

Town of North Greenbush

Minutes of the Public Safety Committee
Tuesday, May 23, 2023; 6:30 pm

Attendees:

Chief Dave Keevern
Michael Masone
Supervisor Joe Bott
Deputy Supervisor Kelly Hoffman

Bill Stewart
Mark Premo
Kathy Allen

Absent:

Bob Durivage
Jim Schirmer

Community Members:

Laura Patterson

Call to Order - the meeting was called to order at 6:36 pm by Chairwoman Hoffman.

Approval of Minutes - the minutes of the previous meeting were approved on a motion by Mr. Masone, seconded by Mrs. Allen. All were in favor.

Police Reform Plan Update - Chairwoman Hoffman first wanted to recognize police week and the great work our police officers do every day, as well as our EMS workers. Chief Keevern provided an update on the police reform and reinvention collaborative plan. Chairwoman Hoffman feels it is important that the group touch base on this to ensure the plan is being followed and to see if there has been any feedback from the state on the plan. Chief Keevern continues to follow the plan and no further input has been received. His staff have been working with the county office of mental health with the opportunity to make referrals with intended followup from the county within 24 hours.

The route 4 study update: the Town of North Greenbush and Town of East Greenbush jointly hosted public forum at the Defreestville Fire Department to talk about the project, what type of things they have been evaluating, seeking input from residents, etc. It was an interactive event with people on Zoom and audience participation with their phones. We are looking forward to updates going forward.

Consideration of 4 way top at intersection of Dodge and Lenox: the committee was asked for consideration of an existing 2 way to a 4 way stop at Dodge and Lenox and make a recommendation to the town board for consideration. After much discussion, the committee approved the recommendation to proceed this to the town board for a public hearing which will be held on June 8, 2023 at the town board meeting.

Ambulance Update: Ms. Allen provided an update on the proposed ambulance project status with the PDD still pending. As the committee has stated previously, they are excited about the opportunity to be able to serve the residents of the area with what appears to be a better response time. The committee reiterated the need to maintain and improve the existing ambulance location in Wynantskill and that should remain a priority. In no way will the committee allow the Wynantskill station be closed.

OLD BUSINESS:

Chief Keevern reported nothing new on the ATV issue in town. There have been no further complaints or issues regarding speed on North Road. Mark Premo indicated the department purchased a paint/stripping machine but have been having issues obtaining paint. They will be working to address major walkways for safety reasons.

NEW BUSINESS:

Safety improvements at Williams Road complex were discussed related to speed reduction and measures put into place.

Chairwoman Hoffman brought up the issue of speeding complaints on Bloomingrove Drive and welcomed Laura Patterson from 550 Bloomingrove Drive. Ms. Patterson expressed her concerns about speeding on this road and considerable discussion ensued regarding traffic counts and enforcement. Chief Keevern indicated he would begin the process by implementing the speed trailer over a period of time in different areas on Bloomingrove to capture data. Additionally, a letter was submitted to the committee signed by several residents in that area regarding the volume and speed. Increased presence and enforcement will be done.

Chairwoman Hoffman mentioned several new projects in town including Aldi's, Chik-Fil-A and The Bunker and Chief Keevern offered plans and steps to address anticipated traffic during the opening and going forward.

Chairwoman Hoffman announced the town received the Project of the Year Award for the Route 4 Corridor Improvement project and congratulated Supervisor Both for accepting the award on the town's behalf.

Supervisor Bott reported the town recently performed cleanup efforts on land owned by the town around the perimeter of the Hampton Place complex.

Bill Stewart mentioned traffic from Glenwood to Brianna is a GPS issue.

The chief was asked to look at potential violations of Fed Ex trucks parking on Mt. View Terrace.

The idea of push alerts was brought up by Ms. Allen. Chairwoman Hoffman reminded the committee that the county has a similar application that we could potentially utilize and will followup with the comptroller on potential funding for a dedicated system.

Geese crossing was identified as a nuisance on Route 4 recently.

The chief reported a license plate reader will soon be implemented.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 8:25 pm.