

**CITY OF BYRON
MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2022, 6:00 PM
BYRON CITY HALL**

Alderman Hobbie called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

1. ROLL CALL:

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairman Alderman Zeke Hobbie, Alderman Mike Gyorkos, Alderman Cheryl Metz

MEMBERS ABSENT: Alderman Christy Hanlin

OTHERS PRESENT: Mayor John Rickard, Clerk Caryn Huber, Police Chief Todd Murray, Alderman Todd Isaacs, Engineer Jason Stoll, Director Aaron Vincer, Alderman Mittzi Fulrath, Brian Brooks

- 2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA – NOVEMBER 16, 2022 – Alderman Metz motioned to approve the November 16 agenda as presented. Motion seconded by Alderman Hobbie. Roll call vote: Gyorkos, AYE; Metz, AYE; Hobbie, AYE. Motion passed: AYE, 3; NAY, 0; ABS, 0.**
- 3. PUBLIC COMMENT – None**
- 4. APPROVAL OF REGULAR MEETING MINUTES – JULY 20, 2022 – Alderman Gyorkos motioned to approve the July 20, 2022 minutes as presented. Motion seconded by Alderman Metz. Roll call vote: Metz, AYE; Hobbie, AYE; Gyorkos, AYE. Motion passed: AYE, 3; NAY, 0; ABS, 0.**
- 5. APPROVAL OF REGULAR MEETING MINUTES – SEPTEMBER 21, 2022 – Alderman Hobbie motioned to approve the September 21, 2022 minutes as presented. Motion seconded by Alderman Gyorkos. Roll call vote: Hobbie, AYE; Gyorkos, AYE; Metz, AYE. Motion passed: AYE, 3; NAY, 0; ABS, 0.**

Chief Murray asked to move item **#9, Police Department Activity & Update**, up in the agenda. He stated that a list of the department activity can be found in Dropbox. • Officer Henderson has returned to work after taking part in military training. He is catching up on required police training and is learning a new report writing program that was implemented while he was gone. Chief is uncertain if his military service will require him to be gone in the future. Chief has been in touch with Roxanne Sosnowski regarding Officer Henderson's return to the police force. • One of our police officers is in the hiring process for Rockford. He has completed the written test, interview and psychological evaluation. Per his contract, if he does leave Byron, he will owe the city for a portion of the cost of his training. • Chief Murray has a candidate that will be attending the 16-week academy in January. • Chief Murray is working with the School District on a criminal damage to property case. The incident occurred last Saturday night and involved spray painting on the playground and soccer fields. The suspects, all juveniles, have been identified through video footage. •

Operation Santa is ongoing. The Police Department has partnered with the Kiwanis Club, who does all the shopping for the program. The Police Department does administrative work and collects donations. On December 3, the Kiwanis Club will host a Breakfast with Santa at Mary Morgan Elementary School to benefit the program.

6. **FLOCK CAMERAS** – A presentation on FLOCK cameras is in Dropbox. The cameras are automated license plate readers. They identify vehicles only, not people. Chief Murray believes past crimes could have been solved quickly if they had a device like this that would track the suspects movement in and out of town. The cost, not including installation, is \$2,500/year for four cameras. The system also allows access to other towns that use the cameras. The system is nationwide, and nearby communities that use them are Rockford, Ogle County, DeKalb County and Rochelle. The cameras only pick up license plates on the side of the street where they are mounted. Chief would work with the Sheriff's department to strategically place the cameras. The system is automated and notifies officers on duty of Amber Alerts, Silver Alerts, etc. He would like to consider purchasing the cameras at the end of this budget year, if the budget permits, or at the beginning of the next fiscal year.
7. **ANGLED PARKING** – The subject of angled parking was discussed. Alderman Metz had raised concerns regarding the longer vehicles parked downtown that force drivers to cross the center line to avoid hitting them. It is also difficult to see people coming out from behind the vehicles to cross the street. Several ideas were discussed, including the addition of more signage or making 2nd Street one way through downtown. The street was redone in 2008, and an overlay will be discussed for the 2024 streets program. At that time, sixty degree angled parking will be considered, as well as expanding the street into the paver area past the current curb. Engineer Stoll will present some options.
8. **POLICE DEPARTMENT BUDGET**– Budget is on track to date.
9. **POLICE DEPARTMENT ACTIVITY & UPDATE** – Discussed earlier in agenda.
10. **SOCIAL MEDIA** – No report
11. **ADJOURN** – Alderman Metz motioned to adjourn. Motion seconded by Alderman Gyorkos. Roll call vote: Gyorkos, AYE; Metz, AYE; Hobbie, AYE. Motion passed: AYE, 3; NAY, 0; ABS, 0.

Alderman Hobbie adjourned the meeting at 6:32pm.

Respectfully submitted, *Caryn A. Huber*, City Clerk of Byron, Illinois