

HEALTH & SAFETY COMMITTEE MINUTES
OF SEPTEMBER 24, 2018

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

B. Holmes opened the meeting by welcoming Boy Scout Troop 447 and asked them to lead City Council in saying the 'Pledge of Allegiance'.

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

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

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**

Mayor Forthofer reported that the new engine 99 will be getting outfitted soon. All truck preventative maintenance has been completed, except for engine 80 that is out of service. The oil spill on the river this past summer is still under review and waiting for a determination. The fire department responded to 23 incidents in the month of August for a total of 149 total responses year to date.

He reported that bench testing and ladder testing has been completed and everything passed. The department will be conducting a hose test on September 29 and 30 at 8:00 am at Vermilion Elementary School in the parking lot. Pump testing will be conducted on October 8 with the Vermilion Township Fire Department. Fire Prevention Week is October 7-13; Open Houses will be at both stations from noon to 3:00 pm. Recruiting Day is October 7 from noon to 3:00 pm. If the public knows of anyone interested in becoming a firefighter than they should inform them to go to either Fire Station and they will explain everything. The Fire Department is still waiting on parts from the manufacturer to finish repairs on Engine 80, which was the engine involved in the unfortunate incident of backing out of the station.

Lastly, he reported the Fire Department hired a firefighter (Zach Adams) in September and he will be attending school in the fall.

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

B. Brady thanked the police department for all their assistance during the last Third Thursday event.

Chief Hartung reported the city got through the Woollybear Festival and everything went surprisingly smooth.

He said he applied for Ohio's Certified Law Enforcement Executive (CLEE) program through the OACP and was accepted into the program which is a 14-month program. This program is run through The Ohio Association of Chiefs of Police through the Ohio State Highway Patrol Academy. It's 14 months but there are only a few days of in-service. It's mostly self-study, writing papers, and putting together projects.

He said this Wednesday the Homecoming Parade will be held in the Valley View area and warned everyone to be careful when driving.

He reported on September 11 his officers were called to Sherod Park as a boat was grounded onshore with two fuel drums and the steering wheel was lashed and the throttles were engaged. About the same time, they got another call on Main Street of someone trying to steal a car and when backing up this individual ran into trash cans and got yelled at, and the guy said somebody was after him and he had to get out of town quick. About the same time, they found out from the Sheriff's department that they were dealing with an incident where Wayside had been broken into, plus a barn had been broken into, another car had been smashed out, and a car then being stolen from Huron Street. This individual drove to Sandusky and went to Home Depot and bought paint masks and went to Elyria and ate at Wendy's, and then was picked up by the State Highway Patrol around Medina. The individual had psychological issues and felt China was after him. He said the department was questioned on why St. Mary's wasn't notified to lock down. He said the only way to explain this is that everything happened at once and none of these incidents were connected until the subject became connected and pieces came together. He said this individual had driven a stolen van from Fremont and left it down at Valley Harbor the night before.

He reported they had another car stolen by an individual who was suffering some mental issues. He asked the public to please quit leaving doors unlocked and keys in the ignition.

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

Next Meeting: October 15, 2018 at 7:00 pm

Gwen Fisher, Certified Municipal Clerk