

**VILLAGE OF FONTANA ON GENEVA LAKE
WALWORTH COUNTY, WISCONSIN**

Protection Committee
Monday, December 12, 2022

The meeting of the Protection Committee was called to order at 3:30 pm on Monday, December 12, 2022, by Chairman Petersen.

Committee Members Present: Chairman Trustee Petersen, Al Kaminski, Robert Moravecek, Joe Corso

Committee Members Absent: Jim Carroll, Mark Gerard

Also Present: Police Chief Jeff Cates, Fire Chief Wolf Nitsch, Assistant Fire Chief Jon Kemmet, Administrator Theresa Loomer, Deputy EMS Chief Rick Manthy, Stephanie Klug

Visitors Heard

None

Approval of Minutes

The minutes for the meeting held on October 10, 2022, were distributed to the committee members via email.

Corso/Moravecek 2nd made a MOTION to approve the minutes from October 10, 2022, as submitted, and the MOTION carried without negative vote.

General Business

Discussion or Action on Proposed Semper Running Half Marathon on July 8, 2023

Chief Cates stated that the Semper Run starts at Big Foot High School and ends at Big Foot Beach in Lake Geneva. The runners leave Big Foot High School at 7:00 am, cross Hwy B, head down Shabbona Drive, and head out of town on S. Lakeshore Drive. They are usually out of Fontana between 7:30 and 7:45 am. There have been no issues in the past years and anticipate no issues with the run in 2023.

Trustee Petersen/Kaminski 2nd made a MOTION to recommend Village Board approval of the Semper Running Half Marathon on July 8, 2023, and the MOTION carried without negative vote.

Discussion or Action on Proposed Crosswalk at Highway 67 & Main Street

Chief Cates was approached by the Fontana Grade School and the Cliffs Association. They both asked about having a flashing light crosswalk installed at Hwy 67 and W. Main Street which would mirror the flashing light crosswalk that was installed at Hwy 67 and Porter Court. The grade school and Big Foot Rec. Dept. summer camp, which is run out of Fontana Grade School, have numerous walking trips to the library, Fire Department, and Beach each year. The residents of the Cliffs have made complaints about traffic on Hwy 67 and how difficult it is to cross Hwy 67 when out on a walk. The Cliffs Association has advised that they would be willing to share in the cost of installing the flashing light crosswalk. Chief Cates recalled when the Village installed the flashing light crosswalk at Hwy 67 & Porter Court the cost was around \$8,000.00. The Protection Committee expressed concerns about removal of the flashing light when Hwy 67 is reconstructed in the next four to six years and requested additional information, including cost, before making a recommendation.

Moravecek/Kaminski 2nd made a MOTION to TABLE the proposed crosswalk at Highway 67 and Main Street until additional information, including cost, can be provided, and the MOTION carried without negative vote.

Discussion or Action on Stop Sign Locations in Fontana i.e., Third Ave & S. Lakeshore & Indian Hills

Kaminski stated that when the stop signs were installed at Third Avenue & Douglas Street and at Third Avenue & High Street it seemed like it was a unilateral request and is unsure what it really accomplished. Chief Cates stated that the stop signs that were installed on Third Avenue as well as the one at S. Lakeshore Drive and Indian Hills Road were put in with much discussion by the Village Board. Cates said that a lot of residents in the area of S. Lakeshore Drive and Indian Hills Road like having the stop sign there and it slows traffic down. There are residents on Third Avenue who were very much in favor of the stop signs being installed and there was concern about speeding vehicles on Third Avenue.

Trustee Petersen/Corso 2nd made a MOTION to recommend Village Board consideration to take down the stop signs that were installed on S. Lakeshore Drive at Indian Hills Road and install a Cross Traffic Does Not Stop sign on the Indian Hills Road and S. Lakeshore Drive stop sign, and the MOTION carried without negative vote.

Trustee Petersen/Kaminski 2nd made a MOTION to recommend Village Board consideration to take down the stop signs that were installed on Third Avenue at Douglas Street as well as the ones on Third Avenue at High Street and install Cross Traffic Does Not Stop signs on the cross streets stop signs, and the MOTION carried without negative vote.

Safety Building Status and Future Planning

Administrator Loomer stated the current safety building is failing and the village should start discussions on a new building. While several ideas have been considered regarding best locations for a building, that decision really hinges on whether Williams Bay wants to move forward together on a new building now that we have a joint EMS partnership. Chief Nitsch recommended the village reach out to Williams Bay as the first step in the process to determine whether they are on board to build a new facility together. Eventually the village will also need to decide what departments should be housed in a new facility.

Moravecek/Kaminski 2nd made a MOTION to recommend Village Board approval to approach the Village of Williams Bay to discuss the idea of building a combined facility in a centralized location, and the MOTION carried without negative vote.

Fire/Rescue Department **Monthly Report**

The monthly report was emailed out by Stephanie Klug and there were no questions.

EMS Referendum Results and Update

Administrator Loomer stated that the EMS Referendum passed at the November 8, 2022 General Election.

EMS Shared Services Agreement with Williams Bay

Williams Bay proposed an amended EMS services agreement with updates for 2023 services. The current agreement funds up to four fulltime EMS/Paramedic staff in 2022. The updated agreement provides funding for up to seven FTE EMS/Paramedic staff in 2023. The operational costs for staffing both municipalities will be split 50/50 between Fontana and Williams Bay. The agreement is also amended to staff an ambulance in Williams Bay during daytime hours so long as there are at least four EMT/Paramedics on duty. Chief Nitsch, Deputy Chief Manthy and Administrator Loomer are still reviewing the proposed amendments.

Update on Hiring Process

Chief Nitsch stated that they have accepted some applications and the deadline for applications is January 2, 2023. They have not received as many applications as they hoped for, but several other nearby communities also passed EMS referendums this fall and there are numerous departments also looking for applicants.

Discussion or Action Regarding Flex Grant Award

Chief Nitsch submitted a Flex Grant in which he had asked for \$142,000.00 in funding from the state and was awarded \$61,400.00. This was an item specific grant and since the full amount was not awarded, Chief Nitsch amended the items requested in the grant to fit with the amount awarded. Some of these items include, laptop tablets, a suction machine, some rescue task force items, water surface suits as well as other various items. They were also awarded \$50,000.00 for the purchase of a vehicle. Currently they are using an old squad car from the Police Department, and it is need of being replaced. The issue that Chief Nitsch is having now is that all the vehicles on the state bid for 2023 are closed and this grant requires that the money is spent in 2023. Chief Nitsch is asking the committee to propose to the Village Board that if he can find a vehicle for sale that he can put in an offer on a vehicle as long as it fits the needs of the department and is within the budget.

Kaminski/Corso 2nd made a MOTION to recommend Village Board approval for Chief Nitsch to put in an offer on a vehicle as long as the vehicle fits the needs of the department and is within the budget of the \$50,000.00 awarded in the grant, and the MOTION carried without negative vote.

Police Department

YTD Report

The year-to-date report was sent via email to the committee members.

Update on Investigator Position

Chief Cates stated that the village board and WPPA agreed to amend the pay scale for the investigator position, and he has appointed Officer Aaron West. Investigator West will continue to work his current rotation and will remain in uniform handling regular calls, but will also take on cases of significance or cases that need in depth investigation.

Next Meeting Date

The next meeting was scheduled for Monday, January 16, 2023, at 4:30 pm.

Adjournment

Corso/Moravec 2nd made a MOTION to adjourn the meeting at 4:11 pm, and the MOTION carried without negative vote.

Minutes prepared by Stephanie Klug, Administrative Assistant

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: 04-17-2023