

**Village of North Hudson
Public Safety Meeting
Thursday, January 9, 2020, 5:30 p.m.
Village Hall, 400 7th Street North
Hudson, WI 54016**

Call to Order: roll call

Chair Tim Zais called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm. Answering the call were Trustees Cathy Leaf and Philip Matz. A quorum was present and the meeting was duly noticed. Also in attendance were Police Chief Mark Richert and Recording Secretary Anne-Marie McDonald.

Comments from the floor

None

Approval of minutes from November 14, 2019 Public Safety Meeting

Motion (Leaf/Matz) to approve the minutes of November 14, 2019 meeting as written. Motion carried.

Chief's Report

Richert stated he participated in the holiday Shop with a Cop for the fifth year, a wonderful program where students in need in the Hudson School District shop with a police officer for holiday gifts. Bernick's Pepsi distributor sponsored many of the gift cards, and the Hudson Police Department collected donations as well, to increase the number of students who can participate.

North Hudson Police Department (NHPD) has participated in the Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over campaign for the past five to six years. In return for participating in the program, NHPD can apply for a grant for police department purchases. The two solar-powered speed signs purchased by the village were paid for with grant money from this program.

Officer Craig Lau was sworn in to the department on December 7, 2019, and he has completed Step 1 of training. Lau begins Step 2 with Chief Richert on January 10, 2020. Richert hopes to have the new patrol officer position filled by April 1, 2020.

The new squad vehicle was delivered on December 31, 2019. The first response with lights and siren with the new vehicle was the construction fire in The Ridges. The camera footage from the vehicle was shared with the Hudson Fire Department for investigative purposes.

The new handguns for the department were ordered in October, 2019, and they have not been received. The manufacturer, Sig Sauer, explained that a large federal governmental order was ahead of North Hudson, and that the North Hudson order is being built and should be completed soon.

Richert reported that department overtime for the past two months is normal, and the overtime cost is well under budget for 2019.

Richert presented the incident breakdown report for the past two months. Nothing out of the ordinary in either incident breakdown report. There were a total of 851 cases in 2019; Richert expects that number to increase in 2020 with an additional officer on the force.

The Written/Verbal Warnings ratios are good, and the officers are providing education and warnings as appropriate.

Parking Concern on Wisconsin Street North

Richert presented to the committee a draft letter about possible parking restrictions to be sent to residents and business owners between the 300 and 500 blocks of Wisconsin Street N. The letter asks for their feedback at the February Public Safety meeting. Richert is looking for input regarding crashes which have happened in the area, or whether residents feel the traffic flow on Wisconsin Street N. would be better if parking is prohibited on one side of the street. Zais asked which side of Wisconsin Street N. would be blocked from parked vehicles. Richert said he doesn't believe one side of the street would be better than the other. Richert said Wisconsin Street N. will be widened as part of the 2021 construction project, so this parking restriction could be temporary until after construction is completed.

Richert explained that the area in question is between Third Street N. and Sixth Street N. He said both businesses in the area have off-street parking for their customers, so he doesn't know that they would be highly affected by the restriction. The adjacent apartment buildings have some street parking, and some tenants use the businesses' parking areas.

Leaf and Zais agreed the draft letter is fine. They would like to hear input from area residents, as well.

Hands-Free Cell Phone Ordinance

Richert has not done any more work on this issue, and feels it is a committee-driven idea. No one in the village has investigated the results of the city of Hudson's recent hands-free ordinance. It was decided to remove this item from future agendas. Committee members would rather wait until the state of Wisconsin adopts a hands-free ordinance that can be enforced uniformly across jurisdictions.

Social Hosting Ordinance

Richert reported that he spoke with the village attorney about the most efficient way to incorporate social hosting violations into the municipal code. Richert had previously presented several examples of draft ordinances to the committee. The current municipal code adopts numerous state statutes, but excludes 125.07, which is the alcohol statute. The proposed unnumbered ordinance adopts state section 125.07 into municipal code, which allows North Hudson police officers to write citations into municipal court for those violations. Previously, persons who had violated that section were required to go to circuit court. The new ordinance gives the department some options for how citations can be written.

Motion (Leaf/Matz) to approve the ordinance amending the municipal code for the village of North Hudson and bring to the full board for approval. Motion carried.

Amend Ordinance 38-7 – Burning Restricted

Richert spoke with the Hudson fire chief. Currently, the city's focus is on the new fire station building and getting acquainted with the new city administrator. The fire chief anticipates addressing this issue soon.

Police Department Staffing and Coverage

No updates, addressed in Chief's Report.

Police Department Capital / Equipment Planning

Richert didn't move forward with the new department server; he got pricing to include in the department's 2021 budget.

Future Agenda Items

Amend Ordinance 38-7; Wisconsin Street North parking.

Adjournment

Chair Zais declared the meeting adjourned at 5:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted by,

Anne-Marie McDonald
Recording Secretary