofer, Mayor; Amy Hendricks, Finance Director; Chris Howard, City Engineer; Tony Valerius, Service Director; Chris Hartung, Police Chief; Chris Stempowski, Fire Chief*

Barb Brady, Chairwoman, RESOLVED THAT this Health & Safety Committee comprised of the committee of the whole does now come to order.

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**TOPIC ONE:           Fire Chief's Report**

Chief Stempowski reported the department responded to 15 calls in the month of February for a year to date total of 31. He said the department radios were recently programmed through a Homeland Security Grant. They are moving forward in the future with another project with the Lorain County radios.

He said they are currently working under a new Medical Director, Dr. Palmer from Mercy Regional Medical Center and they are in the process of renewing their drug license for the department.

Lastly, he provided council with the department's 2018 Year End Summary.

**TOPIC TWO:           Police Chief's Report**

Chief Hartung reported over the last couple weeks they have had breaking and entering incidents involving local businesses along Liberty Avenue. He conveyed that Beanie's Coin Laundry, Susie's Café, and Delmonico's Barbershop were broken into. The perpetrator is targeting businesses that don't have alarms and they are smashing through the front glass window and immediately going for the cash register. These incidents are happening between the hours of 1:00 am and 5:00 am and they probably live within the South Shore Court and Salem Drive area based on the pattern they know now. He noted that Detectives Davis, Shupe and Kopniske have been tasked with these cases. They do have a few developing leads from the Susie's Café incident. He asked if anyone is a night owl and they are out in those areas and notice anything suspicious to contact to the police department. They have asked these businesses to take extra precaution by leaving no cash in the register if they fit this profile. Also, if anyone has video surveillance in any of these areas, they would appreciate if they could contact Detective Davis.

He said Martin Robinson the individual who shot Gene Ptacek during a standoff was sentenced to 55 years in prison. One of the counts for attempted murder was for Vermilion Patrolman, Sean Bailey who was on the SWAT team who exchanged gunfire with Mr. Robinson. He was taking the gunfire with his shield while they were evacuating G. Ptacek. If anyone has an opportunity to talk with Officer Bailey, it's an interesting story. The department plans on recognizing him for his courage in this situation.

He said in 20 days the winter parking ban will expire.

B. Brady adjourned the meeting after no further discussion came before the committee.

*Next Meeting: April 8, 2019 @ 7pm*

*Gwen Fisher, Certified Municipal Clerk*