

VILLAGE OF FONTANA ON GENEVA LAKE

Walworth County, WI

Protection Committee

Monday, July 18, 2016

(Official Minutes)

The monthly meeting of the Protection Committee was called to order at 4:00 pm on Monday, July 18, 2016 by Chairman Dave Prudden.

Committee Members Present: Chairman Prudden, Trustee Petersen, Bob Allen, Joe Corso, Jim Frost, Bob Moravecek

Committee Member Absent: Phil Costa

Also Present: Jack Gorey, Stephanie Klug, Clerk Theresa Loomer, Fire and Rescue Dept. Chief Wolfgang Nitsch, Police Chief Steve Olson,

Approval of Minutes for Meeting Held May 16, 2016

Allen/Corso 2nd made a MOTION to approve the minutes from May 16, 2016 as presented, and the MOTION carried without negative vote.

Visitors Heard

Jack Gorey from the Indian Hills subdivision stated he wished to speak on Agenda Item No. 2 Amend Loud Noise Ordinance. Gorey stated he is concerned with the noise level stemming from large construction and landscape vehicles that arrive to the Indian Hills subdivision early in the morning and late in the evening. He said he is also concerned with the amount of space the vehicles take up because the roads are narrow and in the event of an emergency ambulance and fire trucks would not be able to get through. He suggested establishing a time restriction on when construction and landscape trucks would be permitted into the subdivision. Since the roads in the subdivision are private, Prudden asked what the opinion is of the Association Board of Directors and Gorey replied the issue has been ongoing for several decades. Prudden acknowledged it is a problem in many of the private subdivisions. Chief Olson stated that parking on any of the roads in private subdivisions is a private matter and not enforceable by police; officers are only able to enforce drunken driving, reckless driving and parking by fire hydrants. Chief Olson offered a possible solution and stated a private subdivision can make a request to the Village Board in writing for additional traffic laws to be enforced. He said the police are unable to enforce any noise problems unless a complaint is made, in which case the police will warn the suspect one time, but if a second complaint is made, the complainant has to agree to pursue the issue and then an officer will issue a ticket. The police cannot issue a ticket for noise without a complaint from a resident. Prudden asked Chief Olson to obtain sample ordinances from other agencies and bring back additional information next month.

General Business

U Turn Signs on the Blvd and 67 – Discussion Only

Prudden stated he was contacted by a local resident who is concerned about driver's making U-turns at the intersection in front of the Shell Gas Station possibly causing minor accidents. Chief Olson contacted the State Safety Engineer who reported there is no record of any car accident being caused by a vehicle making a U-turn at that intersection. Since the intersection is on State Highway 67, the state would need to give their blessing in order to adopt a no U-turn requirement, and since there has not been any accidents there are no viable grounds to pursue the requirement.

Amend Loud Noise Ordinance – Discussion Only

This item was discussed under Visitors Heard.

Drone Purchase – Discussion Only

Chief Nitsch stated the department has had several events when the use of a drone would have been helpful, including a recent storage building fire. He was able to borrow a drone from a citizen in a neighboring community but would like to purchase one that is FLIR rated (Forward Looking Infrared) and is capable of detecting hot spots, has infrared capabilities, and two-way communication. He said a drone would be helpful in situations like looking for lost children, communication with someone that is stuck on the top floor of a burning building, and for taking aerial images of vehicle or fire wreckages. Chief Nitsch said typically drones can only be used in extreme cases without first having a search warrant. He stated he has not sought out pricing yet but believes they are in the range of \$8,000 to \$13,000 and said there might be an individual willing to donate money for the purchase so it would not be a burden to taxpayers. Prudden asked about the possibility of splitting the drone and cost with another department, and Nitsch replied that problems often occur with shared equipment such as who takes care of the equipment and who maintains it. Petersen suggested waiting to purchase the drone until after the Rescue Boat is paid for; however, the committee members agreed that if the money was being donated and there is no cost to the taxpayers other than maintenance, it is a good idea. Chief Nitsch said there are currently no laws or ordinances for drones and the state is trying to establish guidelines. Committee members asked questions about whether a drone would need FAA approval, the training required for use, and what types of instances it would be used for. Chief Nitsch agreed to obtain more information, including cost, which is to be presented at next month's meeting.

Moving Portable Building by DPW to House Communication Equipment 2017 Budget Consideration

The Village received for no charge an old cellular tower equipment shed a few years ago when one of the tenants put up new equipment and installed a new shed by the Village cell tower. A communication shed that is currently used is used by the Walworth County Sheriff's Department and Village to store police, fire and DPW radio equipment; however, it is small and not very durable. The donated portable shed is larger and hurricane strength and is a much safer place to house the communication equipment. The Village of Fontana cellular tower equipment shed was moved to an open area at the DPW site and is used for storage. It would cost \$50,000 to \$60,000 brand new, and in order for it to be moved back by the cellular tower a crane would have to be rented and a new cement foundation poured. Chief Olson will bring back more information to the committee next month.

Fire/Rescue Department

Monthly Report

Chief Nitsch presented the monthly report. He stated there have been 141 calls for service year-to-date. There was one significant fire at the storage unit building at 201 Dewey Avenue since the last Protection Committee meeting. No one was injured in the fire and the MABAS alarm was pulled almost immediately after receiving the call. On a different date, they received a call of a missing elderly man who was found six-hours later in Rock County.

Police Department

Monthly Report

Chief Olson presented his monthly administrative report.

Amend Village Ordinance 42-1 943.23 to Include Driver

Chief Olson said that Wisconsin state statute 943.23 contains many sub-statutes to address a number of scenarios relating to Operating Vehicle Without Owner's Consent. When the Village adopted the state statute, only 943.23(4m) was adopted and penalizes a passenger and not the driver. Chief Olson recommended adopting 943.23 in entirety.

Trustee Petersen/Allen 2nd made a MOTION to recommend Village Board approval to amend ordinance 42-1 to adopt State Statute 943.23 in its entirety, and the MOTION carried without negative vote.

Set Next Meeting Date

The next meeting date was scheduled for Monday, August 15, 2016 beginning at 4:00 pm

Adjournment

Allen/Moravec 2nd made a MOTION to adjourn the meeting at 4:49 pm, and the MOTION carried without negative vote.

Minutes prepared by: Theresa Loomer, Village Clerk

Note: These minutes are subject to further editing. Once approved by the Protection Committee, the official minutes will be kept on file at the Village Hall.

APPROVED: 9/19/16