



# 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 December 7, 2023 at 9:00 a.m. @ SRPD**

#### **1. Crosswalk Project:**

- Discussion regarding original crosswalk proposal. The Committee decided to focus on the original location of Bell at Sugarbush.
- Chief was instructed to modify the Mayor's newsletter article to include a survey specific to a crosswalk at Bell Road & Sugarbush Lane.

#### **2. Flock 5-year Agreement:**

- Chief proposed the 5-year contract for the LPR cameras. Safety will propose to go out for bid at the December 11<sup>th</sup> Council Meeting.

#### **3. Ebay Inventory Legislation**

- Legislation to post items no longer needed by the Village via online auction.
  - Traffic Light – Value \$500

#### **4. Marijuana Legalization**

- Safety would like to engage the Solicitor to obtain more information on the topic.

#### **5. New Business:**

Discussion regarding Police Cruiser options. It was noted that the initial cost of an EV would be excessive in comparison to the potential savings. No further action at this time.

#### **6. Old Business:**

- School Zone Flasher Controllers
- Parts are in – Install being scheduled.

Meeting Adjourned at: 9:42 a.m.



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### **SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**

**November 2, 2023 at 9:00 a.m. @ SRPD**

**1. School Safety Officer:**

- Chief reported we are still waiting on school board legal to approve MOU. No ETA.
- Chagrin Falls MOU has been approved by the board.

**2. Budget Review:**

- Flock Agreement (5 year) – Waiting on Flock to figure out billing.
- Dehumidifier will be a project for 2024. (\$7,000 Max)

**3. Traffic Light Update**

- Waiting on camera activation
- New traffic pattern is functioning well.

**4. Police Cruiser Update**

- Ford will not open the 2025 order bank until March 2024
- Only current option is gasoline engine based on orders placed in 2022.
- New cruiser could arrive in December or January but will be gasoline engine.

**5. New Business:**

- Chief will be absent for the November 13<sup>th</sup> Council meeting.

**6. Old Business:**

- School Zone Flasher Controllers
  - Quote \$3,728
- Project moving forward in 2023
- Streets Department has funding in line item for signs.
- Purchase order requested.

Meeting Adjourned at: 10:00 a.m.



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### **SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**

**October 5, 2023 at 9:00 a.m. @ SRPD**

#### **1. Staffing**

- Malik Meziane
  - Request swear-in date of 10/23/2023 (2<sup>nd</sup> Council Meeting)

#### **2. Crosswalk Update:**

- The survey was sent out to Chagrin Lakes & Sugarbush, only one response to date.
- Chagrin Lakes Community has not sent the survey to their residents.
- Project on hold

#### **3. School Safety Officer:**

- Overview & Final Figures to be presented to school board.
- Recent newspaper article regarding SSO was discussed. No further action to offer corrections.

#### **4. Budget Review:**

- Chief reviewed the Flock Agreement (5 year)
  - The 5 year contract will save \$6000 per year and will maintain current annual pricing.
- New Cruiser – Waiting on information from Ford regarding order window.

#### **5. Traffic Light Update**

#### **6. New Business:**

#### **7. Old Business:**

- School Zone Flasher Controllers
  - Quote \$3,728

Meeting Adjourned at: 9:50 a.m.



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### 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.



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### 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 15<sup>th</sup> 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.



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### 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.



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### **SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**

**August 3, 2023 at 9:00 a.m. @ SRPD**

**1. Executive Session 9:00 a.m. - 9:26 a.m.**

- Move to enter into executive session for the purpose of conferring with the solicitor concerning a dispute involving the Village that is the subject of pending or imminent litigation pursuant to Section 121.22(G)(3) of the Ohio Revised Code and invite into executive session the Solicitor, Lieutenant, and Police Chief

**2. Staffing**

- Discussion regarding Officer Steve Brenner (PT) interested in the full-time officer position. Discussion related to vacation time benefits. Human Resource Committee later stated that if hired, vacation time starts as a new public employee with no credit for previous years of service, however, he would qualify for 1<sup>st</sup> Class Patrol Officer.

**3. Dog at Large Ordinance Update**

- 3rd Reading will be conducted at the August Council Meeting.
- Mayor asked about signage updates at Village Parks in regard to leash rules. Chief advised Mayor to contact Street Commissioner Alder regarding Village Park signage.

**4. Crosswalk – Mayor**

- Mayor indicated there was some resistance to the proposed crosswalks.
- Budget is approximately \$50k for both Gurney and Village Park.
- School Zone Flasher Controllers – Waiting for quote.

