Amberley Village Council Police/Fire Committee – Minutes May 6, 2014

Attendees

Committee members: Peg Conway, Ed Hattenbach, Rich Bardach. Others: Stacy Lefton, Scot Lahrmer, Chief Wallace, Len Puthoff, Tom Muething, Bill Doering, Lacey Calloway III, Sandi Pywen

Prior Minutes

Minutes from the meeting of February 4, 2014, were approved as submitted.

Report from the Chief

The two new officers are doing well and contributing to the department. Lt. Fryman will retire on May 17, and the hiring process for his replacement is underway. He will be recognized at the May 12 Council meeting.

The Chief shared arrest statistics that were also published in the e-news. In 2005, the department made 66 arrests; in 2013, they made 340. This year is on pace to be well over 400. Many of these result from use of the license plate reader and are from warrants out in other jurisdictions. Many arrests also occur when drugs are found in cars stopped for traffic or other reasons. As a result of this increase, there is a need to expand the property room. Det. Norton maintains the property room mainly, but the state mandates that a second person check it monthly, a role performed by the Chief. The amount of items needing to be stored securely far exceeds the room's capacity.

Two of the three new vehicles are in service.

A common complaint that the Chief hears from residents concerns speeding drivers in their neighborhoods. He has purchased a handheld speed monitoring device that residents will be able to check out and use to track speeds. The data they collect will assist the department to know where to focus their attention.

The department is one of three finalists for a grant from Lowe's. The project they've submitted is painting the fire house floor. The Village did not receive the state equipment grant. Several other grants are outstanding, and they regularly seek new opportunities.

Vacation House Checks

Mr. Hattenbach suggested that a charge be implemented for vacation house checks, possibly voluntary, to increase revenue for the village. The consensus of the others present was not to pursue this idea as it would likely not be received well by residents due to the police levy already in place and it could discourage residents from requesting house checks. The Chief noted that it is a popular service. In 2005, they performed 1345 house checks, and in 2012 they did 3907.

Police Week

National Law Enforcement Memorial Week is May 12-18, and the Chief shared the many ways that the Village is involved in the local and national observance and invited everyone to the local event on Monday, May 12, at 11 am at District 1. Officer Koenig leads the Hamilton County honor guard that participates in the local event and goes to Washington DC. Also at the local event, Chief Wallace will lay flowers, Rabbi Kalmanson (chaplain for the AV dept) will give the opening prayer, and Ruby Miller, widow of an AV lieutenant, will also lay flowers.

Mr. Hattenbach moved to adopt the resolution proclaiming May 12-18 as national Law Enforcement Memorial Week and May 15 as Peace Officers' Memorial Day. Seconded by Mr. Bardach, the motion passed unanimously.

EMS

Since the new contract period began January 1, the Village has requested regular reports from Deer Park-Silverton and Golf Manor on the number of EMS runs, which the Committee will review quarterly or so. The first quarter 2014 statistics were presented in graph form (attached).

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Submitted by: Peg Conway, Chair