

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

December 10, 2018

The Public Safety Committee of the Village of Mount Horeb met on the above date at 6:00 p.m. in the board room of the Municipal Building, 138 E Main Street, Mount Horeb, Wisconsin. Chair, Mike Goltz, called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. All members were present. Village Administrator, Nic Owen, was also present.

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MINUTES

Mike McNall moved, Steve Holum seconded to approve the November 19, 2018 meeting minutes. Brenda Monroe and Cathy Scott abstained. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Several people from the community attended the meeting with four of them coming forward to speak. Stephen Sopeak, Christine Tanzer, Davina Penne, and Lynn McFee commented on the parking issues within the downtown area of the Village of Mount Horeb. There was much discussion regarding this matter, as well as additional issues involving the downtown area to include crosswalks, stop signs, angle parking, lack of visibility, and speeders. It was pointed out that there has been an issue with downtown parking before Duluth Trading built their corporate headquarters here. Many felt this has been an on-going problem, but Duluth has had an impact on the situation as well. It was pointed out that since Duluth has built their headquarters, this parking issue has impacted the residents near the downtown area.

It was suggested that a study be conducted with businesses, employees, organizations, and residents of the Village regarding the parking issue as well as traffic flow. It was also suggested that we have better signs to point out the parking lots that are currently available.

CONSIDER PARKING DOWNTOWN

Mike Goltz stated the Village is currently investigating many properties to alleviate some of the parking issues downtown. He explained that to make any changes on Main Street, it would have to be approved by DOT because it is a state highway. He indicated Chief Veloff is working on getting a study done regarding a left turn arrow for vehicles traveling westbound on Main Street at the intersection of E Main and S Second. Mike Goltz also made suggestions of possible areas for angle parking. He also indicated he would like to see more parking areas available north of Main Street and farther east.

Cathy Scott indicated she feels that we need better signage for the parking that is currently available. Brenda Monroe agreed that is a valid point and inquired as to what budget the signage would come from. Nic Owens indicated it would be part of the Street Department's budget. Cathy Scott also inquired as to whether or not there would be a special color associated with the signage to make it more visible. Nic stated that is possible.

Brenda Monroe pointed out that this is a difficult problem to solve. Mike McNall stated it can't be solved. Nic Owen stated there are little things we can do, such as the better signage and work on making the crosswalks more visible. Nic stated the Village will do what they can to help solve the parking issues. Brenda Monroe asked if we can look into adding crosswalk lights and Nic stated that is something the Village could look at.

There was some discussion regarding charging for parking. Cathy Scott felt that would take away some of the appeal of the Village. Mike Goltz stated our town needs to be a destination to survive.

Brenda Monroe inquired as to what the Village would do for signage and when the Village would do it. Nic stated that he could have information regarding signage and a plan for the signage for the February meeting.

Mike Goltz thanked everyone for coming and stated the committee is works hard to solve the problems, but the committee can't alleviate everything.

SET NEXT MEETING DATE AND AGENDA

The next Public Safety Committee Meeting is TBD.

ADJOURN

Brenda Monroe moved, Steve Holum seconded, to adjourn at 7:15 p.m. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted, Kit Witte, Mt. Horeb Police Department Administrative Assistant