

**MINUTES**  
**City Council Public Safety Committee**

**Monday, August 8, 2022 – 3:30 PM**  
City Hall Council Chambers

Members Present: Mac Morrow, Chair, Council Member (arrived at 3:48 pm)  
Maurice Jones, Vice-Chair, Council Member (via Zoom)  
Larry Faison, Interim City Manager  
Tom Jordan, Police Chief  
Bobby Cooper, Fire Chief

City Staff: Lt. Steve Woodson, Police Dept.  
Paul Ray, Planning Director  
David Lutz, Public Works Director  
Wesley Shook, Assistant Public Works Director  
Denise Hodsdon, Executive Assistant

Guests: Linda Gallo, Resident

Media: Jonathan Rich, *Transylvania Times*

**A. Welcome & Call to Order**

Committee Vice-Chair Maurice Jones called the meeting to order at 3:37 PM.

**B. Certification of Quorum**

Executive Assistant Denise Hodsdon certified that a quorum was present.

**C. Approval of Agenda**

Motion by Chief Cooper, seconded by Chief Jordan to approve the agenda as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

**D. Minutes from May 23, 2022 Meeting**

Motion by Chief Cooper, seconded by Chief Jordan to approve the minutes of the May 23, 2022 meeting as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

**E. Revised Fire Department Contract to Include Medical First Response**

Chief Cooper recalled that during FY23 Budget discussions, the County agreed to support three full-time Fire Department Engineers, as long as Brevard Fire agreed to take over primary Medical First Response in the City and our portion of Sylvan

Valley #2. It was agreed that this would begin on August 1<sup>st</sup> and would require a minor contract revision with the County. Chief Cooper noted that the contract revisions have been reviewed and approved by the City Attorney. Motion by Chief Cooper, seconded by Chief Jordan to refer the contract revisions to City Council with recommendation to approve and authorize the Mayor to sign. The motion carried unanimously.

**F. Prohibition of Overnight Parking in City Parking Lots (Referred back from City Council)**

City Planner Paul Ray recalled that the City's Code of Ordinance does not specify a time limitation for City parking lots. A text amendment prohibiting overnight parking in municipal parking lots was referred from this Committee to City Council with a favorable recommendation on May 23, 2022. At its meeting on June 6<sup>th</sup>, City Council expressed hesitation about the overnight parking language. The term "overnight" was not defined in the proposed text. Council discussed situations where responsible adults may need to leave their vehicles parked overnight instead of driving while impaired. City Council tabled the agenda item and sent it back to this Committee for further consideration.

Mr. Ray said Staff recommends making two changes to the previous overnight parking amendment. Staff believes that limiting the time to 24 hours will be sufficient in preventing the unwanted storage of vehicles in city owned parking lots. Additionally, Staff suggests expanding the prohibition to all municipal parking lots except for the "pay for time" parking facilities which are self-regulating by the nature of their use.

Following discussion, motion by Chief Jordan, seconded by Chief Cooper to refer the revised text amendment to City Council with recommendation to approve. The motion carried unanimously.

**G. Request to Close Park Avenue to Semi-Truck Traffic**

Mr. Faison explained that this request was received by Interim City Manager Steve Harrell from Kate Kelly, a resident of Park Avenue. Ms. Kelly has requested that the City consider prohibiting semi-truck traffic on Park Avenue.

Chief Jordan said that he would support this request as Park Avenue is definitely not a road that is built for large trucks to drive through there, especially when they reach E. Main Street and make that turn where the line of sight is very limited. Additionally, a lot of people use it as a cut-through from Neely Road to E. Main Street and there are cars parked on both sides of Park Avenue. During discussion, it was noted that this would require an amendment to the Traffic Schedule, similar to the one recently passed prohibiting semi-truck traffic on Carver and Oaklawn Roads. Motion by Mr. Morrow, seconded by Chief Cooper to send to City Council with recommendation to amend the Traffic Schedule to prohibit semi-trucks with trailers on Park Avenue. The motion carried unanimously.

## **H. Traffic Calming Request – Pisgah Drive/Temple Church Road Neighborhood**

Mr. Faison received a request for traffic calming measures from Griff Colegrove, a resident of Pisgah Drive, informally representing the neighbors on Pisgah Drive and Temple Church Road. Mr. Colegrove expressed their concerns regarding the following:

1. High vehicular volume due to hospital traffic (delivery trucks included), dog park parking (despite signage), shortcutting to and from HWY 64 and Ecusta Road, and additional occupants and street users from ten dwellings currently under construction.
2. Narrow streets, lack of center line markings, and a 25mph speed limit which is too fast for the safety of all users (assuming motorists do not exceed the posted speed limit).
3. Sharp (90 degree) turns on the narrow streets which do not easily allow two motor vehicles to pass simultaneously.
4. Heavy use of the streets by children, pedestrians, bicyclists, and others (no sidewalks) which are often experience near misses with passing vehicles.
5. Dangerous two way stop sign intersection of Temple Church Road and Pisgah Drive which motorists frequently run.
6. Busy trail entrance to the greenway on Pisgah drive which causes a significant number of bicyclists and pedestrians to enter traffic.

Mr. Faison asked Staff to take a preliminary look at this and bring the information to the Committee for review. Public Works Director David Lutz summarized comments from Fire Department, Police Department, Planning Department and Public Works Department. After preliminary review, Staff's recommendation is to lower the existing speed limit of 25 mph to 20 mph along both Pisgah Drive and Temple Church Road. Motion by Mr. Morrow, seconded by Chief Jordan to send recommendation to City Council to reduce the speed limit to 20 mph on Pisgah Drive and Temple Church Road. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Faison commented that this is the first time the new Traffic Calming Policy has been tested and he thought that the policy felt very cumbersome. He noted that under this policy, before any hard data is collected, there would have been two community meetings, which seems like a lot of energy being expended before determining if this is even a good idea. He suggested that we retool the policy so that Staff would be initially challenged to evaluate if minimum criteria has been met or exceeded to warrant further consideration of a traffic calming device. It was decided that Staff will work on amending the policy and bring back to the Committee.

## **I. Discussion of Regular Meeting Schedule**

The Committee set the fourth Monday of the month at 3:30 pm as its regular

meeting date/time.

**J. Set Date for Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be on Monday, September 26, 2022 at 3:30 pm.

**K. Adjourn**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:16 PM.

Minutes Approved: October 24, 2022

X Mac Morrow

Mac Morrow,  
Chair, Council Member

X Denise Hodsdon

Denise Hodsdon,  
Executive Assistant