

**MEETING MINUTES
PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING
JULY 10, 2023
GERMANTOWN VILLAGE HALL BOARD ROOM**

CALL: The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Chairman Hudson.

ROLL CALL: Chairman Hudson, Trustees Baum, Neureuther, and Pieper.

Also present were Police Chief Snow and Fire Chief Delain.

CITIZEN INPUT: Melanie Smythe of N140 W17938 Cedar Lane was present and expressed thanks to the police and fire departments for their contributions to ensuring a safe and fun 4th of July.

Smythe referenced the Mueller Communications agenda item and suggested that discussions on this topic be postponed until budget discussions are conducted and the numbers from the 2022 annual report are available. She also advised that during last year's referendum process, Mueller self-disqualified by releasing information prior to Village Board finalizing the language for the actual referendum, thereby tainting the referendum.

Hudson thanked Ms. Smythe for volunteering her services during the July 4th activities.

Scott Hefle of W159 N10514 Old Farm Road stated that with the approval of the State's shared revenue bill, that money could go towards additional staff for the police department, possibly negating the need for a referendum. He also pointed out that the agenda item for tonight's meeting on staffing for police and fire indicates looking at 3 fulltime fire department employees or 1 police officer and he felt that was a mistake and should state 3 firefighters and 2 police officers, and a new squad would be needed and purchased through the capital borrowing plan. He stressed that public safety should be considered first when determining how the funds from the state will be spent.

Hefle stated that if this item does go to a referendum, he wants to make sure the right language is used and the needs of the departments are met. He also brought up using Fire Protection Fees for public safety and said that as a resident he would be in favor of paying an extra \$52/year to put towards these costs.

Hudson thanked Mr. Hefle for volunteering his services during the July 4th activities.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: A motion was made by Pieper, seconded by Baum, to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes from June 5, 2023 and the Special Meeting Minutes from June 19, 2023. Motion carried unanimously.

POLICE DEPARTMENT MONTHLY REPORT: Snow reported on the following:

- 4th of July event was well attended, officers reported no major incidents. Scheduling and staffing were organized by Captain Merten
- There were some issues with trash left in the parks, will be meeting with Scott Anderson to work on improvements for next year's event
- There are calls for service which have created a challenge to staffing, i.e., officers recently responded to a retail theft complaint where weapons were located on a subject, all officers on duty needed to respond for multiple arrests which created stacking of incoming calls
- Baum asked about backup protocols and getting assistance from other agencies, Snow stated the department checks with Washington County Sheriff's south squad, or will contact Menomonee Falls or Mequon depending on the location of need
- Pieper asked about a vehicle parked on railroad tracks during the July 4th parade, Snow advised the vehicle was parked too close to the tracks and had to be moved
- Neureuther asked if local retail establishments have private security, Snow said most have Loss Prevention personnel who can detain violators and then call police
- Hudson thanked the police department for their work at the July 4th event

FIRE DEPARTMENT MONTHLY REPORT: Delain reported on the following:

- There have been some updates done to the monthly report including a more detailed breakdown of the calls for service
- Monthly report also tracks how often they provide mutual aid to other departments and how often they receive mutual aid from other agencies
- These numbers show how often they are unavailable for calls, some mutual aid requests can take all available personnel, others can be declined
- Commended Battalion Chief Rodriguez for his efforts during the July 4th event
- Hudson thanked the fire department for their work at the July 4th event

POLICY UPDATES FOR POLICE & FIRE DEPARTMENT:

Police Department – none

Fire Department – none

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

CONTRACT WITH MUELLER COMMUNICATIONS FOR PRELIMINARY INVESTIGATIONS ON POSSIBLE PUBLIC SAFETY REFERENDUM NOT TO EXCEED \$50,629.90: Pieper stated that for discussion purposes she would make a motion to approve the contract with Mueller Communications for preliminary investigations on possible public safety referendum. Motion was seconded by Baum.

