

VILLAGE OF BENTLEYVILLE, OHIO
STREETS AND SAFETY COMMITTEE
June 10, 2024 MEETING
8:00 AM, BENTLEYVILLE VILLAGE HALL

MINUTES

Attendees:

Alex Goetsch
Ken Kvacek
Bob Chalfant
Matt Maistros
Detective Matt Farrar
Doug Miller
Mayor Hale

The Meeting was called to order at 8:10 a.m.

REVIEW OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES

The minutes from the May 2024 meeting were approved.

SERVICE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

The service director reported that everything is going well with the service department. We are still waiting for confirmation from Solon if they will sell/gift a chipper to the Village. If not, Matt will continue to monitor potential used units for purchase.

Matt is still monitoring used loaders until authorizing legislation is passed and a unit is selected for purchase. Funds for this purchase have already been allocated by Council. As such, the Committee recommends that legislation be passed authorizing the Mayor to purchase a used loader for a price not to exceed \$25,000. Matt will take a look at a nice loader that is currently listed for \$31,000. Council may need to adjust allocation of approved funds from the chipper to pay that price, if that unit is determined to be the best loader option.

Paving work in the Park is underway, and scheduled to be completed by the end of the week. The Village Engineer's office is closely monitoring the contractor's work.

Roadside mowing has begun, with that mowing only within the right of way (approximately 60-10' from edge of road in most locations) in non-lawn areas. The committee discussed whether the Village should enforce the grass height ordinance (Chapter 680) or consider amending that ordinance to allow more discretion for enforcement or to clarify that residents must mow around fire hydrants, etc for safety reasons. The Committee, the Mayor, and Council will monitor how the new policy is implemented and address further as needed.

Matt reports that the expansion collars on the Solon Road bridge are very worn and need replaced. Similarly, certain sections of Holbrook have failed within the edge lines. The Committee will recommend that the Engineer include those areas within the repair schedule as soon as practical.

Matt will work with the Mayor to develop a job description for “on-call” plow operators and determine with input from the Law Director whether a written contract is necessary. The Village will also need to determine whether compensation will be paid for nights on-call, even if the operator is not ultimately called in, in order to help ensure availability. We expect only a minimal need for such operators during periods of extended snowfall to reduce overtime pay for the two service department operators and to ensure that they have sufficient time to rest for safety reasons.

CHIEF OF POLICE REPORT

Detective Farrar attended on behalf of the Chief and reported that everything is going well. Two Village officers responded via mutual aid to a reported gun incident during Blossom weekend. Luckily, it was determined to be a false alarm.

The recently purchased Mobile Data Terminal has been fully programmed and is now in service. Likewise, all necessary warranty/outfitting punch list items for both new police vehicles have been completed.

The Village applied for a federal grant to replace police radios. That grant application was facilitated by Rep. Max Miller and could cover the purchase of 10 portable and 2 mobile radios, which would otherwise cost the Village about \$64,000. The Mayor reported that Rep. Miller’s office has advised that the grant will not be awarded to the Village. The Chief and Mayor will continue to search for other grant options.

The Chief is still looking to fill a full-time officer position, but in the meantime is bringing on another former full-time officer on a part-time basis to help fill the schedule and reduce the need to pay overtime. Other neighboring communities all have several vacancies, so attracting a full-time officer could be challenging.

OLD BUSINESS

Doug Miller brought up the issue of repairs needed to Holbrook Road after the heavy increase in use during the Maple Street detour. The failed road edges are especially annoying because they cause landscaping trailers and similar vehicles to bang loudly because of the uneven surface. Doug again requested that the Village consider limiting truck weight to preserve the roads. Detective Farrar confirmed that the Village has actively stepped-up enforcement and issued multiple warnings to thru trucks. The Committee urged that such enforcement be continued and elevated to citations if necessary.

Doug Miller also addressed his concerns with the new right of way mowing policy, whereon a further discussion ensued to make sure that the policy and its purposes were explained.

The meeting was concluded at 9:06 a.m.

NEW BUSINESS

Ken Kvacec suggested that the Village revisit cleaning out the evidence locker and obtain authorization to dispose of unnecessary items because the locker has become quite full again.

Next meeting scheduled for July 8, 2024.

Meeting adjourned at 9:20am