



Town of Geddes

Public Safety Committee Minutes

September 26, 2019

In Attendance: Councilors LaFex, Weber, Donovan

Police: Chief Gillette, Captain Fall

Fire: President Modafferi, Chief John Zingaro

Meeting opened at 4:37pm.

The budget for the Solvay Fire Department is in process. Under consideration are manpower issues especially during the summer months to ensure coverage. Call volumes, personnel availability and other factors are being considered. Solvay remains one of the busiest fire departments in the county at this time with 1600 calls per year.

It was requested that the town let the Solvay Fire Department know the date of the meeting when their budget is reviewed.

October is Fire Prevention month. There are scheduled school visits, open house and other events happening throughout the month.

There was a suggestion made to add fire prevention tips to the About Town newspaper, or post it on the town's website.

The memorial for former Chief Demperio is progressing. We may get the stone donated, while we would pay for the base and engraving. (We may be able to elicit help from the highway dept.). We discussed a possible dedication as part of the tree lighting in December. We will see how things progress and contact Deb Morrell should this work out.

The public hearing for the three way stop at Lakeside and Ontario (in response to the resident's petition) will occur at the October board meeting. Chief Gillette submitted the findings of his review in writing to the committee.

In response to another area of concern in Lakeland, the Chief said that the department is monitoring that area (Beach and Ontario).

David Bonkowski, 98 Helmi Drive, came to the meeting to explain his concern about the darkness at Helmi and Ludden Pkwy. There used to be a street light there (about '94), and it was removed by the utility company because a resident complained that the light's projection was intrusive into his home. Mr. Bonkowski is requesting that the light be reinstalled to help with deterring the break in's in that neighborhood. Our town engineer will test the luminosity in that area, and we will check the specs on the lighting projected to be replaced in Westvale by pole number to see if that pole is expected to have a street light head. This is a National Grid issue, but we will see what information we can gather.

A resident complained of speeding by cars on Fay Road especially near Bishop Ludden High School, St. Camillus, the Senior Apts., and the Syracuse Academy of Science buildings. Chief Gillette has alerted patrols in that area to be especially vigilant.

Councilor Kelley joined us later in the meeting to express concerns about pedestrian safety especially on main roads like Terry Road. When pedestrians walk WITH traffic, it is more difficult to see them. NYS recommends that walkers use the left side of the road. He suggested that

we ask officers to share safety tips or make announcements about how to walk safely in our neighborhoods.

Meeting adjourned at 5:34 pm.

Next meeting: October 30th at 5:30pm