SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING

MINUTES

March 9, 2010
5:30 P.M.

Council Committee Members: Chair Mark Masser, Matt Lampke, Jed Morison

Call to Order: All members present.

Others Present: Mayor Brennan, Lou Chodosh, Bill Harvey, Chief Rinehart

Review of Minutes from February 9th, 2009- Approved

Report of Chief of Police- Chief Rinehart said a lot of communication between residents and the department has resulted after the recent home invasion. He said the police department has been vigilant especially after the OSU and Whitehall shootings within the past couple of days. Chief Rinehart said the Capital University students had returned on Monday from spring break and they will be increasing patrols in that area. He will be reporting if any activity results from the warmer weather.

Mr. Lampke asked if there are any remedies for neighbors that could possibly be used in situations similar to the home invasion incident with questionable behavior on the part of the renters. Chief Rinehart said from a police perspective no, unless there is an incident and the police are called with a complaint. Mayor Brennan said from a code standpoint, the house on the outside was not violating any Bexley codes. He explained that we are not allowed to enter a residence, but only check the code standards from the outside. Mr. Chodosh said the landlord who now has reasonable knowledge of a problem certainly would be legally able to evict the residents. Mr. Sharp suggested that perhaps we consider having the landlords register with the City in terms of new tenants in order to allow the City to provide them with the same information as currently offered to new residents, i.e. trash etiquette. He suggested that this information be mailed once a year to the residents.

Report of Mayor/Safety Director- Mayor Brennan said he had been receiving some correspondence as a response to the recent article published in the newspaper concerning parking for more than 24 hours in one place. He said they are stepping up their enforcement of this issue and has met with the Chief to discuss solutions. Mayor Brennan does not want residents parking cars on the street as a form of "warehousing" them. He reminded Council that Dr. Eloise Buker would be at City Council to give a short presentation on her parking study. Mayor Brennan said he would estimate that she has at least 100 hours in the report. She did an excellent job.

Proposed Ordinances:

Third Readings.
None.

Second Readings.

Ordinance 10-10 to repeal Chapter 240.04, introduced by Mr. Masser (Introduced on February 23, 2010).

Mr. Chodosh said this Ordinance is in response to Mr. Sharp's due diligence in locating an outdated Ordinance. This Ordinance was originally passed in 1941 and is ultimately a school issue and not a City issue.

Mr. Lampke asked if we had informed the school board of this proposal to drop the old Ordinance. He suggested they be informed in the event it would affect their liability insurance. Mr. Masser agreed and requested Mr. Chodosh to check with the school to make sure there would not be any issues.

First Readings.
None.

Other Business: Mayor Brennan said parents want the north bound traffic on Cassingham to be made one way. He does not agree and thinks it would cause a traffic issue and speeding issues. Mr. Sharp said kids get out of the cars on the drivers' side and basically jay walk across the street.

Chief Rinehart stated it is an enforcement issue. He said every 12 years we decide to increase the tickets in the area to eliminate this problem. He said it results in negativity between the City and the residents. Chief Rinehart said the parents are what he considers the "real customers" and does not recommend ticketing parents who are dropping off children. He said this has occurred in the past and it was very unsuccessful.

Mayor Brennan said his main concern involves the parents who are blocking driveways and keeping the residents from being able to leave. Chief Rinehart said during the peak school hour's police are patrolling the area to prevent those types of things from happening as much as possible.

Mr. Masser suggested that Mayor Brennan speak to the PTO's at the beginning of each school year and explain the problems caused from parents parking illegally and provide the schools with a letter to be sent home each fall. Mr. Sharp suggested that the safety patrols be expanded to help escort the younger children into school safely.

Next meeting –April 13th, 2010

Adjourned at 5:55 p.m.