

Safety, Health, and Service Committee

Meeting Minutes

Monday, April 12, 2021

The Safety, Health, and Service Committee met Monday, April 12, 2021 at 6:00 PM in Council Chambers at the John Knisely Municipal Building. The purpose of the Meeting is to discuss slingshot and crossbow use in the City, Resolution 10-2021 the Contract agreement with Goshen Twp Fire

In attendance were Safety, Health and Service Committee Members

Committee Chairman: Mr. Kelly Ricklic

Committee Members: Mr. Rob Maurer, Mr. Dan Lanzer

Alternate: Mr. Dean Holland

Excused Absence: None

Guests were:

Mayor: Joel Day

Law Director: Marvin Fete

Service Director: Ron McAbier

Safety Director: Greg Popham

President of Council: Don Kemp

Clerk of Council: Julie Courtright

Councilperson: Mr. John Zucal

Councilperson: Aimee May

Councilperson Mrs. Cheryl Ramos

Mr. Ricklic had the following comment:

I've been in contact with several citizens who have shown concern about slingshots and crossbows being used inside of City limits with children next door and close housing.

Mr. Ricklic asked the Committee's thoughts on the issue.

Mr. Maurer stated that shooting a bow and arrow is no different than shooting a gun.

Law Director Fete stated that the current Ordinance regulating slingshot and bow and arrow use carries a 4th Degree misdemeanor which has a penalty of 30 days in jail. If a person was killed by a bow and arrow that could be a reckless homicide which would result in prison time.

Mr. Lanzer asked if with the current Ordinance states that you would have to shoot a bow and arrow or crossbow in an enclosed area. Mr. Fete said the Ordinance states that you can't use it recklessly.

Mr. Ricklic said he doesn't want to discourage anyone from wanting to go to a safe facility to shoot bow and arrows. This discussion is about outdoor use.

Mrs. Ramos stated that the parents should be personally responsible to keep their kids safe if neighbors are shooting bow and arrows. I would be against banning it. In the past year all those facilities were closed.

Mr. Zucal said people could refuse to comply with a neighbor's request that they don't shoot bows and arrows, as they have refused to comply with the noise ordinance.

Chairman Ricklic said he has had six complaints about bow and arrow use in the City.

Mr. McAbier asked if the ordinance says something about "adequate back stop". Mr. Ricklic said it does not say that. It's a "very simple 1959 Ordinance".

Mr. Ricklic stated he wants to "err on the side of caution". Mr. Zucal said he can control dangerous things from happening with rules and regulations. Mrs. Ramos said you can't prevent injuries from happening.

MR. MAURER MADE THE RECOMMENDATION THAT THE LAW DIRECTOR DRAW UP AN ORDINANCE THAT WOULD REGULATE BOW AND ARROW USE IN THE CITY

MR. RICKLIC SECONDED THE MOTION

3 YEAS

AN ORDINANCE WILL BE DRAWN UP BY THE LAW DIRECTOR FOR THE NEXT COUNCIL MEETING

Mr. Ricklic had the following comment:

The next item up for discussion is Ordinance 10-2021 the contract agreement with Goshen Twp. Fire. I know there's no perfect solution.

Mr. Lanzer, Mrs. Ramos, and Mrs. May and Mr. Maurer all stated they fell this is the best they're going to get but it isn't perfect.

Mr. Ricklic stated that this contract runs from this year until the calendar end of 2026.

Mrs. Ramos asked Fire Chief Parrish what percentage their cost goes up every year.

Mr. Parrish said he'd have to consult the auditor. It depends on labor, equipment and fuel cost.

Mr. Zucal stated he's always been a big supporter of the fire department. He stated that this isn't an ideal contract but it's a revenue stream. It eases in that community and we can increase the revenue stream down the road.

Mr. Holland had the following comment:

I'm very passionate about this matter and I'd like to point out what is right or wrong with this particular matter. I spent most of my adult life in a fire and ems career. If we're going to grow our community we can't give away our services, which we're not. Large businesses are

not going to come to our community if they don't have land to grow on or the opportunity to build. I'm concerned about not just today but what happens in our community in 30 years or 40 years. We have a great community. It is a fun place to live plus things to do. Businesses will come here if they have enough room to grow. I don't see this contract as fair or equitable. There has to be fairness in everything we do in representing the taxpayers in this community. Our citizens are paying \$286.89 a year per person for fire and ems protection. Goshen Twp citizens are paying \$42.60 for the same services. I don't understand what's fair and equitable about that. If you consider the subsidizing of Goshen Twp that's another \$51 per person for the "privilege" of providing services to Goshen Township.

Mr. Ricklic noted the next Committee Meeting will be at 6:15pm on April 26, 2021.

With no further matter to come before Committee Mr. Lanzer motioned to Adjourn at 6:47.