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WILDWOOD

Meeting of the

BOARD OF PUBLIC SAFETY

Thursday, July 7, 2016 at 6:30 pm

Wildwood City Hall Community Room
16860 Main Street

Committee Members in Attendance:

Marshal William Garrett
Council Member Dave Bertolino
John Gagnani
Captain Tim Tanner (Wildwood Police)
Deputy Chief John Bradley (Metro West Fire Protection District)

Committee Member Absent:

Walt Guller

Also Present:

Director of Public Works, Rick Brown
Erin Shank, Wildlife Biologist, Department of Natural Resources
Sue Cullinane (Council Member, Ward 3)
Debra Smith McCutchen (Council Member, Ward 5)

I. ROLL CALL

A roll call was taken at 6:30pm. With the above noted as present.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Board Member Gagnani seconded by Board Member Bradley to approve the minutes from the May 5, 2016 meeting. All voted in favor and the motion was approved.

III. OLD BUSINESS

A. UAS (Drones) – Letter of Recommendation to Planning and Zoning Commission

The information report submitted by the Department of Public Works was submitted to the Board of Public Safety. The report consisted of revisions made based on comments received at the last board meeting, and to reflect the fact that the FAA has now issued formal rules regarding UAS and Drones.

Along with the report, a formal letter of recommendation from the Board of Public Safety to the Planning and Zoning Commission for further action was submitted for review by the board. The board reviewed the submitted documents.

Board Member Gagnani made a motion to adopt the letter of recommendation and send to the Planning and Zoning Commission. Board Member Dave Bertolino seconded the motion. All voted in favor and the motion was approved.

B. Summary of CERT Training

Board Member Gagnani briefly summarized the CERT Training that he recently attended. There were 18 people in attendance, the training consisted of 6 sessions and 2 simulated drills. He found the course to be valuable and said the fire district did a great job. Another CERT Training

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attendee was in attendance, and she said she highly recommends the training and loved it. Board Member Bradley mentioned this was a good turnout for a CERT class.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

A. Update on Deer Management

As a follow up to the May Board of Public Safety meeting regarding deer management within Wildwood, Board Member Gragnani contacted the Department of Conservation and spoke with Ms. Erin Shank, Wildlife Biologist. Ms. Shank agreed to attend tonight's meeting to discuss and update the Board regarding deer management.

Board Member Gragnani mentioned that some people don't want deer touched, however some do.

Erin Shank said it comes down to population and damage control. The basic underlying messages are that damage control is the non-lethal method (fencing, scare tactics, prohibiting feeding of deer). Wildwood does not prohibit feeding of deer. It does get tricky with enforcement of no feeding ordinances. There is a state wide no feeding rule in place. However there is an exemption allowing the feeding of deer within 100 feet from residence, because to some, feeding deer does bring enjoyment. Deer feeders are not allowed to be put out in Missouri.

Ms. Shank recommends that the City and the Department of Public Works advertise/inform residents, such as the type of deer repellants to use (liquid fence granular). Population control needs to be in effect. She mentioned that Wildwood has a good deer population program in place. However, the eastern portions of Wildwood has become more populated with deer.

Board Member Gragnani mentioned that the deer have become more of a problem than just eating plants; more deer related car accidents are occurring.

Ms. Shank said there is no magic solution. The most cost efficient way is through hunting. Cities can pass a Projectile Ordinance, loosen rest restrictions on cross bow. Equipment used can be discharged within 200ft of property but has to be approved by property owners.

Ms. Shank did mention that Town and Country hired professional sharp shooters. However this is rather expensive. Bait and Sharp shoot was utilized in another city, Town and Country gets a contractor to do this. About \$400 per deer (estimated costs), happening mostly in January when they're hungry and most susceptible to bait, whereas in the summer it isn't as effective.

Board Member Gragnani asked who is allowed to bow hunt and does this need to be during deer hunting season.

Ms. Shank mentioned that the 3 acre lot restriction in place is a good rule, not too large. However, other municipalities have only 1 acre lot requirements. Cities can let neighbors combine their lots. The City should require a bow hunter course, it is not required, but municipalities do require it to bow hunt. There is no proficiency test, just educational.

Deer hunting season is the only time deer can be hunted, September 15th - January 15th. Beyond

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the deer hunting season timeframe, municipalities can work with the Department of Conservation to obtain a special permit to hunt deer out of the normal deer hunting season. This is the best next step as far as management goes.

For cities that have smaller acreage requirements than Wildwood, such as Ladue, who have a 2 acre requirement, allows residents to combine their property to meet the minimum requirement. Some cities such as Ballwin and Chesterfield have a one acre lot requirement. Chesterfield has little cooperation from residents, whereas Sunset Hills has 54 properties signed up. Sunset Hills is more active and they have more subdivision lots. They put together 4-6 properties to meet the requirements. Common ground is key in controlling deer population in subdivisions. Board of trustees can approve the target of common grounds, and subdivisions that have done so in the past have had success and little complaints. There needs to be coordination between neighbors and HOAs.