Discussion followed with Neureuther stating he would not support a motion to approve this item and he believes there was never a decision made to have a referendum, there have only been discussions about its possibility. He questioned why it is still on the agenda and said if the Village is serious about holding a referendum, there should be more than one bid to

consider. Neureuther added that with the financial constraints the Village is experiencing, spending over \$50,000 on this item would not make sense.

Pieper agreed with Neureuther's comments and said it was premature to put this on the agenda and noted there are other ways to get funding for police and fire positions.

Baum stated he would like the committee to be fully informed with all the correct information on this topic before coming to a decision so whether this item is postponed to another date or removed from the agenda, he would not support it at this meeting.

Motion to approve this item was voted on, all members voted nay, motion failed 0-4.

NEW BUSINESS

BUDGET INCLUSION FOR 2024 FOR THREE (3) FULLTIME FIRE DEPARTMENT EMPLOYEES OR ONE (1) POLICE OFFICER: Neureuther stated this item has been addressed at previous meetings and read from the minutes of the June 5, 2023 meeting which indicated that "a motion was made/seconded to request the administrator and finance director to examine the budget for this year and all other sources of revenue or cuts in expenditures that were previously mentioned and come back next month with a dollar amount of what those numbers would be." He added that this item keeps coming back for discussion when previous motions have not been completed, and he would like to see some consistency in how agenda items are carried through with. Neureuther also said he is inclined to believe there is a surplus in the budget that could be used for additional positions in public safety.

Baum stated he has similar concerns but also feels there are some aspects of this item that can be discussed, and asked if there was any information on the financial criteria for the police and fire department positions. He added he would like to go to budget with specific ideas on where funding can come from, and noted there needs to be some flexibility with this matter and multiple options for consideration. Baum asked Finance Director Uselding if he had any information on the finance numbers that were requested at last month's meeting, Uselding advised he had not been provided with any direction for numbers yet.

Pieper stated there had been some recent legislative changes in the county that may impact the Village and result in more funding. Pieper made a motion to direct staff to look into the newest legislation changes from the state and in the county, instead of doing the budget inclusion, to find more staffing for Police and Fire. Motion was seconded by Neureuther and carried unanimously.

DENIAL OF OPERATORS LICENSE FOR RAQUAN THOMPSON: a motion was made by Baum to recommend approval of the denial for Raquan Thompson's Operator's License application for discussion purposes. Snow advised that Thompson had a felony conviction for maintaining a drug trafficking place. Motion was seconded by Neureuther.

Discussion followed with Pieper stating that the applicant's record was not related to alcohol offenses, and she would not object to his holding an Operators License. Motion to approve the recommendation of denial failed with a 2-2 vote; Hudson and Neureuther voted aye, Baum and Pieper voted nay.

DENIAL OF FOOD VENDOR LICENSE FOR LYLE FARRELL: Snow advised the application for Farrell was denied due to a review of his background check which showed a 1992 conviction for lewd and lascivious behavior.

A motion was made by Pieper, seconded by Neureuther, to approve the application for the food vendor license for Lyle Farrell. Motion carried unanimously.

RENEWAL OF CLASS A FERMENTED MALT BEVERAGE, INCLUDING CIDER AND INTOXICATING LIQUOR LICENSE, FOR JULY 1, 2023 – JUNE 30, 2024 FOR AJIMA CORPORATION, RAJAN SHRESTHA, AGENT, DBA HOLY HILL ROAD SHELL, N128 W21760 HOLY HILL ROAD, COOLERS, OFFICE, BACK STORAGE: a motion was made by Baum, seconded by Pieper, to forward this item to Village Board with a recommendation to approve as presented. Discussion followed with committee members questioning the business name and its accuracy and whether the change of ownership paperwork had been approved.

Baum withdrew his motion and made a new motion to table this item until next month's meeting so any needed corrections could be made to the application form. Motion was seconded by Pieper and carried unanimously.

NEXT MEETING: Hudson advised that next month's meeting would be held on Monday, August 7, 2023 at 5:30 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT: there being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:13 p.m.

Recorded by,

Julie L. Barth
Secretary