

**Village of North Hudson
Public Safety Meeting
Thursday, July 9, 2020, 5:30 p.m.
Virtual Meeting via Zoom**

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 March 12, 2020 Public Safety Meeting

Motion (Leaf/Matz) to approve the minutes of March 12, 2020 meeting as written. Motion carried.

Chief's Report

Officer Lau and Officer Scharffbillig have advanced to Phase V of the Field Training and Evaluation program (solo patrol), and have been active in the village. Their one-year probationary period begins with Phase V, and is expected to be completed in March and May 2021, respectively.

The Police Department has sufficient PPE supplies to respond to COVID-19 related situations, and officers are using those supplies when needed. Zais asked Richert whether police department staff can be tested at any time. Richert stated that staff members can be tested at Lakeview Hospital in Stillwater, Minnesota due to the Village being in the coverage area of Lakeview EMS.

Now that the department is at full strength, Richert will be providing his officers De-Escalation Training this summer, which entails learning how to slow down the process during stressful situations, and limiting escalation whenever possible. Richert stated that the county Criminal Justice Coordinating Council (CJCC) has discussed how law enforcement officers have been trained. In addition, strangle holds are not an allowable use of force for law enforcement in Wisconsin. Richert mentioned that Mental Health Crisis Intervention training is available, and he would like to have several officers complete the training. Zais asked Richert how recent events have affected the department. Richert said the officers have good morale, are engaging with the community, and he believes there are many residents supporting the county staff, as well.

Richert hasn't heard about any activities to take the place of Pepper Fest this year. Zais highlighted several events being discussed for Friday evening and Saturday of what was supposed to be Pepper Fest weekend. Richert encouraged the Pepper Fest committee and/or local establishments to submit their applications for police support or have discussions with him soon; to date he had not received anything.

Richert reviewed the incident breakdown reports for the past several months. Overtime and expenses are submitted quarterly, and have been reported through March 2020. The department has had good call volume.

Parking code enforcement is increasing. Trespassing incidents are up, mainly at the railroad property north of the dam at 206 Wisconsin Street N. The railroad asked North Hudson Police Department (NHPD) for more enforcement of trespassing. There is some question regarding on whose property the swing over Lake Mallalieu is located. No citations have been issued to date. Richert said the overall warning to citation ratio is good.

Amend Ordinance 38-7 – Burning Restricted

Zais and Richert said they haven't heard anything from the city of Hudson, but the city is close to having something prepared.

2021 State Trunk Highway 35 Project – Public Safety preparations/traffic controls

Richert stated that Fourth Street North will be the major detour route during construction in 2021. He said he will ask Public Works Director Patrick Moos to trim trees along the detour route to allow large vehicles to pass. No on-street parking will be allowed on Fourth Street North and Wisconsin Street North during construction. He has received no other update from the state of Wisconsin regarding the project.

Matz asked Richert whether the overnight parking ordinance will be relaxed during construction. Richert said he would like the village board to address this subject, with input from the Public Safety committee.

Police Department Staffing and Coverage

The department is at full strength and running well. Officers can now request vacation and comp time. Richert asked that if issues with an officer are observed by village residents, provide feedback directly to him.

Police Department Capital / Equipment Planning

Budget work for 2021 begins in August. The main capital expenditure planned for 2021 is the replacement of the department server.

Richert stated the new department vehicle is being built, and will be billed to the department when it is delivered.

New access key fobs will be required with the new security system.

Future Agenda Items

Amend Ordinance 38-7; 2021 STH 35 Project – Public Safety preparation/traffic controls.

Adjournment

Chair Zais declared the meeting adjourned at 5:52 pm.

Respectfully submitted by,

Anne-Marie McDonald
Recording Secretary