Board Member Gragnani asked if permits need to be issued or an ordinance. Ms. Shank said no permits are required for those situations during deer season. However you would need the subdivision trustees' approval. Captain Tanner said it is authorized with written permission from the Police Department.

Marshall Garrett recommended that the board looks into deer resistant plant information and get the information out to the residents.

The Director of Public Works, Rick Brown, asked Ms. Shank if she can tell how bad our condition with deer is.

Ms. Shank said the department can't tell too much. Aerial photos were done in 2004 (including Rockwood and Greensfelder), they discovered about 50-60 deer per square mile, the department recommends a number closer to 20 per square mile (minimizes conflict with deer). Ellisville did deer surveys more recently, during the night time with spot lights, 52 deer per square mile (consisted of areas north of Manchester which has low density). Wildwood probably has a 50-70 range.

Babler State Park has different requirements and laws to obey by, and has to prove the need for an ecological hunt. Rockwood Reservation can continue hunts. They have been trying different techniques to control the deer population. Rockwood does fall under DNR (Department of Natural Resources), and hunted by DNR (managed archery hunts).

Ms. Shank mentioned that Wildwood can use the county's help, but the county hasn't been pushed enough by the municipalities.

The last option in controlling deer is by trap and euthanasia, which is legal. Permits have been issued for this, particularly in small urban properties. However, this method is slow and not efficient. It is also stressful on the animal.

Council Member Debra Smith McCutchen spoke of the densely populated areas with a lot of deer, and stated that some residents have complained of a Buck attacking people. She asked what residents can do.

Ms. Shank said there is a stair step of options:

First step: Avoid (avoid letting dogs out, keep dog on leash)

Second step: Harassment from distance (spray with hose, throw sticks and stones) to scare

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Third step: Contact the police (they can get in contact with conversation agency to euthanize when aggressive)

Overall there is a lot of activity with deer management and most cities are doing something.

B. Metro West Disaster Drill

Board Member Gragnani has requested a disaster drill to be conducted periodically. He asked if Metro West Fire District could be involved and help with planning a drill.

Board Member Bradley said that they could be involved in planning future disaster drills and he will bring it up to Mike Thiemann, Metro West Fire Protection District's Coordinator of Emergency Management. He will follow up at the next Board of Public Safety Meeting.

C. City Hall Safe Procedures Drill for City Staff, Boards, Commissions, and the City Council

Board Member Gragnani recommended that City Staff, Board Members, Commissions, and Council Members are prepared for emergencies by practicing disaster drills. He asked if the board could get the mayor involved to mandate.

Captain Tanner mentioned that this was brought up in a closed council session. There is a 4 hour block of education and then you do the drill. It can be done; he will get back with Ryan Thomas on this.

Marshall Garrett had asked if disaster drills have been done before with the above mentioned personnel, and Captain Tanner said this has not been done before.

Council Member Bertolino mentioned that this does not need to go to council but can be done through the City Administrator. Rick Brown will bring this up to Ryan Thomas, City Administrator.

D. Basic Life Support Classes – from Metro West

Board Member Gragnani brought up the recent requirement for Missouri students to have to take CPR training before graduating high school. He mentioned this might trigger in an increase in CPR classes, and he asked if Metro West Fire District will be adding more classes.

Board Member Bradley mentioned that anyone can sign up but there are minimum and maximum class attendee requirements. They can look at adding more classes when they have minimum/maximum amount of attendees signed up.

V. BICYCLE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

No agenda items

VI. NOT READY FOR ACTION

A. Speed Cushions On Green Pines Drive

B. Bicycling Safety Education

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VII. OTHER

A. Fire Districts

Council Member Sue Cullinane was in attendance and briefly presented the board with an issue she has noticed regarding fire district boundaries. She mentioned that the Ameren high transmission power lines in subdivisions can be problematic. A car on July 5, 2016 caught fire (homeowners in attendance) and the homeowners called 911. The car was on fire and it took 25 minutes for a fire truck to arrive (damage to garage). There are 75 homes in her subdivision which is split between two fire districts (Metro West and Monarch Fire District). However, there is only one entrance from Shephard road. She brought up that several years ago a child became unresponsive and it took an emergency vehicle 30 minutes to arrive. She pointed out that Metro West Fire District has a direct route, but Monarch Fire District comes from Long Rd. (along with many other roads). She pointed out that the 1950's court decision defined these boundaries and that they need to go to court for changes. She added that the decision today is possibly being affected by revenue which should not be taken into consideration when it comes to saving people's lives. After speaking to deputy fire chiefs in the area, she has come to realize the subdivision she is representing (Indian Tree) isn't the only subdivision with this problem. Ultimately the 1950's court decision does not work for this area anymore. She looked up on MapQuest the distances/times from either fire station to the location where the incident occurred on July 5th, and provided printouts to members of the board.

Council Member Cullinane's recommended solution is to put together a task force and have Monarch and Metro West Fire District officials to meet, make a list, and look at who can better serve which areas. The 1950's law needs to be changed. She also inquired if it is possible to get a lobbyist involved.

