



WILDWOOD

Meeting of the
BOARD OF PUBLIC SAFETY
Deer Management Subcommittee
Tuesday, July 30, 2019 at 6:30 p.m.

Wildwood City Hall Community Room
16860 Main Street

APPROVED

Committee Members in Attendance:

Marshal Dan McCune
Sgt Brad Wendling, St Louis County Police
Board Member Dave Williams
Captain James Mundel

Also Present:

Rick Brown, Director of Public Works / City Engineer
Brendan Maher, Civil Engineer

I. ROLL CALL

A roll call was taken at 6:00 pm, with the above noted as present.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Marshal Dan McCune made a motion to approve minutes from the July 3rd meeting. Sgt Wendling seconded the motion. All voted aye.

III. PUBLIC COMMENT

A. Jerry Dodwell from Timber Ridge Estates expressed that there are too many deer. He often has to wait for the herd to cross the street while driving, they destroy landscaping, and there are too many deer strikes. He suggests an open hunting season on deer with archery methods year-round. Thinning the herd helps to eliminate chronic waste disease, and helps the herd stay healthy. He believes that we need to manage the herd in Wildwood, it's a safety issue.

B. Mary Orf, Cindy Hefling, Dolores Boeges, all from Timber Ridge Estates stressed the importance of managing the deer population due to oversized herds that won't leave their yard, deer in the streets, the deer themselves are covered in ticks, tumors, and look unhealthy.

C. A Wildwood resident couple (no comment card) stated that they would like the deer population to be controlled in humane ways including contraception. They also stated that a herd of 20 deer come through their yard every night. They carry ticks and both have tick borne diseases. They would like the city to control the tick population by feeding the deer tick control medication from feeding posts. They also recommend Striderlite reflectors along the roadways to keep the deer out of the road.

IV. Review of 2018 Annual Vehicle Crash Analysis – Deer Strike Analysis

A. Board Member Dave Williams asked the police department for a clearer map of the deer strike density areas so that street names could be read more easily.

V. Review of Other Municipal Ordinances Regarding Deer Hunting

A. Town & Country, Ellisville, Chesterfield, Ballwin, Manchester and Ladue

1. Eight municipalities in St Louis County were reviewed and many regulations seem to be based on the same original ordinance.

2. Town and Country is the only one that does not allow archery hunting by the public, but has only a sharpshooter contractor program for deer management.

C. Six of the eight allow hunting on less than three acres

D. Deer retrieval was under discussion, including the use of traceable arrows, labeled arrows, and tools to report hunting numbers and or participants to local law enforcement. A web based survey tool could be used for this.

E. Shotgun and muzzle loader can be shot east of 109, on tracts bigger than 3 acres.

VI. Possible Use of Prop P Funds for Deer Management

A. This was brought to the City Attorney. He stated that from a legal standpoint yes, but the political side is a concern.

B. Captain Mundel stated that there needs to be a concrete plan in order to use any Prop P funds.

C. Prop P funds are increasingly less available as projects are earmarked.

D. The Department of Public Works stated that the funding source could be the general fund. Feedback from the committee in regards to budget would be valuable.

VII. Use of Traceable Arrows for Bow Hunting

A. The Board agreed that asking a hunter to used a GPS based arrow is too expensive and not realistic

B. A labeled arrow, with an MDC hunter number on the fletching is acceptable.

VIII. Resident Surveys/Input

A. Captain Mundel wants resident input when developing policy. This could be in the form of a mailer or email survey, and education about why there is an issue.

B. Police Department planning and analysis would assist.

C. The Committee discussed that education is the most important activity and that surveying people by web mail or print is important.

D. The Department of Public Works talked about upgrading information on the website, social media, and to use the City's media firm.

C. The Committee discussed informing the public of the following by this hunting season.

1. Reminding the public of what is already allowed for archery season and rifle by Wildwood Ordinance.

2. Length of season.

3. Educate about deer health and over population of herd, as well as deer strikes.

IX. Next Meeting Date: TBD

IX. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Marshal Dan McCune to adjourn, this was seconded by Sgt. Wendling. All were in favor. The meeting adjourned at 7:11pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Michelle Scherer
Administrative Assistant