

**SAFETY COMMITTEE MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 17, 2019**

The Safety Committee meeting was held on September 17, 2019, at North Royalton City Hall, 14600 State Road. The meeting was called to order at 6:01 p.m.

PRESENT: Committee Members: Chairman Dan Langshaw, Vice Chair Cheryl Hannan, Gary Petrusky; **Council:** Larry Antoskiewicz, John Nickell, Dan Kasaris; **Administration:** Mayor Robert Stefanik, Law Director Thomas Kelly, Fire Chief Robert Chegan, Police Chief Ken Bilinovich, Safety Director Bruce Campbell; **Other:** Linda Barath, Jessica Fenos, Mike Wos, Dawn Carbone-McDonald, Michael McDonald, Vincent Weimer, Wayne Malz, Taras Malz, Shawn Paul.

Moved by Mr. Langshaw, seconded by Mr. Petrusky to **excuse Mrs. Hannan from voting on the minutes of July 16, 2019.** Roll Call: Yeas: 2. Nays: 0. **Motion carried.**

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Moved by Mr. Langshaw, seconded by Mr. Petrusky to **approve the July 16, 2019 Safety Committee minutes.** Yeas: 2. Nays: 0. **Motion carried.**

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. Discussion of Police Dash & Body Cameras

Mr. Campbell said that they are still in the process of testing and anticipates that it will be done and a recommendation made by the end of October or early November. He said that he is researching grant funding opportunities for this purchase. Mr. Nickell asked about a recent incident where the camera may have been disconnected during an encounter. Mr. Campbell said that the audio never cut out and the camera was disabled for a brief time, possibly due to the very close proximity of the suspect to the camera.

2. Fire Hydrant Flushing/Maintenance/Painting

Chief Chegan said that the maintenance was completed in August. A list has been sent to Cleveland Water outlining repairs that are needed. He said that they painted 168 hydrants this year. Discussion on using a sandblaster and the associated costs took place. Chief Chegan said that the cost analysis per hydrant this year was about \$60.00. **Remove from agenda.**

NEW BUSINESS

1. Deer Hunting

Wayne Malz, 5011 Corkwood Drive, addressed the committee. He said that he is the Vice President of the Royal Valley HOA and wished to discuss deer. He said that deer hunting begins September 28, 2019 and he said that he spoke with the Police Chief and was told that there are no hunters that will hunt in Royal Valley. He said they had 8 hunters last year. He spoke with some of these hunters and asked why they were not coming back. He was told that the \$150.00 registration fee and cost of the gear, etc. is very expensive. He said that they have to tag the deer once it is shot and they don't want to be wasting tags on deer. Mr. Malz asked if the city would consider reducing the registration fee. He said that one of the hunters told him that he can go to Gates Mills for \$25.00. He said another hunter told him he hunts in the apple orchards near Mapleside for free by getting a nuisance permit. Mayor Stefanik said that we limited the permits last year and were turning people away because we had such a demand. Chief Bilinovich said that we have had pretty steady involvement with this program over the last three years. He said that this year we have 85 permits issued and one nuisance permit which you can get through the ODNR. He said that he does not know why the hunters in the Royal Valley area are not returning. He said that he has been told by hunters that it is worth it for them to pay the registration fee because they are guaranteed to get deer, where other cities don't offer as much success. Mayor Stefanik said that there are a couple homeowners in Royal Valley that made it somewhat difficult for the hunters. There are residents who don't want the deer hunting and were making the hunters feel uncomfortable. Mr. Malz said that he was told by a hunter that a resident came out of their home screaming and waving a shovel and the police had to be called. He again asked that the city consider reducing the fee. Mayor Stefanik said that we have heard

comments over the years that the fee is too high, yet we max out on the permits every year. It does take time for our Police Department to go out and make sure everything is done properly, and as a testament to them, there have been no issues except for the few instances in Royal Valley with unhappy homeowners. He said it has been a very safe program and that is because we take extra steps to police it and make sure it is done properly. He said that it would be up to City Council to address the fee for next year. Mr. Nickell said that he has stated in the past that the fee is too high. He still wants safety measures in place, but in his view, we have people doing us a service by culling the deer in these areas and it has helped. Mr. Antoskiewicz recommended that this be addressed next year at a Safety Committee meeting. There will be a new Council seated and they can determine if they want to address this issue.

Shawn Paul, 4901 Persimmon Lane, addressed the committee. He asked when a hunter gets a permit, is it for a specific stand and location or is it city wide. Chief Bilinovich said that it is for a specific stand. He said that part of the fee covers the police officers who go out and inspect every stand, every year, to make sure that it meets all the requirements. He said that on the application, the hunter might submit 2 or 3 different locations at which they might be hunting. The day that they go out to hunt, they have to call the Police Department to tell them the location and time frame they will be hunting. This way we know when they are coming and going.

Mr. Langshaw suggested that Mr. Malz, as Vice President of the HOA, ask his neighbors to be more cooperative with the program and not scare the hunters away. He said that nuisance permits can be obtained from the ODNR as well and asked the Police Chief if residents can still pull these permits. Chief Bilinovich said that a nuisance permit can be pulled at any time, but the qualifications for these permits are fairly strict.

MISCELLANEOUS

Mr. Kasaris reminded those running for political office that they are not permitted to place campaign signs within the city's right of way. He said that it is a safety issue.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Mr. Langshaw, seconded by Mr. Petrusky **to adjourn the September 17, 2019 meeting**. Yeas: 3.
Nays: 0. **Motion carried.**

Meeting adjourned at 6:25 p.m.