

VILLAGE OF BENTLEYVILLE, OHIO
STREETS AND SAFETY COMMITTEE
March 11, 2024 MEETING
8:00 AM, BENTLEYVILLE VILLAGE HALL

MINUTES

Attendees:

Alex Goetsch
Ken Kvacek
Matt Maistros
Chief Barone

The Meeting was called to order at 8:02 a.m.

REVIEW OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES

The minutes from the February 2024 meeting were approved.

SERVICE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

The service director reported that everything is going well with the service department. Matt requested quotes for a new leaf machine from the leading seller and was told that no machines would be available before Fall 2025. Matt will continue to explore other options. The current leaf box has completely rusted out and failed. Thus, if leaf service is to continue this year, a new box will be needed, at a likely cost of around \$5,000. The leaf machine itself is not expected to make it through an entire leaf season, so the Village could be in a position where leaf collection has started but cannot be completed. Council will need to make a decision on this soon so that residents can be notified before leaves start falling.

CHIEF OF POLICE REPORT

The Chief reported that everything is going well. The Chief is still working to recruit a new full-time officer, which may be challenging because all municipalities are struggling to attract police officers.

OLD BUSINESS

Tractor replacement: An ordinance to allocate funds and authorize the Mayor to enter into an agreement to purchase a loader is expected to pass at the next Council meeting. There are quality used loaders available and hopefully the Village will be able to obtain one at a good price.

Leaf machine: The service director does not believe that the leaf machine is likely to make it through another season. Appropriate replacements could cost up to \$150,000. The Village will need to determine whether to replace the machine or discontinue leaf pick up service. Replacement options appear limited as noted in Service Director's Report.

Police vehicles: The Chief reported that the two new Durangos have been decaled and are scheduled to be outfitted in the next week or so. They should both be in service before the end of March. The 2014 Taurus sold for almost twice the expected price. The 2016 Taurus will now be sold, hopefully for about \$8,000. One current Explorer will transition for use by the Service Department.

Lexipol software. The software has been purchased and is now being customized for installation.

Trees in right of way. The Service Department has started cleaning drop wood in the right of way. There are a few large branches hung up in trees, but the Village does not have equipment capable to reach them for removal at this time.

Maple Street detour. The Chief reported that speed enforcement in the detour area has increased.

Repealing Ordinance 416.05(h). This ordinance requires pedestrians to yield to vehicles even though there are no sidewalks and barely any shoulder area in most of the Village. The proposed repeal should bring the Village inline with general Ohio law. Pedestrians should be reminded to yield for heavy, salt-weighted snowplows because it is very difficult and dangerous for a plow vehicle to attempt to swerve on snowy and icy roads.

NEW BUSINESS:

The Mayor has proposed repealing an ordinance that prohibits hunting on private property on Sundays. Ohio law formally contained such a restriction but no longer does.

Four deer were found dead in the river near the Solon Road bridge. While the State owns the river, the State refused to bear the cost for removal. The Village retained its usual contractor to remove the carcasses and the Village will need to absorb that expense.

The meeting was concluded at 9:04 a.m.

Next meeting scheduled for April 8, 2024.