

**Village of North Hudson  
Public Safety Meeting  
Thursday, June 13, 2019, 5:30 p.m.  
Village Hall, 400 7<sup>th</sup> Street North  
Hudson, WI 54016**

**Call to Order: roll call**

Trustee Cathy Leaf called the meeting to order at 5:34 pm. Answering the call was Trustee Philip Matz. A quorum was present and the meeting was duly noticed. It was noted that Chair Tim Zais was absent. Also in attendance were Police Chief Mark Richert, North Hudson Police Department Intern Jared Johnson, and Recording Secretary Anne-Marie McDonald.

**Comments from the floor**

None

**Approval of minutes from May 9, 2019 Public Safety Meeting**

**Motion (Matz/Leaf) to approve the minutes of May 9, 2019 meeting as written. Motion carried.**

**Chief's Report**

Richert reported that he is analyzing the security systems at Village Hall. The safety equipment was installed in 2008. The DVR used to record video does not work reliably, and holds video recordings no longer than 24 hours. Richert asked Home Electronic Systems (HES) to provide a quote to update the building security systems and add exterior cameras. Richert would like exterior building and department vehicle parking location cameras installed before Pepper Fest weekend. Richert also asked for information to update the key lock system. Due to its age, the door locking software system cannot be upgraded, but the hardware can be reused. Richert would like to add door locks to the area leading to the General Government and Public Works Director's offices, as well as the door to the basement. Richert said locking hardware would be needed for these new lock locations. Luedke said she has another vendor who can provide a quote. Richert is not offering a proposal at this time.

Richert introduced the department's summer intern, Jared Johnson, to the committee. Johnson is completing data gathering studies, including speed studies and seat belt studies. In addition, Johnson and department Administrative Assistant Jennie Johnson will gather data for the 2016-2018 time period, identifying when St. Croix County Sheriff's Office deputies responded to calls when no North Hudson officer was on duty. Richert wants to see what the actual call volume is for the village and determine whether an additional officer is cost-effective for the village. The village does not have to pay for county responses because county taxes cover that cost. Leaf asked if the village pays for county deputies used as security during village events. Richert explained that the event sponsors pay for all security personnel used during Pepper Fest, motorcycle run, or other event. Matz asked if the village could get revenue from officers who work at events. Richert said no, the officer receives any money paid for security work, not the village. Leaf asked Johnson if he is enjoying his time with Richert and the department, he said he is.

Richert stated that the posting for the patrol sergeant position closed on June 4, 2019. He posted the job on Indeed.com at an expense to the department; however, no applications that met the requirements were

submitted from the site. Richert said that four people applied for the position, one which didn't meet the requirements. Three applicants will take the written test this Saturday, June 15, 2019. The Police Commission meets on June 24, 2019 to review the applicants' test scores and applications. It was difficult to find a time for the entire Police Commission to meet; the group prefers to have full attendance rather than a quorum for interviews and application review. Richert said he would like the new patrol sergeant to be hired by Pepper Fest weekend.

The Safe Summer Sendoff event will take place on Saturday, June 22nd from 10 am to 12 pm. Richert asked Leaf whether anyone on the Sendoff committee contacted her regarding Leaf's offer to donate bike helmets for the event. Leaf said she talked with event co-organizer Tim Zais to donate some helmets.

Richert reviewed the Incident Breakdown Report. Volume has picked up with the warmer weather. St. Croix County authorities are looking for a potential burglary suspect. Leaf asked whether there had been any issues with garage door openers being used to gain entry to homes. Richert said there had not been any recently, and recommended that residents lock their vehicles when parked outside. Richert said that the Click It or Ticket seat belt campaign took place in May, and may have resulted in a few more citations. Richert said that the village is eligible for a \$4000 equipment grant when Click It or Ticket campaign incident numbers are reported to the state; he will learn in August whether the village has won a grant. Leaf asked if there had been any complaints about jet skis at Ferry Landing Park. Richert said that, because of the no-wake restrictions and the beach covered with water, there hasn't been much river use. Since the no-wake restriction has been lifted, they may start to have issues.

