



**VILLAGE OF NORTH SYRACUSE
Public Safety Committee**

Dedicated to increasing the safety of the residents, in the Village of North Syracuse

June 4th 2012 – 5:00 p.m.
North Syracuse Fire Department

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m. by Chairman, Fred Fergerson. Minutes of the March 5, 2012 Meeting were approved as distributed.

ATTENDANCE

Fred Fergerson, Chairman/Trustee
Pat Brennan, Fire Chief
Shawn Stassi, NSPD
Gary Wilmer, DPW
Teresa Roth, Parks & Recreation
Jack Gaiser, Zoning Board
Pam DiCarlo, Codes
Ray Sharp, OSHA Retired, Resident

1. Police

Fred Fergerson announced Tom Connelly's resignation as Police Chief. He introduced Shawn Stassi, who will be second in command under Interim Chief, William Peverly. For the next few weeks, Chief Peverly, in addition to supervision of the department, will be managing the hiring process for a new chief. The selection committee will have two other retired police chiefs to interview candidates on the Public Service Police Chief's Eligibility "B" list. They will make suggestions to the Mayor and the PSC Chairman: then to the entire Village Board. Peverly wants input and feedback from this committee, community leaders, business owners and residents on the characteristics and skill sets of candidates for chief. The PSC will be called, on short notice, by Chief Peverly for an unscheduled meeting with him during the selection process.

Shawn Stassi brought three issues to the floor: 1. Cross walk location, education and enforcement. 2. Parking ticket enforcement problems as an incorporated village. Parking fines should be increased from \$15 to \$25. 3. He suggested that speed limits on village side streets be dropped to 25 MPH.

2. Fire Department

Chief Brennan reiterated the growing problem with senior housing his department has been facing (disabled seniors in public housing settings are frequently and repeatedly calling for assistance after falling). These calls put a strain on agencies that aren't designed to cater to senior care. Assisted living should be sought for these people. Pam, from Codes, mentioned that Malta House is classified as "elderly housing". As such, isn't required to meet "assisted living" standards.

Pat reported that Malta House conducted a "fire drill" recently without notifying all staff members, the fire department or 911 (they did notify the alarm company who kept it to themselves). A nurse's aid saw the purposely generated smoke coming out of a vacant room and called 911. Five fire companies responded and several police to the "drill". This was done on an extremely warm and humid day. Discussion followed as to how to avoid this waste of manpower in the future.

He also reported on being called to Centerville Court where a door had to be broken down to access a person calling for help. Keys have now been placed in a lock box to avoid this problem in the future.

3. Codes

Pam piggy-backed on Shawn's concern about crosswalk enforcement noting that the new Village Center plan questioned the number and proximity of crosswalks. She will be in contact with Centerville Place and other senior housing about the issues Pat Brennan brought up.

4. Parks & Recreation

Teresa thanked all who helped to make the Village festival a safe and fun event. In reference to ADA, compliance has now been extended to January 2013 due to many complaints from other communities who couldn't comply. The village pool will open next Friday. A lift to assist those with disabilities in getting into and out of the water will be available on request. A sign indicating this will be posted. Summer camp opens July 2nd and Summer Concerts begin June 27th. Shawn will have bicycle police patrols during these events.

5. DPW

Gary reported that the DPW is securing the Court Clerk's office window and door. The police dispatcher's window will have a small pass through at the bottom. Mark Stockham of 40 Lee Terrace spoke again to Gary regarding the stop sign at Hier Avenue and has again requested enforcement by police. The police are monitoring the situation.

6. Additional Discussion

Jack Gaiser is concerned that with Centerville Court's new management, it might be changing its focus away from seniors to include disabled allowing younger residents. This may lead to Section 8 status. Pam will look into this tomorrow.

7. Trustee's Report

Fred's report was under the Police report. These minutes will be distributed in village mail boxes and through emails. He thanked all for attending.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:54pm.

Next meeting: Monday, September 10th, 2012 – 5:00 pm – N.S. FIRE DEPARTMENT

**Alfred E. "Fred" Fergerson
Safety Chairman / Trustee**

cc: Mayor Atkinson
Trustee Butterfield
Trustee Henry
Trustee Fergerson
Trustee Linnertz
Diane Kufel, Clerk/Treasurer
Pam DiCarlo, Codes
William Peverly, Police Dept.
Shawn Stacy, Police Dept.
Gary Wilmer, DPW
Teresa Roth, Parks & Recreation
Chief Brennan, Fire Dept.
Deputy Chief Tim Ellis, Fire Dept.
Charlotte LaPorte
Jack Gaiser
Ray Sharp