

PUBLIC HEALTH & SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING
JANUARY 30, 2023

MINUTES

1. The meeting was called to order at 5:30 PM by Chairman, Councilmember Aaron Wahl.

2. Roll Call

Councilmember Aaron Wahl, Ward II (Chairman), Councilmember Mary Monachella, Ward I, Councilmember Dan Hurt, Ward III, Councilmember Merrell Hansen, Ward IV, Councilmember Gary Budoor, Ward IV, City Attorney Chris Graville, and Chief Ray Johnson. Several citizens also attended this meeting

3. Minutes –December 7, 2022

Councilmember Wahl motioned and Councilmember Hansen seconded to approve the minutes of the December 7, 2022 meeting. The minutes were approved 3-0 (Councilmember Monachella abstained as she was absent from the December 7th meeting).

4. Golf Carts

The Committee Members addressed the issue of golf carts/low speed vehicles on City streets.

City Attorney Graville presented a draft ordinance for the allowance and regulation of golf carts and/or low speed vehicles on City streets. This draft ordinance sets out the proposed regulations of operation of golf carts and low speed vehicles on streets, roads and highways located within the City of Chesterfield.

First, the definition of a low-speed vehicles was reviewed and the difference between a low-speed vehicle and a golf cart. It was noted that low speed vehicles are defined by State Statute and golf carts are a motor vehicle originally designed for operation on a golf course, not regulated by State Statutes. A low-speed vehicle can be registered in the State, a golf cart cannot.

Currently, neither type of vehicles are allowed on City streets at this time (unless licensed and registered in the State of Missouri). A discussion followed regarding which subdivisions within the City would be amenable to allowing golf carts. At this time, most subdivision indentures do not allow golf carts or low speed vehicles. City Attorney Graville suggested that the ordinance be written to allow subdivisions to opt into the allowance of golf carts. There was discussion regarding workable options.

Further discussion continued regarding the registration of vehicles. Safety issues were a main concern for the operation and regulation of these vehicles. It was decided that criteria needs to be developed for the vehicles including safety glass for windshields, seatbelts for each passenger, head and tail lights, horn, bicycle flag or reflective triangular rear signage. It was also noted that the driver of the vehicle must be a licensed driver and all other rules of the road followed.

City Attorney Graville will prepare a new ordinance for review at the next Public Health & Safety Committee meeting. Overall, several items need to be addressed: does the City of Chesterfield want golf carts or low speed vehicles on City streets; will subdivisions be able to opt in or will these vehicles be allowed on all subdivision streets; will the requirement of true safety glass be a requirement or just a type of plexiglass windshield.

There was no action taken regarding this issue at this meeting.

5. Security Glass at City Hall Front Desk

Chief Johnson reported that contractors have not been responsive to providing a quote for the purchase and installation of a safety glass barrier for front desk personnel at City Hall. Councilmember Hurt volunteered to contact a possible vendor. This item will be placed on the agenda for the next Public Health & Safety Committee Meeting.

6. Alternative Courts Update

Chairperson Wahl provided updates on the planning for the proposed Alternative Courts project that he received from Tim Engelmeyer:

- A. He has been reaching out to partners for resources including drug and alcohol counseling/treatment, counseling, probation services, drug testing facilities, defendant monitoring services, house arrest services, job placement services, community service monitoring.
- B. He has been working on the screening process for candidates and has identified five potential candidates for the first session of 2023.
- C. Forms and contracts are being drafted in accordance with the budget allowed by City Council.
- D. There will be a meeting on January 31st with City Administrator Geisel, Chief Johnson, Court Clerk Tonia Powell, and other City staff to go over funds/expenditures and also the tracking of participants success/failure.

Councilmember Hurt recommended that this program remains funding neutral if possible. Chief Johnson noted that other municipalities have expressed enthusiasm for the program.

7. Deer Sampling Survey

Chief Johnson provided the results of the 2023 Deer Sampling Survey completed earlier this month. He also noted that he has provided this report to Erin Shank of the Missouri Department of Conservation who is the State expert on deer population within the State. Chief Johnson has requested that Ms. Shank review the report and make recommendations to improve the City's culling procedures if needed. Chief Johnson will share her recommendations at the next meeting of the Public Health & Safety Committee.

8. St. Louis County Jail Inmate Fees

Chief Johnson informed the members of the Committee that St. Louis County has increased the daily fees it charges for the housing of municipal prisoners. Since 1989, St. Louis County has charged \$32.00 per day. They intended to raise the rate to \$120 per day. However, the St. Louis Area Police Chiefs Association intervened and requested a lower fee increase which resulted in St. Louis County lowering the proposed increase to \$50.00 per day. Chief Johnson asked for the members of the Committee to approve this amended fee and noted this would be the first increase in more than 33 years.

Councilmember Hurt motioned and Councilmember Monachella seconded to forward to full Council with a recommendation to authorize City Administrator Geisel to enter into the agreement for housing municipal prisoners at the new rate of \$50.00 per day. The motion carried 4-0. This item will be forwarded to City Council for their review.

9. There was no other business to discuss
10. There is no meeting scheduled at this time.
11. Having no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:38 PM.