**5. New Business:**

- Proposal for stop signs along Manorbrook Drive at Whitetail and at Reserve Trail due to traffic complaints:
  - Vehicles not yielding to pedestrian traffic.
  - Cut-through traffic.
  - Blind curves & hills
- Chief will send out a survey to the residents via their Homeowner's Association Management Company to solicit feedback.
- Residents also requested tree trimming along Manorbrook & Alderwood.
  - Street Commissioner advised and will handle.

**6. Old Business: None**

Meeting Adjourned at: 9:51 a.m.



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### SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

July 7, 2023 at 9:00 a.m. @ SRPD

#### 1. Staffing

- Chief reported that Officer Michael Harding will be hired at Orange PD 7/13/23. Mike started with South Russell full-time 3/2022.
- Request to allow PD to advertise for both Part-time & Full-time Positions at the July Council Meeting.

#### 2. Dog at Large Ordinance Update

- First reading June, second in July.
- 1 complaint received by George Mariano, Lake Louise. There have been no other inquiries.

#### 3. Police Cruiser Order for 2024

- Order bank opens October 2024
- Purchase order required upon ordering.
- Request to amend the PD budget \$50,000 ASAP for the purchase of a 2024 police cruiser. Fiscal Officer copied.

#### 4. New Business:

- School Zone Flasher Controllers
  - Internal computer programming modules are in need of replacement.
  - Timing drifting after 2-3 weeks
  - Limited to 10 events per year
  - Chief will get quotes
- Status of Crosswalk Project
  - Bell at Gurney
  - Bell at Alderwood
  - Will be addressed at 2024 budget meeting later in the year.

#### 5. Old Business: None

Meeting Adjourned at: 9:39 a.m.





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### SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

June 1, 2023 at 9:00 a.m. @ SRPD

#### 1. Staffing

- Part-time candidate Steve Brenner
  - Interview with HR / Safety occurred Monday 6/5
- Police Sergeant Candidate Nick DiVita
  - Interview with HR / Safety occurred Monday 6/5
- Appoint both at the June 12<sup>th</sup> Council Meeting
  - Fiscal Officer advised of the appointments.

#### 2. New Cruiser 2024 Projections

- Discussion regarding the price increases of Police Interceptor Utility Vehicles
- Pricing estimates for 2024
  - \$48,000 - 2024 Ford Explorer Hybrid
  - Pricing does not include equipment, installation, and graphics.
    - Estimate \$20,000
- After some discussion regarding alternate vehicle options, the committee recommended we accept the estimated increase and continue to purchase the existing model due to the success of the program.
- 2024 Total Budget **Estimate** for New Cruiser Line Item \$68,000

#### 3. Replacement AED Units

- Two units are on order for Village Hall & Building / Service Department
- PD requesting a budget amendment to purchase updated AED units.
  - \$7,800 Total for AED units and 2 sets of pads per unit
  - Fiscal Officer notified of the need for a budget amendment at the June 12<sup>th</sup> Council Meeting if approved.

#### 4. New Business:

- Chagrin High School Projects
  - Sidewalk – Students no longer pursuing.
  - Speed signs – Nothing to follow up.
- Leash Law Updates
  - Community Complaints
  - Chief made contact with solicitor to review any potential legal concerns.  
A proposed update will be ready for the June 12<sup>th</sup> Council Meeting.

**Old Business: None**

Meeting Adjourned at 9:38 a.m.



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### **618.01 DOGS AND OTHER ANIMALS RUNNING AT LARGE.**

(a) No person who is the owner or keeper of horses, mules, cattle, sheep, goats, swine, dogs, geese or other fowl or animals shall permit them to run at large upon any public way, upon any publicly or privately owned unenclosed land, or upon any private property where notice is posted that animals must be on a leash, other than such private property owned or possessed by the owner or person having control of such animal. (Ord. 2019-37. Passed 6-10-19.)

(b) The running at large of any such animal in or upon any of the places mentioned in subsection (a) hereof is prima-facie evidence that it is running at large in violation of this Section.

(c) Except when a dog is lawfully engaged in hunting and accompanied by the owner, keeper, harbinger, or handler of the dog, no owner, keeper, or harbinger of any dog shall fail at any time to do either of the following:

(1) Keep the dog physically confined or restrained upon premises of the owner, keeper, or harbinger by a leash, tether, adequate fence, supervision, or secure enclosure to prevent escape.

(2) Keep the dog under control of some person.

(d) For purposes of this section, "under control" is defined in Section 618.19(b)(1),(2), and (3) of these Codified Ordinances.