### **Trailer parking ordinance**

Richert reviewed the City of Hudson's current trailer parking ordinance. The city's ordinance prohibits trailer parking on any city street except for Lakefront Park boat landing and Lake Mallalieu parking lots. Currently, there are seven boat trailer parking spots in Ferry Landing Park. In addition, there is no trailer parking allowed on Galahad Road N. and on Sommers Street N. to Fourth Street N. Visitors with boat trailers will park in front of residences on Fourth Street N. and return to Ferry Landing Park. To date, the department has not received complaints from residents on Fourth Street N. about vehicles with trailers parking on that street. The Police Department has heard from residents who live along the bluff asking for more restrictions to curtail issues with jet ski users, including noise on the river and congestion at the Ferry Landing boat launch area. Richert reviewed the Park Board ordinance enacted 1-1/2 years ago, which prohibits parking of water craft in the swimming beach area. Jet skis moved away from the swimming beach and the boat launch area. There have been concerns from residents about conflicts between people attempting to launch their boats and the jet ski users. Richert reminds park users that the boat landing area isn't an official boat launch; several improvements are required to designate it as an official boat launch and are cost-prohibitive. Some residents want to eliminate jet ski usage. Richert reminded the Park Board and residents that ordinances can't discriminate against any particular group. Richert said that a parking ordinance similar to the city of Hudson's may decrease issues regarding Ferry Landing Park. In addition, Richert reminded residents that the police department enforces ordinances, it can't enact rules. Richert said that the Public Safety committee can create enforcement for village areas beyond the parks, so their oversight is more broad than that of the Park Board. Richert said that Johnson will observe Ferry Landing on Saturday mornings and early afternoons to gather more data. Leaf and Matz prefer to review the data and include the input of Zais before making a recommendation. Richert said that potential new ordinances can be directly

presented to the village board, if an immediate need is determined, and wouldn't have to go through the Public Safety committee beforehand.

**Ordinance to Restrict Possession of Electronic Nicotine Delivery Systems and Non-Nicotine Vapor Products and Devices by Persons under the Age of Eighteen**

Richert recently met with other St. Croix County police chiefs. There was discussion about area school districts prohibiting use or possession of electronic nicotine delivery systems by underage children or on school property. Some current store policies prohibit sales to underage children; however, there is no law to prevent adults from purchasing products and selling or giving to minors. Richert recommended mimicking the City of Hudson's ordinance, which prohibits sale of electronic nicotine delivery systems to minors and secondary sale by an adult to a minor.

**Motion (Matz/Leaf) to recommend the Village of North Hudson attorney draft an ordinance mimicking the City of Hudson's regarding nicotine-delivery sales to minors. Motion carried.**

**Social Hosting Ordinance**

Richert said he doesn't have the verbiage finalized; he hopes to have it finalized for July's meeting.

**Amend Ordinance 38-7 – Burning Restricted**

Richert reported that Chair Zais' goal was to contact the Hudson fire chief regarding the revised ordinance. For Matz's benefit, Richert reviewed the possible revision, namely that burning would be prohibited on windy days. Richert described the issues between two village neighbors with conflicts regarding a neighbor's fire blowing smoke into another neighbor's window. One of the difficulties with writing the amended ordinance is determining how to define a windy day. Richert said that the City of St. Paul's ordinance includes restrictions when a neighbor is affected. The incident which was reported today to the police department said the person who was burning didn't have a burning permit and was burning a prohibited substance. Part of the difficulty of drafting a revised ordinance is not having one party have preferential treatment over another party. Richert said the current City of Hudson and Village of North Hudson ordinances are different. He said it would be easier for the Hudson fire chief to manage if the ordinances were consistent among the City of Hudson, the Village of North Hudson, and the Town of Hudson.

**Police Department Staffing and Coverage**

Richert would like to analyze the need for an additional police officer. Luedke advised Richert he could gather financial information regarding the cost of an additional officer from the Village Treasurer. Richert will ask the village treasurer, Nathan Troester, to calculate the highest cost of an additional employee with family health insurance coverage, additional gas usage, equipment and related costs. Richert would like to compare the effect of adding a local officer vs. having St. Croix County Sheriff's deputies respond to calls. Richert said there is added value having a village officer who knows local families and backgrounds when responding to calls. Richert would like to include an additional officer in the 2020 budget process, and if approved, the Finance Committee will have to determine where the money will come from.

**Police Department Capital / Equipment Planning**

2020 handgun replacements. The door locking system upgrade and video camera surveillance will be a capital expense.

**Committee Goals**

None.

**Future Agenda Items**

Trailer parking ordinance; Social Hosting Ordinance; Amend Ordinance 38-7.

**Adjournment**

Trustee Leaf declared the meeting adjourned at 6:09 pm.

Respectfully submitted by,

Anne-Marie McDonald  
Recording Secretary