



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 MINUTES **April 23, 2026 at 3:15 p.m. @ SRPD**

Budget Discussion

Major anticipated costs for 2027 include the annual body camera subscription of about \$25,000, a proposed \$15,000 increase for upgraded firearms with red dot optics, and a possible dispatch cost increase of around 8%, with final numbers expected in October. A proposed building addition to be addressed in New Business.

Staffing Update

There is still one full-time position open. Nick DiMaria is currently in training, and a decision will be made after his FTO period. Early feedback indicates he is progressing steadily, with continued development expected as he gains experience, particularly in communication and confidence. If needed, other candidates remain available for consideration.

Project Updates

Current projects are moving forward as planned, with several items actively in progress or already completed. The phone system (PRI) was briefly discussed.

Community Events

Upcoming events include the Cops and Kids Fishing event on May 31 and a bike-to-school event for Gurney School in mid-May. The bike event is expected to be simple to manage with minimal traffic disruption, and police will assist to ensure safety. No specific security needs have been identified yet for the upcoming 250-year anniversary events, though the department is prepared to assist if requested.

Solar Panel Update

The solar panels are producing moderate savings and are expected to pay for themselves in about 20 years. Savings are more noticeable during the summer, while winter output is reduced due to snow buildup. Additional savings have been achieved by removing separate electrical meters and consolidating services.



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Old Business

All auction items have been sold except for one hydraulic system, which is considered unusable and will require council approval for disposal. One dump truck has not yet been picked up due to issues affecting the buyer.

New Business

- A new speed monitoring device has been installed on Bell Road, and another was moved to Sheerbrook following some complaints. Traffic enforcement efforts have increased, particularly targeting speeding delivery drivers.
- A \$150,000 building addition is being considered for 2027. The proposal includes a 20x20 structure that will adjoin the police building to the drone garage with two ADA-compliant, multi-purpose restrooms and interior access, along with a possible exterior entrance for events. The project would improve functionality and privacy, and there is support for beginning architectural planning soon to secure approvals in advance.

Adjourned at 3:50 p.m.