

Police Committee Minutes

Thursday, August 16 2012

9:45 a.m. Town Hall

Members Present: J. Auxer, L. Robertson, Dave Springer, and Wanda Grantham Smith

Staff Present: Chief Ransom, Frank Welch

Absent: None

1. Meeting was called to order by Mayor Auxer at 9:50 AM and approval of agenda.

Motion made by D. Springer, Second by W. Smith. Motion carried unanimously.

2. Approval of July 2012 Police Committee minutes as written.
Motion made by D. Springer, Second by W. Smith, to approve the July minutes 2012. Motion carried unanimously.

3. Visitors: Karene Motivans – who spoke to the speed limits throughout town limits. She stated that “gentle driving” is 15 mph and is looking for ideas from the Police Committee.
Mayor – the recommendation has been sent to Chaz to formulate an ordinance, and then it has to be voted on twice. We will wait to hear from Chaz. B. Schill had stated that an ordinance was needed before speaking to the public, and we need signs at each end of the streets. We can let all of the papers know including the Picket.
K. Motivans – it would be nice utilize some of the communication methods that 250 used to alert the public. Maybe use temporary signs that are more attention getting; ‘15 means 15’.

Mayor – signs are expensive.

D. Springer – should speak to DOH about to best implement this idea.

K. Motivans – Virginia has more situations like this, like Hillsboro.

L. Robertson – do we want to be known as a speed trap?

Chief – we already are on a speed trap website.

K. Motivans – can use different techniques to slow traffic down. Maybe like striped line, bump outs or how cars are parked.

Mayor – bump outs and corners slow them down.

K. Motivans – these will help slow aggressive drivers, bikes and motorcycles.

Mayor – it would people actually use the crosswalks.

K. Motivans – there is a “Share our Streets” campaign that relays tips for cyclists and pedestrians about being more considerate, etc.

L. Robertson – we could hand it out like we did for the “Click it or Ticket” campaign.

K. Motivans – can include safe routes info. The message is in accordance with the Comprehensive Plan to promote walk-ability and biking. Could maybe think about graduated speeds through town?

Chief – we have that now, many ignore it.

K. Motivans – crossing Duke Street is very dangerous and it will be even more so when people try to get to Rumsey Green. We need to make the message positive. The timeline is to wait for Chaz by November?

Mayor – yes

D. Springer – should meet with the DOH soon, correct?

Mayor – yes

K. Motivans – Sonya would like to help with the design for the signs, she could donate time from her art class, maybe a contest.

D. Springer – can you send out emails to us with what you find?

K. Motivans – yes. Maybe some inventory type form could be used asking residents to rank their neighborhood.

Mayor – we can attach the forms to the minutes.

K. Motivans – I'm sure different streets have different issues.

D. Springer – another aspect is the radar/speed sign. Do we need another one?

Mayor – a grant could possibly help us with that.

K. Motivans – what about videotape in front of the speed sign to get the license numbers?

Chief – not yet.

Mayor – maybe not for ticket but just for information.

D. Springer – one can video from their own property for info gathering, right Chief?

Chief – yes

K. Motivans – how about a neighborhood watch?

Chief – tried already and we couldn't get people to do it.

4. Financial Report:

a. Stats – no discussion

5. New Business:

6. Old Business:

a. Police vehicles – delivery status:

Still on schedule, one at the end of August and one by the end of the year.

b. Radar Sign placement:

To stay on High Street until school starts then to be moved to the Day Care.

c. Camera placement near Town Run at Jefferson Security Bank:

Chris H. has built a new camera and needs to be placed.

d. SWAT equipment:

Pending

e. Phone application:

The Chief stated that the phone costs would be 50% off now and 50% each year. It would give alerts. The Chief would be the admin and since it's a public app, everyone can download it. It is \$600 to start, then \$500 a year after that.

Mayor – is there a contract and what are the services it provides?

Chief – there are maps, lists of sex offenders, real time crime alerts, and citizens can report crimes and can receive tips. He has gotten positive feedback.

Motion made by L. Robertson, Second by W. Smith to recommend the purchase of the phone application to the Finance Committee. Motion carried by the majority, opposed by D. Springer.

Motion made by D. Springer, Second by W. Smith to adjourn at 10:27 AM. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted by Lori Robertson.