



**SAFETY COMMITTEE
MONDAY JULY 6, 2015**

COMMITTEE MEETING:

**PLACE: COUNCIL CHAMBERS
7232 E. MAIN ST, REYNOLDBURG, OH 43068**

President: DOUG JOSEPH

Ward Members: Ward I - Scott A. Barrett
Ward II - Leslie Kelly
Ward III - Cornelius McGrady III
Ward IV - Mel Clemens

At Large Members: Barth R. Cotner
Chris Long
Dan Skinner, Esq.

COMMITTEES:

Community Development: Chmn Kelly, McGrady, Clemens, Cotner, Long, Barrett, Skinner
Safety: Chmn Long, Skinner, Clemens, Kelly, Cotner, Barrett, McGrady
Service: Chmn Clemens, Barrett, Kelly, Cotner, Long, McGrady, Skinner
Finance: Chmn Cotner, Long, Clemens, Kelly, Barrett, McGrady, Skinner

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Agenda is subject to amendment by Committee/Council at the time of the meeting.

All meetings of the Council shall be held in accordance with the general laws of Ohio pertaining to requirements for open meetings of public bodies.

If you wish to speak before City Council concerning a specific topic on the agenda, or about a specific topic not on the agenda, please complete a "Speaker Form" and give to the Clerk of Council. Forms are located in the wooden box on one of the bench seats in the atrium. Copies of the Rules of Discussion are available next to the wooden box.

*April Beggerow
Clerk of Council*

1. Call to Order
2. Approval of Agenda
3. Approval of Minutes
 - a. Safety Committee – Committee Meeting – June 15, 2015
4. Discussion
 - a. Request Temporary Increase in Authorized Strength

SAFETY COMMITTEE MONDAY JUNE 15, 2015

COMMITTEE MEETING:

**PLACE: COUNCIL CHAMBERS
7232 E. MAIN ST, REYNOLDSBURG, OH 43068**

1. Call to Order

PRESENT: Kelly, McGrady III, Clemens, Long, Skinner, Joseph

ABSENT: Cotner, Barrett

2. Approval of Agenda

Agenda stands approved.

3. Approval of Minutes

a. Safety Committee – Committee Meeting – May 18, 2015

Minutes stand approved

4. Discussion

a. Ordinance Authorizing Mayor to Enter into an Intergovernmental Working Agreement with the City of Whitehall Police Department, and Declaring an Emergency.

Chief O'Neill: This is something we've been working on for the last year or so and its just a way for us to combine our resources and sort of streamline the way we operate the SWAT team both in the City of Reynoldsburg and in the City of Whitehall. Probably about 50-60% of the SWAT missions that we've done over the last 2 years, we've required assistance from another team and Whitehall is one we normally go to and we reciprocate back and probably assist them on close to half of their missions. When we started to look at it, both Chief Zitzke over in Whitehall and myself, it became apparent that we were duplicating a lot of efforts and there were a lot of assets that we could share and streamline the teams and sort of pare things down and make both teams more manageable and a little less on our individual resources and still accomplish the missions that we have in front of us. So, this is, it's been a kind of a long running agreement that we've had and we're trying to formalize this and combine our two teams.

Mr. Long: I would think the biggest advantage would be giving you the opportunity to train together. You don't think we would be diminishing any capability of our SWAT team here at the City of Reynoldsburg specifically?

Minutes Acceptance: Minutes of Jun 15, 2015 7:30 PM (Approval of Minutes)

Chief O'Neill: No I don't. Like I said, everything from a barricade situation to a drug raid, over the past several years, it's been a joint effort and between the two teams, we're going to try to maintain 9 officers and a supervisor per team so it still leaves us at 20 and there are very few things that we run into that we can't handle with 20 people. It just seemed a little bit, probably a waste for both of us to be carrying a 15-16 person team when we're going to have to call on the other team anyway.

Mrs. Kelly: Chief, say we get into this and a year or two years down the road, you find that it is really not working out ideally or the way that you would like for it to work out for Whitehall or for Reynoldsburg, would either agency have the opportunity to either ask to go back and tweak the agreement? Or to say, at this point it is really not working for where we are?

Chief O'Neill: This is something that we would review on an annual basis anyway and like most mutual aid agreements, there's an attachment there that says in thirty days we can cancel this, so we're certainly not locked into anything and if we get downstream a little bit and find that Whitehall is allowing their team to lapse and they're not carrying their end of it or for that matter if they have that feeling about our team and they want to opt out that is always there.

Mrs. Kelly: Great, Thank you.

Mr. Long: Any other questions for the Committee?

Mr. McGrady: Chief, do we have an agreement with Columbus SWAT as well?

Chief O'Neill: No we don't. Columbus SWAT operates, it's a little bit of a different animal than we're used to. Our SWAT team and Whitehall's SWAT team, we do probably 90-95% of our activity is drug related activity where we're doing high risk warrant service for search warrants. Columbus SWAT is completely different than that. They almost exclusively do barricade situations and high risk arrest warrants. So they kind of operate on a different plane than we do. They have, in fact, 2 20 man teams. One that operates on second shift and one that operates on 3rd shift for Columbus SWAT. So there's not much crossover there and it made a lot more sense for us to team up with a smaller agency that kind of did the same thing we do.

Mr. McGrady: We have all of our equipment requirements?

