

**Minutes of Committee
Monday, April 11, 2011
7:00 p.m.**

PUBLIC AFFAIRS AND SAFETY COMMITTEE

- 1) Bicycle Locker Administration
- 2) Police Department – Officer Vacancies
- 3) Traffic Issues:
 - a. Disposition of Yield Sign Request – Cedar and Niagara
- 4) Other Business

Committee Present: Levin, Pezza

Elected Officials: None

Staff Present: Neubauer, Bacidore, Buenz, Borchert, Trosien (item #1), Storino (Items #2 & #3), D. Panico

Guests Present: Bob Hoel, Barry Rollins

DISCUSSION AND COMMENTS:

1. Mr. Borchert informed the Committee of the City's continued efforts to achieve the status of a Bike Friendly Community. He provided updated information regarding the administration of bicycle storage lockers to be installed near the Metra station. These storage lockers will encourage more residents to ride their bikes to the Metra station. The three locations north and south of the tracks were selected due to the proximity to the Metra station and the sites were prepared by Metra during the recent construction. Hoel and Rollins, from the Bicycle Task Force, were present to respond to Committee questions and provide further information regarding the specific locker model researched and selected by the Bicycle Task Force. A total of 10 of the recommended lockers were purchased by the City. The cost of the lockers was \$11,170.00, an average cost per locker of \$1,170.00. Mr. Trosien reviewed other communities' fees for bike storage lockers and recommends an annual fee of no greater than \$100.00 with a \$25.00 refundable key deposit. Subsequent to further discussion, Staff will prepare a report for a future meeting.
2. Mr. Borchert first addressed the Committee providing a review of the police department's staffing pursuant to Alderman Morely's motion at the most recent City Council meeting regarding the budget. He stressed the importance of those staffing levels meeting the needs and expectations of both the community and City Council.

Chief Neubauer then addressed the Committee, providing them with a hand out which provided an overview of his presentation. During the following presentation, Chief Neubauer covered the Police Department's authorized strength by ordinance (70), current staffing vacancies and future staffing concerns and proposed staffing.

He described the process of selection, hiring, academy training and field training a potential officer prior to being on solo patrol. He emphasized that this is a lengthy process; not accounting for the hiring process, the academy training and field training would take 33 weeks. Therefore, a police candidate attending the next available academy in July would not be eligible for solo patrol, providing service to the community, until February, 26, 2012.

Subsequent to further discussion in which Chief Neubauer and Mr. Borchert responded to questions, the Committee directed staff to draft a report for the next City Council meeting approving staffing the Police Department to 69 as was proposed in the FY2011-2012 budget.

3. Subsequent to a brief review, the Committee signed the report.
4. a. Bacidore advised the Committee of the stop sign request at Bryan and Jackson Streets did not meet the necessary warrants.
 - b. The Committee reviewed the pending traffic items list.

The Committee was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.
Submitted by Dominic Panico, Deputy Chief