

Village of Bellaire

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

Dan Bennett, Chairman

Patrick Boyd

Eldon McPherson

COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

March 6, 2020 at 8:00 a.m.

1. **Call to Order:** Chairman Bennett called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.
2. **Roll Call Attendance**
 - Present:** Dan Bennett, Patrick Boyd and Eldon McPherson
 - Absent:** None
 - Staff Present:** Lori Luckett, Clerk, Bill Drollinger, Police Chief, and Bradley Keiser, DPW Supervisor
 - Also Present:** None
3. **Approval of Agenda:** Intern and Overnight Dock Parking were added as new business items d and e respectively. The agenda was approved as amended.

Motion by Trustee Boyd, seconded by Trustee McPherson, to approve the agenda as amended. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.
4. **Approval of Minutes:** The minutes of the November 20, 2019 meeting were approved as presented.

Motion by Trustee Boyd, seconded by Trustee McPherson, to approve the minutes of the November 20, 2019 meeting as presented. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.
5. **Public Comment on Agenda Items:** None presented.
6. **Old Business:** None presented.
7. **New Business**
 - a) **Deer within the village** – Chief Drollinger reported that the Big Rapids information had been provided. He spoke with Lt. Gorno with the with the DNR who is recommending that the village take no action. There is an education factor the deer will continue to come to a food source because it is available. Unless there is substantial crop damage or accidents, removing five deer will not make a difference. Chief Drollinger has received a few complaints that may dealt with on a case-by-case basis. Deer are pack animals that will follow the oldest deer. Culling out will be more trouble than it is worth. Public education is key. There were suggestions about having a public hearing or a letter to the community. Chief Drollinger is recommending that no further action be taken.
 - b) **Village Code Chapter 16 - Bridges** – Chief Drollinger reported that there is an issue with Village Code Chapter 16 §16-2B. The section does not allow anything to be thrown over the bridge, however, the village allows the Rubber Ducky ducks to be dropped over the bridge. Because state law prohibits jumping off the bridge, he recommends that the code be amended or eliminated. According to Chief Drollinger, this section was added back in 1990 when there was a completely different dynamic in Bellaire. He is recommending that it be Chapter 16 be eliminated from the village code and that it be enforced under state law. Trustee McPherson made the motion to recommend to village council that Chapter 16 of the Village Code be eliminated and that enforcement be done under state law.

Motion by Trustee McPherson, seconded by Chairman Bennett, to recommend to the village council that Chapter 16 of the Village Code be eliminated and that enforcement be done under state law. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

- c) **ATVs on the walking path** – Chief Drollinger reported that he has spoken with Lt. Gorno about ATVs. They are not allowed on the state highway or on the sidewalks. Lt. Gorno recommends that ATVs and even snowmobiles not be allowed on the trestle bridge because the walking path is intended for foot traffic. Motorized wheelchairs have special exemption under ADA laws. Chief Drollinger does not have a problem with snowmobiles on the trestle bridge if it is posted with sign with a speed limit and that pedestrians have the right of way. If the barrier poles are removed at Broad Street it may be possible for a motor vehicle to cross the trestle bridge. DPW Supervisor Keiser expressed his opinion about snow mobiles on the trestle bridge versus ATVs. He is not in favor of ATVs on the trestle bridge. Trustee Boyd stated that anyone living in the village should recognize that there are limits on ATVs. At this point the recommendation is not to allow ATVs on the trestle bridge. Motion was made by Trustee Boyd to recommend to village council that they deny the request to allow ATVs on the trestle bridge.

Motion by Trustee Boyd, seconded by Trustee McPherson, to recommend to village council that they deny the request to allow ATVs on the trestle bridge. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

- d) **Intern** – Chief Drollinger reported that Haley Gray, a Criminal Justice student at Lake State Superior University, has applied to intern with the department this summer. She is available 15 to 20 hours per week to ride along. This internship is part of her education. As an intern, she will be insured through the college. She will not wear a uniform. Chief Drollinger will still do a background check. At the end of the internship he will be able to write her a letter or provide a form that she participated. If the committee has no objection, he would like a recommendation that she be allowed to intern. There is no cost to the village.

Motion by Trustee Boyd, seconded by Trustee McPherson, to recommend to village council that they allow Haley Gray to intern with the police department. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Chief Drollinger indicated that in addition to a background check, there is also a class about LEIN protocols she will have to take.

- e) **Overnight dock parking** – Chief Drollinger reported that Act 451 of 1994, PA 56, already indicates that Ohio Street is a road end and state law prohibits mooring of vessels after midnight. Supervisor Keiser explained that he is getting the permit to put the docks in at Ohio Street. Currently, the permit request is under public comment. One of the requirements that EGLE requires is the posting of No Overnight Docking signs which must be enforceable by local law. While it is road end, it will be permitted as a temporary marina. Chief Drollinger would like to meet with Bryan Graham to develop an ordinance. Supervisor Keiser indicated that state law says midnight, however because a launch is in the park and the parks close at 10:00 p.m., they may wish to consider the earlier time. Supervisor Keiser reported on his conversation with the neighboring resident who had questions about the dock. There was brief discussion that a split rail fence may need to be installed on the property boundary line. Chief Drollinger requested and received permission to meet with Bryan Graham. Hopefully, Mr. Graham will have a draft ordinance for the next village council meeting.

8. **Discussion:** Trustee Boyd asked about placing kayak racks at Ohio Street. Supervisor Keiser noted that an area north of the docks has been left for future expansion. He has already been working with Heidi Shaffer to clear the area more and remove the rocks. There is an area for the portable toilet where may be room for kayak racks. Chief Drollinger reported that the speed trailers will be up this spring. Chairman Bennett was pleased with the water line presentation and public comment portion

of the recent council meeting. The rate comparison with other municipalities in the region was very helpful. There was discussion about standards for project. In order to receive grant assistance, water bills would have to exceed 2% of household income. Currently the rates do not; there would have to be a substantial increase to reach 2%. Chairman Bennett indicated that he reviewed the police evaluation proposed for the public safety employees. The evaluation will be referred to Administration and Personnel Committee for review and recommendation. Clerk Luckett reported that she had reviewed the DIA installation agreement and was made aware that the building department requires permits for signs larger than nine square feet. She is waiting to find out if the posts are going to be removed at the end of the agreement. She wondered if council would want permits issued for the structures. Chairman Bennett said they would have to look at it. Clerk Luckett indicated that the building department may require permits no matter what the village requires. Supervisor Keiser reported on the flag pole relocation to the triangle. No permits are required.

9. Communication/Informational: None presented.

10. Closing Member/Public Comments: Chairman Bennett commented that village council works together well. Supervisor Keiser is looking forward to completing the paving projects. Trustee Boyd suggested that streetscapes would be nice. There were comments about the trees through town and recommendations from Mike Meriwether. Supervisor Keiser reported that they will be installing security cameras around the DPW garage.

11. Adjourn: Meeting adjourned at 8:58 a.m.

Compiled by Lori A. Luckett, Clerk

Approved: _____
Daniel Bennett, Chair

Date: _____