

**Village of North Hudson  
Public Safety Meeting  
Thursday, July 13, 2017, 5:30 p.m.  
Village Hall, 400 7<sup>th</sup> Street North  
Hudson, WI 54016**

**Call to Order: roll call**

Chair Marc Zappa called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. Answering the call were Trustees Cathy Leaf and Tim Zais. 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 May 11, 2017 Public Safety Meeting**

**Motion (Leaf/Zais) to approve the minutes of May 11, 2017 meeting as written. Motion carried.**

**Chief's Report**

Ferry Landing Park: Richert, Village President Stan Wekkin, and Park Board Chair Kirk Nelson received an e-mail from village residents voicing concerns over recent issues at Ferry Landing Beach. Richert has added extra patrols in the area of Ferry Landing on weekends since the beginning of the summer. Richert and his officers received positive feedback from residents saying that they were able to use the beach area. The department took off the first two weekends of July from patrolling Ferry Landing due to vacation staff shortages. During that time, residents reported more issues and more congestion than there had been earlier in the summer. Consequently, Richert has assigned overtime shifts the next two weekends to patrol the park area and educate visitors about the new ordinance. There were allegations made by a resident in the e-mail about gas cans being hidden on private property near the beach; an officer is working with the resident to identify the private property line near the beach and river. Richert is expending money this year on officer overtime to educate visitors to the park and get voluntary compliance. After this season, Richert will speak with the Park Board chair to determine whether further changes will be recommended. Zais asked whether the beach is being used on weekdays; Richert reported that he has seen quite a bit of use of the beachside. Brown's Beach and Ferry Landing Beach have each had one buoy disappear, which has made it hard to delineate where the swimming areas are located. Zappa asked whether Richert can easily track the hours being spent monitoring and patrolling Ferry Landing Beach. Richert said it would be easy to document those hours, since the majority are overtime hours and documented routine patrols, and he can provide that data. Zais asked whether any citations had been written yet at Ferry Landing Beach; Richert said there had not. Richert directed his officers not to write any citations in the first couple of months unless they encounter repeat offenders, and give warnings and education. If the officers encounter an individual or group who is trying to circumvent the ordinance, citations may be written.

Radio Antenna: The restoration company working on the Lemon Street N. water tower is about 2-1/2 weeks ahead of schedule. Richert just attached the cabling to the antenna, and the antenna will be re-installed next week. Without the North Hudson frequency, it was difficult for the officers to communicate via cell phone during the recent storm.

Incident Breakdown: Richert provided the committee with incident data for the past two months, since the Public Safety Committee did not meet in June. There were no major changes in priorities or calls coming in.

Overtime Expenses: Richert budgets \$5000 per officer per year for overtime expenses, for a total of \$15,000 for the department. One of the officers takes his overtime as comp time, so his overtime pay is less than for the other two officers; this officer is working a similar amount of overtime, but doesn't receive overtime pay. The overtime budget for 2017 is in good shape.

Written/Verbal Warnings and Citations: Richert previously presented the warning/citation data to the committee for review.

### **FY2018 Budget**

Richert is working with the new village administrator to create the budget planning schedule. Each year, Richert creates his budget in July, and presents the first draft budget request to the Public Safety Committee in August, including data from the past year, projected current year, and request for the new budget year. The committee and Richert will review any changes which he foresees as being problems. In September, Richert works with the village administrator and the Finance Committee starts its meetings. In past years, most conflicts between village departments regarding funding have been easily resolved. Richert's primary concern is keeping his staffing level where it is or to increase it. He is cognizant of the needs of the entire village, and will do what he can to work within the village's budget.

### **Police Department Staffing and Coverage**

Richert reminded residents that the village does not have 24-hour police coverage, and that a response from the county may be delayed. There was a sizeable theft at Village Liquor last Sunday, and the county responded well after the theft took place. Richert stated that it would have been nice to have a responding agency closer at that time. The village hasn't had 24-hour coverage for several years, and some calls will be missed by the village police department. The Public Safety Committee has to take those situations into consideration as it moves forward.

### **Police Department Capital / Equipment Planning**

Richert asked the village police sergeant to investigate the cost of helmets and shields for the village police vehicles, and Richert should have budget numbers to present to the committee next month.

### **Committee Goals**

The budgeting process may present some new goals to consider.

### **Future Agenda Items**

None

### **Adjournment**

Chair Zappa declared the meeting adjourned at 5:41 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,

Anne-Marie McDonald  
Recording Secretary