

HEALTH & SAFETY COMMITTEE MINUTES
OF MAY 14, 2018

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

In Attendance: **Vermilion City Council:**
S. Herron, President of Council; Monica Stark, Council at Large; John Gabriel, Ward One; Frank Loucka, Ward Two; Steve Holovacs, Ward Three; Barb Brady, Ward Four; Brian Holmes, Ward Five

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

Call to Order: B. Brady, Chairperson, RESOLVED THAT this Health & Safety Committee comprised of the committee of the whole does now come to order.

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

C. Stempowski reported the fire department responded to 14 incidents in the month of April for a total of 62 year to date.

He addressed the south flat roof at Station #1 on Ohio Street that needs repaired. They have received and approved the quotes for the repair.

Chief reported on the following:

- Command vehicle was ordered on April 24. Delivery is expected around June or July.
- Received much praise about the boats, trailer, and motors the department recently purchased. It's been involved in the Lorain County Swift Water Rescue training on three occasions and they actually did a rescue during their training using the boats.
- North Central Air Care (helicopter/new air ambulance) is now stationed at Station #3 on Route 250. They conducted a training scenario and looked at the equipment and discussed safe landing zones.
- Lorain County Fire Safety Trailer which is owned by the Lorain County Fire Chief's will be at the Fish Festival for the children and adults to learn about fire safety. It will then be moved over to the Safety Town Program.
- The Emergency Vehicle Driver's Training continues. This weekend is the obstacle course that will be set up at the High School Parking Lot.

B. Brady asked if there were any updates on the new fire station. C. Stempowski said there is nothing more to report. Mayor Forthofer said they were approved by the legal department for a

request for a criteria architect. Once the applications for a criteria architect come back they will have a committee meeting with Councilman Holovacs and the rest of the committee to review the applications. Once they have a criteria architect then they can move on with a defined project.

TOPIC TWO: Police Chief's Report

C. Hartung said vehicle entries are increasing and he warned the residents to lock their vehicles and to be careful on what they leave in their vehicles. Two of the vehicles entered had loaded handguns that were stolen. They have a general idea on who is responsible for these activities and now they have guns.

He reported that Captain Graham is finishing up ICS400. He and Captain Graham finished the Chief's in service. They are finishing up the fleet installation of 850. The boat will go into the water this week. He reported that Safety Town begins on June 11 and Rotary Swim Lessons also run from June 11-15, so if you're having a child in Safety Town and you want them to do the swim lessons, then sign up for the afternoon session so they can participate in both. He reported that Sunday, September 23 is the Woollybear Festival.

He reported that on April 16 they had a bank robbery at Huntington Bank. He commended the clerk for keeping a good presence. The individual who committed the robbery was indicted on a Second Degree Felony for the robbery and the additional count of kidnapping was added on by the Grand Jury.

This week is Police Week and they did the Lorain County Police Memorial last Thursday in Wellington.

He said on September 4, 5, & 6; they will have possession of a Mobile Driving Simulator. Every two years the insurance company likes the department to have hands on drivers training. In the past, they would send the department to Mid-Ohio and it didn't cost them anything, but the state has decided they don't want to do it this year.

He said they received their Travelers audit and the insurance company came in and this was the best audit he has been through.

He reported that Patrolman Davis and Patrolman Woods recently completed their Crisis Intervention Training to deal with individuals with mental issues. They are at about 60% certified for the entire agency and his goal is 100% on the full time officers and then it will translate into the part time officers. Patrolman Chandler just finished boat school and all of them did their refresher on the standardized field sobriety test, and the prosecutor came in and provided legal updates.

M. Stark asked for an update on the heroin epidemic. Chief Hartung said it's steady and he attributes a lot of the car entries to substance abuse issues. The overdoses are steady and they are seeing a lot more DUI's lately.

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

Next Meeting: June 11, 2018 at 7:00 pm

Gwen Fisher, Certified Municipal Clerk