

City of Willowick
Lake County, Ohio
Minutes and Proceedings of the Safety Committee Meeting

Date: August 6, 2019

Place: City Hall

Time: 6:30 PM

Present Safety Committee members: Chairman Pintar, Ms. Turk and Ms. Koudela

Absent: None

Also present: Mayor Regovich, Councilman Reho, Chief Posipanka, Chief Turner and Mr. Pauley

Safety Committee meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Mr. Pintar.

Topics of discussion:

First topic of discussion was southbound E. 305 St. re-striping for right turn only onto Rt. 2. Mayor Regovich will get with Mr. Pauley and see what it will take to stripe this ourselves. Chairman Pintar suggested removing northbound left-hand turning lane and making southbound straight lane longer since there is a short portion that is one lane which could still cause traffic backups.

Second topic for discussion is no parking signs on Charles and Daniels. Mayor Regovich said this has been completed and has not heard any complaints since.

Third item for discussion was Fire Department staffing. Chief Posipanka had provided a couple spreadsheets, one which is comparable wages for part-time firefighters to nearby and surrounding cities. It looks like we are not the lowest paid nor the highest but somewhere in the middle. The other spreadsheet is an analysis if firefighters made wages like the police make. The difference in pay over a year would be over \$1 million.

Mayor Regovich pointed out that the amount of runs Willowick does is similar to Willoughby. They would rather go elsewhere and make a couple bucks more and not have as many runs.

Chairman Pintar said the second spreadsheet was hard to understand. Chief Posipanka agreed and explained that he took 2018 work hours at current wage and what they were paid in 2018 which was a little over \$1 million. He then took those hours and made them comparable to what the police make per last contract and associated that with the firemen. He then ran the same hours if they were paid at those rates, and the difference was over \$1 million more.

Chairman Pintar stated that he doesn't understand why the firemen always want to compare themselves to police. Previously the Chief mentioned police only have 5 weeks of training. Chairman Pintar asked Chief Turner how much training police need. Chief Turner said Ohio State Highway Patrol academy is 21 weeks plus 14-18 weeks in car training. Our police is a full-time job and fire is a part-time position. Now we have examples of rates to compare and bring forward to Council and at budget time since we cannot discuss in too much detail at this time while negotiations are ongoing.

Fourth item for discussion was honeybees. If we remove them from the ordinance, then the changes would have to go to the vote of the people. We would need the Law Director to modify the ordinance. Chairman Pintar has not been able to determine who inspects the hives since no one seems to have this information. Mayor Regovich said he was at a meeting recently, and it seems like the bee population has come back a little. He has not heard of anyone recently wanting to have hives.

Last item for discussion was the number of animals a person can have. Cats and dogs limited but nothing else. Mayor Regovich indicated it is tough to enforce and to determine where to draw the limit.

Chairman Pintar said there were no action items tonight, but it was just general discussion.

Meeting adjourned: 6:55 pm

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Ken Pintar', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Ken Pintar
Chairman, Safety Committee