

12 Feb. 2019

Police & Fire Committee

Comm. Members Present: Kitty Zech, Alana Tucker, David Voss, & Comm. Chairman Jim Sunderhaus,
Others Present: Police Chief Emmett Stone, Safety Service Director Tom Braun, Council President Mark Waters, Council Persons Any Richter, Gail Griffin, Rae Jean Hardig & Resident Kerry Smyth

Meeting was opened by chairman Sunderhaus @ 7:39 pm. Chief Stone requested some time to speak to the committee regarding the ongoing issues with the hiring of part-time officers & the retention of newer full time officers. Chief made a request of council to seek him out regarding any rumors & questions regarding police operations. Recently he been made aware of some information being sated that is not accurate & he wants to make sure accurate information is known.

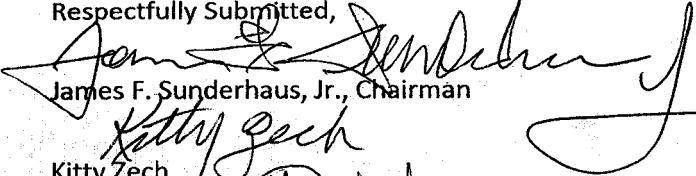
We still have 3 part-time officers 1 of which does not want many hours & only works 1st shift. 9 potential candidates 1 was not interviewed through the application process, 2 no shows, 3 had already gained employment elsewhere, and 1 rescinded their application, 1 we are cautiously moving forward with. We hired 1 who was 100 hrs into the training & he resigned today. The goal for 2018 was to hire at least 5 new part-time officers unfortunately the need is still there, however, the available pool of applicants is very thin. Therefore we need to look at solving the problem in a different way.


A question often asked by folks is. How busy are police personnel anyway? A study was done recently involving our neighboring suburban police departments regarding just how busy they are. Cheviot police have made 3900 responses/ reports/ computer entries since Oct. 27, 2018. The data included # of calls & # of personnel; #1 Colerain, #2 Cheviot, #3 Green Township, & #4 Delhi Township. It was noted that our Cheviot Police Dept. has had the same staffing (2 patrol cars on duty & the same # of full time personnel} since the 1960's. It was also noted that the department had over 20 part-time officers back then. There are many more calls for service now & many more of a serious nature.

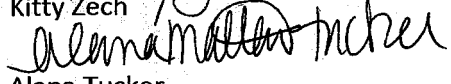
Chief Stone indicated that he will be asking for another full time officer in the new budget. Cost of a new hire including salary, pension, & other benefits is about ~~111,732.29~~ 76,733.80. Cost for this additional full Time officer could be partially covered by transferring money from part-time costs to fulltime costs.

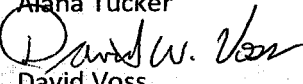
Chief Stone then fielded some questions from those in attendance. This will be further discussed & decisions made during the budget process with the Finance Committee. Meeting closed at 9:01 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,


James F. Sunderhaus, Jr., Chairman


Kitty Zech


Alana Tucker


David Voss