Board Member Bradley mentioned they would be jumping over a lot of people if the city went straight to a lobbyist. He can bring this issue up to the Fire Chief and discuss with the Monarch Fire District. This is a long standing problem and there are overlaps everywhere. One point he wanted to make was in regards to time. He asked how she got the timeframe from July 5th's incident.

Council Member Cullinane stated that the times came from when the resident made the initial phone call to when the fire truck arrived, which according to them took over 30 minutes.

Board Member Bradley said that in times of emergency 1 minute can seem like 5 minutes, and 10 minutes like 20 minutes. Per the fire department's time stamps, a Metro West fire truck was there in 11 minutes, a Monarch fire truck was on scene in 14:29 minutes. The first call goes to St Louis County then dispatched out. Mutual aid agreements are state wide. For a medical emergency, life threatening calls will get Metro West (Monarch will come from Wild Horse, not Long Road). Board Member Bradley clarified who answers to emergency calls and which fire district will respond. For an emergency fire call, the location will get Monarch, Pacific, Metro West, Eureka (takes 7 closest trucks), and this also takes into consideration water accessibility. The computer system will take in account the fastest routes.

Council Member Cullinane understood what Board Member Bradley was explaining but didn't like the risk that is being ran. She highly recommends that officials sit down and look at current over lapses.

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Council Member Bradley will bring this up to the Metro West Fire Chief to discuss with the Monarch Fire Chief. There are more subdivisions than Indian Tree that have this situation. School district boundaries are also taken into consideration. He recommends starting this local and letting it grow, if you jump to Jefferson City you could skip over those that can assist in the decision making processing.

Council Member Bertolino asked that regardless of the incident, the districts don't matter? Board Member Bradley said that life threatening situations will draw the closest fire trucks from either district.

Council Member Sue Cullinane wanted to thank Board Member Bradley for all that the Fire Department does, and mentioned that anything they can do to assist with this matter would be greatly appreciated.

B. Roundabout at Highway 109 Pedestrian Crossing

Council Member Debra Smith McCutchen spoke of her concerns regarding the roundabout on Highway 109 and the nearby pedestrian crossing. Drivers cannot see people in the crosswalk. She is requesting that action be taken such as some warning signals with lights. She reviewed the 2015 traffic study, which she pointed out shows an increase in number of accidents. She also pointed out the pedestrian crossing at Taylor Rd. and Highway 100's increase in accidents. There is not enough time to cross, and this should be a concern. She asked the board if they can look into these.

The Director of Public Works, Rick Brown, mentioned that the department has been looking at Pond Grover Loop Road and the cross walks there, which meets engineering criteria. He noted that there is \$20 million available at MoDOT (Missouri Department of Transportation) and the department is currently proposing to council these locations (along with Bent Ridge, Taylor Rd. and Highway 100) for cost share. Council Member McCutchen's suggested locations are on the agenda. They'll be one or two projects and if approved would start next spring.

Council Member McCutchen asked if there is anything that be can be done now to make the roundabout and pedestrian crosswalk on Highway 109 safer.

Rick Brown suggested that the department would like to look at moving the crosswalk farther from the roundabout and add a pedestrian walking sign with flashing lights.

Board Member Gragnani pointed out that the roundabout causes a lot of juggling for drivers and pedestrians, therefore moving the pedestrian crossing would help.

Council Member Bertolino asked if it would be out of the question to put up a couple of signs right now, a sign on the south side of the cross walk as you look to your left? Possibly two signs as you approach the intersection, and another sign at crosswalk. These could be minimal costs and a temporary fix until there is a permanent solution.

Rick Brown pointed out that the intersection is under MoDOT's jurisdiction and there are Federal requirements for road signs. A city cannot make up signs, as there are liability concerns with doing this. He will research and see what the department can do in the meantime. There are currently pedestrian stop signs, but if people don't pay attention it won't help.

Captain Tanner added that the Police Department has submitted an article to the Wildwood

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Gazette regarding safe driving practices in roundabouts.

Council Member McCutcheon inquired if an underground pedestrian tunnel is feasible.

Rick Brown advised that pedestrian tunnels are expensive, and wouldn't be his first choice. He suggests looking at pedestrian crossing signs with flashing lights and possibly moving the cross walk.

C. Speed Cushions on Green Pines Drive

A Wildwood resident in attendance, Larry Ball, also his subdivision's former trustee, has requested that the speed cushions on Green Pines Drive not be removed at this time, pending the discussion of the Pond Grover Loop Road extension. He has been in contact with the current subdivision's trustees and he has their full support on this request.

These speed cushions were installed in 2012 as a traffic calming measure. They were requested at that time because the residents wanted them. He agrees it slows traffic down, however majority of drivers are driving through the center avoiding the speed cushions.

The Board of Public Works, Rick Brown, mentioned they are considering trying out yellow flexible posts at Old Fairway. If this works, then it might be something to look into for Green Pines Drive.

Mr. Ball said he will return with a petition whether to keep or not to keep the speed cushions.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Marshall Garrett and seconded by Board Member Bradley, to adjourn. All were in favor. The meeting adjourned at 7:54pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Bree Kelchen
Administrative Assistant