Chief O'Neill: Oh yeah. We've operated as our own team for the last 20 years. We're pretty well set. But that's a constant evolution there and there is always something that comes up but it doesn't make sense for us to purchase something and then to have someone like Whitehall or Gahanna right across the street purchasing the same thing when we can combine our teams and sort of extend our resources.

Mr. Long: Any further questions?

Mr. Joseph: Thank you Chairman, Chief, do any other suburbs of similar agreements between each other?

Chief O'Neill: Not that I'm aware of specifically. There was a real push put on it a couple of years ago, something called a Core Initiative and it was sort of centered around Whitehall and they wanted to combine resources on a lot of different levels: investigative, training level, something they call field force which has to do with like mass riot type crowd control situations and a SWAT team. It was done on a really big scale and they just couldn't get it all together and a lot of agencies tend to be a little provincial about those, a little territorial, so, if there are agreements in place specific to SWAT teams, I'm not aware of them.

Mr. Joseph: Ok, you had mentioned Gahanna and I didn't know if the idea was to go beyond a single partner at some point.

Chief O'Neill: When this first came up a couple of years ago, the proposal was for our team, Gahanna and Whitehall to all combine. There were some difference of opinion for how different things should get approached with our approach, our philosophy and Whitehall's being very similar and Gahanna's and not quite matching up with us so there would be a certain level of conflict for how we would handle a situation if it were to happen in Reynoldsburg vs. The exact same situation in Gahanna. It became apparent we weren't going to work that out. So we pared it down and went with just 2 for now and we'll always have the option to expand if this works out.

Mr. Joseph: Ok, thank you.

Mr. Long: I can see what you exactly said there as being an issue when coming down to training. If you have 2 different philosophies between the 2 different departments you begin to lose command and control.

Chief O'Neill: The fundamental difference came, when do you take your SWAT team and use it as a massive show of force and storm the gates and when do you surround the neighborhood and wait them out. There are 2 approaches and both of them have their upsides and we couldn't come to an agreement on how to handle certain things so we sort of cut and ran on that one.

Mr. Long: Any other questions from members of the Committee?

RESULT:	REFERRED TO COUNCIL [UNANIMOUS]	Next: 6/22/2015 7:30 PM
MOVER:	Chris Long	
SECONDER:	Cornelius McGrady III, Ward III	
AYES:	Kelly, McGrady III, Clemens, Long, Skinner	
ABSENT:	Cotner, Barrett	

Police Department**James O'Neill****7240 E. Main Street****Reynoldsburg OHIO 43068****614-322-6947 Phone****ORDINANCE REQUEST**

DATE:	July 6, 2015
TO:	Safety Committee
RE:	Request Temporary Increase in Authorized Strength from 2 to 3 Lieutenants

The Reynoldsburg Division of Police request the authorization to temporarily increase strength from 2 to 3 lieutenants. Lt. McKinley has been vacant from his position as administrative lieutenant for over 38 months. Please see the attached documents supporting this request.



Reynoldsburg Division of Police
7240 East Main Street
Reynoldsburg, Ohio 43068
(614) 866-6622
(614) 322-6926 (fax)

4.a.a

MEMORANDUM

Date: 16 June 2015

To: Chief O'Neill #79

From: LT R. Wright #90 *RW*

Subject: Request to Temporarily Increase in Authorized Strength

The Reynoldsburg Division of Police is authorized to fill 2 full time lieutenant positions. Currently both positions are staffed; however, one of the positions is staffed by an employee who has been deployed with the U.S. Coast Guard for over 38 months, Lieutenant Scott McKinley.

Through correspondence, LT McKinley confirmed he will not permanently return to the Reynoldsburg Division of Police at the conclusion of his deployment. He will need to return for one day to file his retirement paperwork and officially conclude his employment with the City of Reynoldsburg.

Funding is currently available for this increase without appropriation. The funding source is available through the unused Safety Director pay.

Request:

I request to do the following:

1. Request to temporarily increase authorized strength of the Police Department from 2 Lieutenants to 3 Lieutenants. The increase would be effective until LT. McKinley officially retires.

Attachment: 3rd LT Request (1095 : Temporary Increase in Authorized Strength)

Bailey Sparks

From: Jim O'Neill
Sent: Wednesday, June 17, 2015 2:07 PM
To: Bailey Sparks
Subject: FW: Update

-----Original Message-----

From: McKinley, Andrew S CAPT [<mailto:Andrew.S.McKinley@uscg.mil>]
Sent: Tuesday, April 07, 2015 12:00 PM
To: Jim O'Neill
Subject: Update

Chief O'Neill,
Greeting from warm sunny Virginia! I hope all is well back in Reynoldsburg.

It looks like there is a strong probability that I will be staying on active duty with the Coast Guard through September 30, 2016. I do not have orders yet, but in speaking with the Personnel folks here, the funding looks solid for my program. I should get official orders issued in July, I'll be sure to forward a copy to you.

I still intend to return to RPD to work for one day in order to submit a DD-214 (certificate of credible military service). This will allow me to get service credit for my time on active duty in order to have the necessary service credit to draw my pension.

If you need anything else, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Best regards,

CAPT Scott McKinley
U.S. Coast Guard Atlantic Area
Chief, Contingency Operations Branch
Office: (757)398-6319
Cell: (614)446-9512

Attachment: 3rd LT Request (1095 : Temporary Increase in Authorized Strength)