(e) Whoever violates subsections (a) or (c)(1) of this Section is guilty of a minor misdemeanor. Punishment shall be as provided in Section 698.02.

(f) Whoever violates subsections (c)(2) of this Section is guilty of the corresponding misdemeanor set forth in Section 618.19 (c). (Ord. 2016-26. Passed 9-12-16.)

Change sub-section (2) to read:

(2) Keep the dog under control and on a leash not more than eight feet long.

(This proposed language was taken directly from 618.19(a), "CONTROL OF DOGS, OR OTHER HOUSEHOLD PETS OR ANIMALS IN ANY VILLAGE PARK OR VILLAGE PROPERTY")



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### SAFETY MEETING MINUTES

May 4, 2023 at 9:00 a.m. @ SRPD

#### 1. Staffing

- Candidate Skyler Rossbach  
Requesting Safety / HR appoint at the May 8<sup>th</sup> Council Meeting

#### 2. New Business:

- General Discussion / Updates
  - Overdose – Under Investigation
  - Underage Consumption Incidents

#### 3. Old Business:

- Discussion regarding Blossom Parade
  - Bike Patrol

Meeting Adjourned at: 9:48 a.m.



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### SAFETY MEETING AGENDA

April 6, 2023 at 9:00 a.m. @ SRPD

#### 1. Info / Update Mutual Aid to Chardon

- Tactical Field Force Unit
  - Officers Harding & Gavanditti
- Drone Team
  - Lt. Pocek & Andrew McKillen
- No significant incidents, no injuries, no arrests.

#### 2. West Geauga School Incident

- South Russell Officers placed on standby for mutual aid to Russell.
- Gurney School
  - Additional officers and special attention assigned to Gurney.

#### 3. Staffing

- Skyler Rossbach
  - Drug Test completed.
  - Psychological Completed – Waiting on results.
  - VSA Pending Scheduling
- New Candidate Interview Pending
  - Stephen Brenner
  - Retired from City of Willowick

#### 4. 2024 Budget Items

- Cruiser Purchase
  - 2024 Models / Hybrid
- AED replacement project

#### 5. New Business:

6. **Old Business:** Crosswalk project – Turned over to Street Commissioner & Engineer

Meeting Adjourned at: \*\*\*\*\*



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### SAFETY MEETING Minutes

March 2, 2023 at 9:00 a.m. @ SRPD

#### 1. Proposed Solar Powered LED Crosswalks

- Discussion regarding verbal quote from Perram Electric \$16,000 each.
- Chief requested to be added to Streets Committee to:
  - Verifying ADA requirements of Truncated Domes or Warning Pavers at the entry points of the crosswalk.
  - Requesting Engineer to explore the possibility of grant funding for the project.
  - Request quotes for concrete approaches
  - Request quotes for roadway striping

#### 2. Officer Appointments

- Officer appointments will be conducted at the Special Council Meeting on March 7<sup>th</sup>, at 8:10 a.m.
  - Gavanditti to full-time
  - Svoboda to Sergeant

#### 3. Staffing

- 1 Part-time interview pending

#### 4. New Business: None

#### 5. Old Business: None

Meeting Adjourned at: 9:47 a.m.



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### SAFETY MEETING MINUTES February 2, 2023 at 9:00 a.m. @ SRPD

Executive Session to discuss employment of a public employee pursuant to Section 121.22(G)(1) of the Ohio Revised Code

9:00 a.m. Executive Session

9:03 a.m. End Executive Session

9:03 a.m. Visitor Jordan Canter, 36 Sugarbush Lane

- Requesting Safety Committee to consider a crosswalk with warning flashers at Sugarbush Lane and Bell Road to increase safety in crossing Bell Road. Canter informed the committee of the increase in sporting events and extra-curricular activities at Gurney School which occurs outside of the regular school hours including summer months when the existing school zone flashers are not in operation. The committee agreed to bring the matter to council for further discussion.

9:20 a.m. Executive Session resumed

10:53 a.m. Executive session ended

#### 1. Sergeant's Position

- Discussion regarding Ed Svoboda returning to duty on 2/13
- Chief will schedule interview with a representative from Safety & HR

#### 2. Staffing

- Discussion regarding part-time officers eligible for full-time
- Full-time vacancy will be posted for the 4 current part-time officers
- Chief reported that advertising for Part-time Patrol Officer in progress.

#### 3. New Business:

#### 4. Old Business:

Meeting Adjourned at: 11:22 a.m.