

MEMORANDUM

DATE: October 26, 2009
TO: Michael G. Herring, City Administrator
FROM: Chief Ray Johnson
SUBJECT: PUBLIC HEALTH & SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING

The Public Health and Safety Committee met on Monday, October 26, 2009. Those in attendance included Chairperson Barry Flachsbart, Ward I, Councilmember Lee Erickson, Ward II, Councilmember Randy Logan, Ward III, Councilmember Bob Nation, Ward IV, City Administrator Michael Herring and Chief Ray Johnson. Also in attendance was City Attorney Heggie.

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 AM by Chairperson Barry Flachsbart.

1. **Approval of Minutes – July 13, 2009**

Councilmember Erickson motioned and Councilmember Nation seconded to approve the minutes of July 13, 2009. The motion carried 4-0.

2. **Proposed Ordinance – Seatbelt Violations**

Chief Johnson introduced a proposed ordinance that would allow Police Officers to enforce seatbelt violations, as a primary offense. This offense would carry a \$10.00 fine with no points assessed to drivers. St. Louis County has already adopted this ordinance and the City's Prosecuting Attorney is very supportive. Councilmember Logan motioned and Councilmember Erickson seconded to recommend approval of this ordinance to City Council. There was further discussion with Councilmember Flachsbart voicing his opposition to assigning a seatbelt violation, as a primary offense. After discussion, the motion was approved 3-1 with Councilmember Flachsbart voting "No".

3. **Online Evidence and Property Auction Service**

Chief Johnson related the Police Department's concern of depleting space in the evidence/property storage area. He described how evidence/property is currently kept and how these items are disposed. Chief Johnson noted that some evidence must be kept indefinitely and other items may be disposed by Court Order, after a year. Currently items like bicycles are given to charities if their owners cannot be found. Weapons are melted down. There are items that have some value left each year. Previously, the Police Department has participated in auctions of property with other surrounding departments. The proceeds have been \$500 - \$600 per auction.

Recently, an online auction service has become available and St. Louis County and other municipalities are participating in this service to sell unclaimed property and no longer holding auctions. After research, Chief Johnson has determined, with Mr. Herring's concurrence, that the Police Department utilize PropertyRoom.com as a

service to sell unclaimed property. Councilmember Erickson motioned and Councilmember Logan seconded to receive and file this information. Chief Johnson informed the Committee that the St. Louis County Police Department had selected this same company, after going through a bid process to ascertain the best cost for online service for the sale of property. Chief Johnson also noted that proceeds from the sales would go to the City's general revenue. After discussion, the motion carried 4-0.

4. **Flu/H1N1 Swine Flu**

Mr. Herring addressed the Committee members to advise that everything possible is being done to make information available about the current flu season and to make vaccine available to employees. To date, seasonal flu vaccine was made available to employees last week, at the Employee Health Fair. As additional vaccine becomes available for H1N1, the City will make every attempt to make it also available to employees.

5. **Council Resolution – All Hazard Mitigation Plan**

Chief Johnson informed Committee members that in 2004 the City had issued a Resolution supporting and participating in the East/West Gateway All Hazard Mitigation Plan. This Plan is a cooperative effort of five Missouri Counties in the St. Louis Metropolitan Region, the purpose of which is to allow the participating jurisdictions to qualify to receive Federal Mitigation Grant funding. Every five years, the participating agencies are asked to renew their support by a City Council Resolution. Councilmember Logan motioned and Councilmember Erickson seconded to recommend approval of this proposed Resolution to City Council. After Chief Johnson related further details and noted that the All Hazard Mitigation Plan commits the City to act responsibly in the aftermath of any hazard. The City currently works with FEMA, SEMA, and East/West Gateway Management in concurrence with the All Hazard Mitigation Plan. The motion carried 4-0.

6. **Chesterfield Association for Positive Youth (CAPY)**

Councilmember Logan informed the Committee that CAPY hosted a forum this past Thursday night with good attendance from the community. This was their first attempt at an event with the support of the area school districts. Mr. Herring voiced his support and noted that this is a first step at continued progress with the School Districts, both of which sent home flyers, advertising this forum.

Councilmember Logan also informed the Committee that CAPY members would like to initiate a "drug take back" event similar to one that was recently held in Eureka. This would be a drop off location (or locations) where residents could safely drop off old prescription or over-the-counter medication that is outdated or no longer needed. Chief Johnson voiced his approval of this type of project. The Committee members agreed to support the plans for this program. Mr. Herring pointed out that, when all of the details

for this proposal have been worked out and it has been formally endorsed by CAPY, it will need to be reviewed/approved by this Committee and by City Council, before it can be implemented.

7. **Nooning Tree Subdivision Traffic Issues**

Councilmember Flachsbart related a list of traffic concerns provided by Councilmember Geiger from residents of Nooning Tree subdivision. Chief Johnson reported that members of the Police Department have been in contact with the subdivision representatives to address their concerns. He also noted that members of the Police Department have contacted the school bus drivers relating to the residents concerns. Currently the Police Department has Police Officers patrolling specific times during school bus routes, SMART trailers recording the speed of vehicles, VIP's doing radar enforcement, and regular patrols throughout the area. Chief Johnson assured the Councilmembers that the Police Department will continue to work with the residents. Councilmember Flachsbart noted that all reasonable and responsible actions are underway.

8. **Next Meeting**

The date for the next meeting is still to be decided.

9. **Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 8:04 AM.