

**VILLAGE OF GRAFTON**  
**PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**

**JANUARY 12, 2010**

The Public Safety Committee meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Chair Jim Grant

Committee members present: Jim Grant, David Liss and Sue Meinecke

Staff/Officials present: Chief Charles Wenten, Captain Joe Gabrish, Village Attorney Mike Herbrand and Administrative Assistant Pat Hofstad

**PERSONS REQUESTING TO BE HEARD**

**REQUEST FOR "TOUR DE CURE" BIKE RIDE**

Peter Cowley, representing the American Diabetes Association's Tour de Cure, was present to request to hold the 5th Annual bike ride on June 19, 2010 at 8:00 a.m. A power point presentation was viewed by the Committee which highlighted the following: Over 5,000 people are diagnosed with diabetes in Ozaukee County, with a health cost of 42 million dollars. Over 600 riders are estimated to ride in this event, which will begin at the Grafton High School.

Mr. Cowley requested the date be changed to June 19, 2010 to coincide with the Giro d' Grafton. He understands that the date is an issue due to resources needed for the Giro bike race, and presented ideas to minimize this issue as follows:

- Peter Cook, heading up the volunteer effort, will have volunteers who are also Milwaukee Police Officers
- Reduce exposure to Washington Street by turning right onto 13th Avenue to CTH O and then onto the Ozaukee Interurban Trail
- 25 to 30 ride marshals will be on hand throughout the race course
- Ham operators, medical personnel, and transportation will be on hand throughout the race course

Chris Kegel, representing Wheel & Sprocket, advised he has been involved in many rides, and he considers the Tour de Cure one of the safest and well run rides he has witnessed.

Chief Wenten advised this has been a fantastic event in the Village. Captain Gabrish agreed; however, he advised that all of our resources as well as adjoining agencies will be busy with the bike race.

Chair Grant brought up the alternative of John Long Middle School as a starting point, as bicyclists can go directly onto the trail from there and there is ample parking. Nancy Hundt, Executive Director of the Grafton Chamber of Commerce, stated John Long is an alternative; however, it is difficult to change a venue after so many years.

Chief Wenten expressed his biggest safety concern is the route from the high school to 13th

Avenue. After a brief discussion, a decision was made to limit starting riders to 15 at a time. They will utilize the bike lane on Washington Street, and cones along the bike lane will be provided by the Association. Both Chief Wenten and Captain Gabrish voiced their approval for the new date with the conditions stated by Mr. Cowley. The Committee then approved the Tour de Cure ride for June 19, 2010 beginning at the Grafton High School.

### **REQUEST FROM CITIZEN TO REMOVE ORDINANCE 9.74.010 / DISCHARGE AND CARRYING OF FIREARMS PROHIBITED**

Aaron Sky was present to request that Village of Grafton Ordinance Section 9.74.010 / Discharge and carrying of firearms prohibited, be removed, stating it is in violation of Wisconsin State Statute 66.0409 which sets the guidelines for local regulations of firearms. Mr. Sky advised that the cities of West Milwaukee and Chilton are currently being sued due to a similar ordinance on the books.

Mike Herbrand, Village Attorney responded by saying the Village Board recently passed an ordinance that allows the Village of Grafton to adopt all state statutes. He agrees that Ordinance 9.74 is in conflict with State Statute and will revise the ordinance(s) to be compliant to state statute and have it ready for review at the February Public Safety meeting. This was met with the approval by Chief Wenten and the Committee.

Chair Grant asked that a listing of the sites where carrying a weapon would not be allowed be listed in the revision.

### **REQUEST FOR TWO 15 MINUTES LOADING/UNLOADING ZONE IN FRONT OF THE GRAFTON HOTEL PROPERTY**

Chair Grant advised that the Community Development Authority heard a request from the developers of the Grafton Hotel site at 1312 Wisconsin Avenue for two 15-minute parking spaces to allow loading/unloading in front of the Grafton Hotel property. CDA stated that precedence has been set for a limitation of one space which was recommended by that Committee. Chief Wenten and Committee members agreed with the recommendation of the CDA.

Motion by Trustee Meinecke, seconded by Trustee Liss, to recommend the Village Board approve one 15-minute loading/unloading space to be used by the restaurant that is to occupy the former Grafton Hotel building located at 1312 Wisconsin Avenue. Approved unanimously.

The forwarding of this ordinance to the Village Board will occur after the Grafton Hotel project is finalized.

### **REPORT OF BENCHMARK MEASUREMENTS**

Chief Wenten reviewed the Department benchmarks, noting the increase in criminal complaints the property crimes. Cellular 911 calls continue to increase, with a portion of those being miss-dials. Chair Grant noted the steady increase in lobby assists, which re-affirms his belief to keep the police department dispatch 24 hour service.

## **REVIEW OF POLICE OVERTIME COMPARISON / NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER**

It was noted the Department overtime is 600 hours less than last year. Chief Wenten commended Captain Gabrish for streamlining resources during special events and to the all of the Officers who have the burden of shift changes.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

- A. Parking in front of Wag'n Tails and Patriot Mortgage – Mike Rambousek, Director of Planning Development, has been working with Sandy Wirth on the parking issue. Chair Grant will follow up with him.
- B. First Avenue / Oak Street intersection - Chief Wenten advised the brush was cut down and the intersection is no longer obstructed.
- C. Hawk system signal progress – Chief Wenten anticipated installation beginning this spring.
- D. Snow covered LED traffic lights – Chief Wenten will work with Department of Public Works to get equipment to knock off the snow at the main intersections following a storm.

## **ADJOURN**

Motion by Trustee Liss, seconded by Trustee Meinecke, to adjourn the meeting at 7:02 p.m. Approved unanimously.