

**SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING
MINUTES**

November 7th, 2011
5:30 P.M.

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

Roll Call: Chair Mark Masser, Matt Lampke, Jed Morison.

Others Present: Mayor Brennan, Lou Chodosh, Bill Harvey, *Ben Kessler, President McClelland, Chief Rinehart and Rick Weber.

Review of Minutes: October 25th, 2011- **Approved**

Report of Chief of Police: Chief Rinehart said he had a dozen officers on duty for Trick or Treat night. He said there was approximately \$1,500 in overtime spent that evening. He was very impressed with the 275 volunteers in the community and that was certainly very beneficial for the safety of the children. Chief Rinehart said this year was different from any year he has seen in the past. There was an "Officer in Trouble" call which is the highest level of security. There was congestion on Euclaire after the first hour from cars driving up and down the street watching their children Trick or Treat. It is a narrow street with cars parked on the sides and around 6:37 p.m. one of the people in a car became very belligerent and loud with one of our officers. There were 5 or 6 men associated with this person who started to approach the officer. This is a situation where officers can have their guns taken from them so the officer did the right thing by calling in an "Officer in Trouble" call. Chief Rinehart said the crowd this year was "rougher" than any prior year. We received more input from residents than any year and he would suggest taking a look at other options to make this event a safer one. He suggested perhaps ending Trick or Treat earlier because it was very dark and plenty of kids were still out. The hours of darkness are the biggest safety issue. Mr. Morison said maybe consideration to end before dark would be a possibility.

*Mr. Kessler joined the meeting.

Report of Mayor/Safety Director:

Mayor Brennan said he has worked closely with MORPC to promote all communities holding Trick or Treat on the same night. He had lobbied for the same night to link up suburbs with a Monday through Thursday schedule. Asheville is one community who holds their event on a Saturday afternoon. He said he received calls from residents also and about 2/3rds of them were concerning people still Trick or Treating after 7:30 p.m. He had one resident who even

had teenagers come as late as 9:20 p.m. He agrees with the safety concerns after dark but if he changes the times then he becomes the "Grinch who stole Halloween". He will definitely take a look at some different options and will be asking residents for their feedback as well on the issue. He said they may even take a look at doing something at the Mansion. Mr. Morison said it is always good to consider different options.

Mr. Weber said he actually had one Trick or Treater come to his door smoking a cigarette. Mr. Masser said Trick or Treat should be for little children and after 7:00 p.m. there are no more little ones. He suggested making the time for 1 ½ hours not 2 hours. Mr. Masser said this was the first year that he actually had some knocking on his back door. Chief Rinehart said that was very suspicious and would have some concerns as well.

Ordinances:

Third Readings.

None

Second Readings.

Ordinance 42-11 an Ordinance to amend Ordinance 08-11 to require the posting of a health inspection sign by licensed food service operation and food establishments, introduced by Mr. Masser (Introduced October 25, 2011).

Mr. Chodosh said Ordinance 42-11 needs to be withdrawn. The Board of Health submitted Ordinance 43-11 which has more detailed language. There is no need for both Ordinances. **Committee voted 3-0 in favor of withdrawing this Ordinance.**

Ordinance 43-11 to replace Ordinance 08-11, **Licensed Food Service Operation and Food Establishment Facility Public Health Signage Requirement** which requires the posting of a health inspection report sign by licensed facilities and specifically, the manner of the posting, introduced by Mr. Masser (Introduced October 25, 2011).

Mr. Masser asked if there were any questions concerning this Ordinance. There were none. He announced the vote on 43-11 will be taken at the next meeting.

First Readings.

None

New Issues: Mr. Weber said he spoke with a resident while distributing Issue 24 information who lives on Gould that asked him to discuss her concern. She is frightened about traveling down Roosevelt with all of the parked cars on the street. It is very difficult to maneuver around traffic with the parked cars.

Mr. Harvey said this is also a problem for the snow plows. The west side of Sheridan disallows parking because you can't get emergency vehicles through if cars are parked on

both sides. Some streets we can't get down with a snow plow due to cars being parked on the street and it is too dangerous for the snow plows to attempt.

Mr. Weber said he understands it can be dangerous but isn't the best argument to allow emergency equipment and snow plows? You will notice driving down that street there are a lot of mirrors that have been duct taped back on to the car. Mr. Harvey said you will notice there are some cars deliberately parked on the curbs trying to protect their vehicles which causes problems with the curbs and sidewalks. Mr. Weber said he realizes there are no easy solutions. We have too many cars and not enough people using garages and driveways. Mr. Harvey said the problem is in the past when the homes were built, the families had one car only.

Mr. Lampke said he thinks the off street parking is an administrative issue. Residents who want one side parking only, becomes a matter of which side of the street allows the most parking spaces and the inconvenience for the residents who live on the opposite side. He thinks the residents need to come forward with a plan. Mr. Masser said this is not a new issue. We have heard it many times. Mr. Chodosh suggested making the traffic one way. Chief Rinehart said he is not sure that is a solution. We are always having problems with different residents having to take turns traveling down a street due to parked cars. The streets are so narrow and the driveways are narrow. A lot of residents are afraid to use their driveways due to the dangers of backing out onto the street. There are a lot of blind spots and it can become very hard to back out. The residents need to come up with a consensus.

Mr. Masser said Joe Ridgeway looked into this traffic issue before and he agrees with Mr. Lampke. The residents need to come up with some solutions. President McClelland asked if there have ever been emergency vehicle problems. Mr. Harvey said not that he is aware of but has had snow plows hit vehicles. Mr. Masser asked if in the event of snow, we can send notices of no parking on the street. Mr. Chodosh said there have been occasional snow emergency signs. Mr. Harvey said if we make it no parking during a snow emergency, we either have to tow the cars or plow them in. Chief Rinehart suggested we speak with the German Village municipality since they have very small areas and have to deal with this issue as well.

Adjourned 6:00 p.m.