



Village of South Russell

Chief of Police
Michael J. Rizzo

Police Department

5205 Chillicothe Road, South Russell, Ohio 44022

Phone: 440-338-6700
Dispatch: 440-247-7321

SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

September 7, 2023 at 9:00 a.m. @ SRPD – Called to order @ 9:05 a.m.

1. Crosswalk Update

Resident Jordan Canter attended requesting an update on the status of the crosswalk project at Bell at Gurney. The Safety Committee is in favor of moving forward with the project, subject to a residential survey and the input of the Streets Committee. Chief will send out a survey to the residential developments adjacent to the proposed crosswalk sites in order to obtain some feedback from the community.

2. Update to Ordinances

Camping is prohibited in Village Park currently. Recommendation to update ordinance to include all other Village owned properties. Chief will present proposal to the Properties Committee for consideration.

3. Flock Contract Update

New Pricing goes into effect in 2024. A five (5) year contract option locks in the current rate. The committee was in favor of asking Council to consider entering into a five (5) year contract with Flock Safety in the amount of \$30k per year.

4. Tornado Siren

Discussion regarding the effectiveness of the tornado siren after recent storms. The committee was advised that the tornado siren is an outdoor warning signal which may not reach the far east and west ends of the Village or be effective in alerting citizens inside their homes. Furthermore, with the advancement of technology, modern cellular phones are equipped with weather alerts to include tornado warning alerts. It was also reported that the Chagrin Falls tornado siren malfunctioned and did not sound during the storms, which may normally be heard on the west end of the village. The committee agreed that our current tornado siren coupled with cell phone alerting is sufficient and no additional sirens are recommended.

Chief met with Street Commissioner Alder after the meeting regarding the siren and agreed that over the past several years, several trees have grown much taller than the height of the siren head which may be reducing the effectiveness. Street Commissioner will obtain some quotes to trim the treetops on the trees that surround the tornado siren.



Village of South Russell

Chief of Police
Michael J. Rizzo

Police Department

5205 Chillicothe Road, South Russell, Ohio 44022

Phone: 440-338-6700
Dispatch: 440-247-7321

5. Police Department Generator Failure

After a significant power outage last month, the generator located at the police department failed due to lack of gas pressure. Dominion Energy conducted a site survey on 9/7 and determined that a meter upgrade was required. A work crew is scheduled to replace the meter on September 15th at no cost to the Village.

6. Police Department Garage Dehumidifier Unit

The building inspector was contacted to assess excessive heat & humidity in PD garage. Dave Hocevar is concerned that if the conditions aren't corrected there may be a chance of structural damage. Dave contacted two contractors and obtained proposals from Auburn Heating & Smiley One. The quotes came in at \$5,700 & \$6,980. This project could be considered for 2024 as we are approaching cooler weather.

7. School Safety Officer Proposal (SSO)

Superintendent Jennifer Penczarski approached Chagrin Falls Police Chief Dacek and I to assist in creating a School Safety Officer (SSO) position, to be assigned to the Intermediate School in Chagrin and Gurney Elementary in South Russell. The Chagrin Falls Board of Education has asked for a proposal for a full-time Police Officer to fill this proposed new role. The proposal requires an officer to be at the specified location any time school is in session, which equates to approximately 173 days plus 10 training days. The officer will be utilized as manpower when school is not in session. The position would be filled by an officer commissioned and trained by the South Russell Police Department. I will have a full report and proposal after consulting with the Safety Committee, H.R. Committee, and the Fiscal Officer. Chagrin Schools agreed to commit to a three (3) year contract if the proposal is accepted by the board.

8. New Business: Traffic Light

The installation of the new traffic light is complete. A work order has been submitted to allow First Energy to install the meter and make the connection. Unfortunately, the recent storms have pushed back non-essential projects. I contacted our First Energy External Regional Affairs Representative, Dean Hayne to obtain an ETA for the completion of this project. Dean advised that it could be anywhere from a few days to a few weeks, but he will try to get a crew here when able.



Village of South Russell

Chief of Police
Michael J. Rizzo

Police Department

5205 Chillicothe Road, South Russell, Ohio 44022

Phone: 440-338-6700
Dispatch: 440-247-7321

9. Old Business:

School Zone Flasher Controllers – Waiting for quote.

Manor Brook Stop Sign Survey

- 36 NO
- 43 YES
- 9 UNDECIDED

Chief's recommendation is to abandon the placement of stop signs and continue increased enforcement along with the addition of a permanent speed calming device.

Meeting Adjourned at: 10:09 a.m.