



Public Safety Committee Minutes
August 14, 2006, 7:00 p.m.

Minutes of a regular meeting of the Public Safety Committee of the City of O'Fallon, held in the Council Chambers, City Hall, 255 S. Lincoln, O'Fallon, Illinois, on August 14, 2006, Call to order 7:18 p.m.

ROLL CALL:

Members Present: True, Schmidt, Boone, Reckamp, Medford
Members Not Present: Bennett,
Staff Liaison: Chief Betten
Other Aldermen Present: Ned Drolet; John West, Jerry Mouser 7:40 p.m.
Other Persons Present: Walter Denton (City Admin.), Brent Saunders (OFD),
Pam Funk (City Admin.), Jean Bevington (OPD),
Residents Melanie Sanders, Karen Simpkins and Bill
Daly
Media Persons Present: Dan Toberman, Progress

Chairman True declared a quorum present and requested a Motion to approve minutes of July 10, 2006, Alderman Reckamp made a Motion to accept the July 10, 2006, minutes as presented and Alderman Boone seconded. All ayes.

Old Business

Item 1. Roundabout State & Oberneufemann Road – Dennis Sullivan, City Engineer, was unable to attend tonight's meeting and requested Chief Betten to inform the Committee on the status of the project. Chief Betten advised the Committee that negotiations on the properties on State Street could possibly begin in late September or early October, 2006, based upon info from IDOT. An Alderman brought up the Comprehensive Plan and the new changes and additions that included an overpass and questioned if the Committee was going to review the need for the Roundabout with the addition of this overpass. Chairman True informed the Committee that Dennis Sullivan would have more information at a later date on this subject. Bill Daly, resident involved with property negotiations asked when is this all going to happen? Alderman True informed him that the City could not give a specific date.

Action: None

Motion: None

Disposition: Open

Item 2. Highway 50 Crosswalk/Signal at City Park – Chief Betten provided a traffic study for the 300 block of Hwy 50 west bound (attached) for the Committee's review. Included in the study is a map with school crossing signs, cross walk markings and watch for pedestrian signage or road markings. Chief Betten informed the Committee that these signs and markings are provided and maintained by IDOT and requests for changes would have to be directed to

them. As this stretch of Hwy runs in front of the Community Park, the Committee reviewed this study and discussed several options:

1. Painting an area in front of the Park completely with Cross Walk highlights
2. Add more cross walk signs
3. Add a flashing light to cross walk
4. Remove all cross walks except for the ones located at Smiley and Lincoln which have electric push buttons
5. Provide a sidewalk on the east side of Smiley and Hwy 50 to the OTHS parking lot

The Committee agreed (All verbal ayes) to contact Planning and Zoning and request a stipulation from McDonalds (which new plans indicate a move across Hwy 50 across from the City Park) to provide a flashing light and a cross walk in front of their new building. Also, to send a request to Public Works to provide a sidewalk on the east side of Smiley to the OTHS parking lot.

Action: None

Motion: None

Disposition: Closed

New Business

Item 1. Four-way Stop at Timothy & Illini Drive – Request from Mrs. Blackstone, resident, to re-examine the request for four-way stop. Chief Betten provided a Traffic Study (Attached) which was prepared Aug. 08 – 13, 2006, on Illini @ Timothy. The Committee reviewed the Study and allowed Ms. Sanders and Ms. Simpkins, residents present from Illini Drive, to address the Committee on their traffic situation. The Committee informed the residents that placing stop signs do not slow down traffic. Chief Betten informed the Committee the Yard Program (yard signs) would be back as soon as school resumes and agreed to repeat the Traffic Study when school is in session when traffic is at its peak.

Action: None

Motion: None

Disposition: Open

Item 2. Rescind Ordinance 32.17 “Educational Requirement for Police Officers” – Chief Betten read Ordinance 32.17 “The minimum educational requirement for all future applicants for the position of police officer is an associates’ degree in the field of law enforcement from an accredited college or university.” Chief Betten, as the staff liaison for the Board of Fire and Police Commissioners is petitioning the Committee to change this requirement for police officer to 64 Credit Hours or a minimum of 2 years’ experience. Aldermen expressed concern that the City is lowering its standard in the hiring practice. Chief Betten informed the Committee that testing for promotion will still require a degree. Alderman Boone made a Motion to recommend to Council to rescind Ordinance 32.17 Educational Requirement for Police Officers and Chairman True seconded the Motion. (show of hands) Ayes 3; Nays Ø; Abstain 2

Action: None

Motion: Motion to recommend to Council to rescind Ordinance 32.17
Educational requirement for Police Officers

Disposition: Open

Item 3. Rock Springs Park Cross Walk – Alderman Boone requested the Committee to investigate the reason why there is no pedestrian cross walk or signage on Third Street and Seven Hills Road for pedestrians to enter into Rock Springs Park. Chairman True requested Chief Betten to research this situation.

Action: None

Motion: None

Disposition: Open

Item 4. Residential Power Outage – Alderman West informed the Committee that as of Sunday (after the Wednesday & Friday storms) 100 homes in the Seven Hills Area and Thornbury was still without power after other residents in that same area were with power. Alderman West inquired if there was another telephone number that could be used to call Ameren in such isolated cases as this. Chief Betten and Chief Saunders knew of no other telephone number to call Ameren.

Action: None

Motion: None

Disposition: Closed

Item 5. Trucks on Hwy 50 – Alderman Reckamp informed the Committee that a lot of truck traffic is very noticeable on Hwy 50 and inquired as to why such an increase would be warranted unless the trucks were avoiding the scales. Chief Betten believed the reason for this extra traffic on Hwy 50 was due to the construction on I-64 and not trucks avoiding the scales as truck traffic is heavy going east and west on Hwy 50 and the scales are accessible only if trucks are eastbound on I-64.

Action: None

Motion: None

Disposition: Closed

Item 6. Rescind Parking Meters* – Aldermen on the Committee, in doing other Ordinance research, find “Parking Meters” still in Ordinance wording. Since the City no longer has Parking Meters, an agreement was made to rescind Parking Meters from the Book of Ordinances.

Action: On hold

Motion: None

Disposition: Open

*** Note: Item 6 Rescind Parking Meters**

The Committee made a Motion to recommend to Council to rescind “Parking Meters” from the Book of Ordinances. The Parking Meters were not on the August 14, 2006, Agenda, therefore, no Motion can be executed. This item will be placed on the September 11, 2006, Agenda.

Motion to adjourn was made by Alderman Boone and seconded by Alderman Reckamp.

Meeting Adjourned:	8:24 p.m.
Next Meeting:	September 11, 2006, 7:00 p.m.
Minutes Taken By:	Jean Bevington