

**MEETING MINUTES  
PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING  
JANUARY 4, 2021  
GERMANTOWN VILLAGE HALL BOARD ROOM**

CALL: The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Chairman Miller.

ROLL CALL: Chairman Miller, Trustees Myers and Wing. Trustee Pieper arrived at 6:13 p.m.

Also present were Police Chief Snow, Fire Chief Delain, Attorney Sajdak, Clerk Braunschweig, Human Resources Manager Tucker.

PUBLIC COMMENT: no comments

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: a motion was made by Wing, seconded by Myers, to approve the minutes of the December 7, 2020 Public Safety Committee meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

POLICE DEPARTMENT MONTHLY REPORT: Snow reported on the following:

- Officer Zach Schulz was promoted from his trainee position to an operator with the Washington County Multi-Jurisdictional S.W.A.T. Team
- Officer Matt Jones successfully performed the Heimlich maneuver during a recent call for service
- Department has experienced an increase in OWI arrests, with 3 occurring on a single day
- Recent S.W.A.T. call in the Town of Wayne
- 3 burglaries since 12/25/20, all are ongoing investigations

FIRE DEPARTMENT MONTHLY REPORT: Delain reported on the following:

- End of year numbers have been finalized for 2020, total number of calls was 2120 which was an increase of 70 calls from the previous year
- They continue to be busy; they have already received 20 calls in the new year
- Assisted Jackson with a barn fire
- Updated S.O.P.'s will be coming soon

OVERTIME REPORTS: no report

Police Department  
Fire Department

POLICY UPDATES FOR POLICE & FIRE DEPARTMENT:

Police Department: none

Fire Department: none

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: none

NEW BUSINESS

MICHELLE HUMPHRIES DENIAL OF OPERATORS LICENSE: Snow advised the police department was recommending denial of the operator's license application due to a felony conviction from 2012.

Discussion followed with Wing commenting that he understood the police department's denial is based on state law, and the application is then brought before the committee for their review. He reminded committee members that a denial does not mean the applicant cannot tend bar, it just means that the applicant cannot tend bar alone. He went on to say that when this law was created, security cameras/systems were not as sophisticated and prevalent as they are now. Wing also noted that the felony conviction does not appear to be alcohol related.

A motion was made by Wing, seconded by Myers, to recommend approval to Village Board for the application for Operator's License submitted by Michelle Humphries. Motion carried unanimously.

Trustee Pieper arrived at this time, 6:13 p.m.

ST. BONIFACE CONGREGATION, W204 N11968 GOLDENDALE RD.  
TEMPORARY CLASS B FERMENTED MALT BEVERAGE LICENSE FOR 02/19/21,  
02/26/21, 03/05/21 FROM 4 – 7 P.M., LENT FISH FRY: a motion was made by Myers, seconded by Wing, to forward the Temporary Class B Fermented Malt Beverage license application for St. Boniface to Village Board with a recommendation of approval. Motion carried unanimously.

POLICE DEPARTMENT – USE OF FORCE REPORT: Snow advised he would be providing a summary of the complaints involving the use of force by Germantown officers. He stated he would be providing this information quarterly, and the purpose of this would be to provide committee members with some insight on the incidents. Snow noted there have been no complaints of use of force incidents involving officers.

TRUSTEE MILLER – COYOTE POPULATION AND THE HUNTING OF  
COYOTES: Miller advised he had received an email from a resident regarding the coyote population and the possibility of hunting them, and the type of firearms which can be used for hunting within the village limits.

Discussion followed with Snow advising that matter had been investigated several years ago by Chief Hoell and the Public Safety Committee, and the DNR was aware of the problems with the coyote population. Snow went on to say that permission has been granted in the past to hunt coyotes. Miller stated he had looked up the DNR's regulations regarding coyote

hunting and it is allowed year-round. He asked if there have been any incidents in the Village with coyotes, i.e., involving family pets. Snow advised that other than sightings, there have been no issues that he can recall. Pieper asked what measures residents can take if they notice coyotes in their area. Snow went over some options, including hunting and trapping. He noted that the DNR has a lot of information on coyotes and options residents can take if they experience problems or have concerns.

Miller advised this was placed on the agenda as an informational item and he read the email received from a resident. He noted that this would fall under the next agenda item - Municipal Code 9.02 Firearms and Dangerous Weapons Regulated.

TRUSTEE MILLER – MUNICIPAL CODE 9.02 FIREARMS AND OTHER DANGEROUS WEAPONS REGULATED: Miller referred to an email he had received from Nate Seidler who resides north of Freistadt Road in a rural area where hunting is allowed, however rifles are not allowed in the Village for hunting. Mr. Seidler also attended the meeting virtually.

Discussion followed with Miller advising that Mr. Seidler felt rifles were more effective for hunting coyotes and wanted the committee to review the ordinance and consider allowing rifles within Village limits. The following points were discussed:

- Rifles currently are not permitted in Village due to population density and concern with the range of rifles per Snow
- Wing noted this was discussed and revised several years ago with input from residents and hunters, he was not averse to looking at it again
- Sajdak referred to prior reviews of this ordinance and similarities in area communities' ordinances. Agreed with Snow that the use of longer-range weapons can cause concerns with residents regarding safety. He added that State of Wisconsin DNR had been fairly aggressive with trying to minimize regulations with hunters and the code now in place is probably as restrictive as it could be. He noted that changes in those restrictions would likely result in calls from residents concerned with safety issues related to long-range weapons.
- Miller indicated the current law has been in effect for quite some time, also questioned whether rifles can be used for target practice
- Snow stated that according to current code rifles cannot be used in target practice but advised that exceptions have been made based on property size, location, and caliber of rifle
- Snow explained the process used for granting permission for hunting now that permits are no longer required by the Village; now the hunters call and inform the department of their hunting activities. He added that requests to hunt in closed areas are often granted depending on the location and area of the property, these requests are reviewed individually
- Sajdak noted that zoning and property differences are the main issues in the Village – properties range from vast to crowded and it would be challenging to create a balance, but it wouldn't hurt to reassess the ordinance

- Miller said he agreed that it would be a good idea to review this ordinance and compare to what other communities are doing

**SECONDHAND ARTICLE DEALER AND SECONDHAND JEWELRY DEALER LICENSE RENEWAL, JAN. 1 – DEC. 31, 2021**

1. Kessler's Diamond Center, N96 W16920 County Line Road

A motion was made by Myers, seconded by Wing, to forward this application for Secondhand Article Dealer License for Kessler's to Village Board with a recommendation of approval. Motion carried unanimously.

**NEXT MEETING:** Monday, February 1, 2021 6:00 p.m. Village Hall Boardroom.

**ADJOURNMENT:** there being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:35 p.m.

Recorded by,

Julie L. Barth  
Secretary