



**Meeting Minutes of the
BOARD OF PUBLIC SAFETY**

September 7, 2023

6:30 pm

A Hybrid meeting Via Zoom and at City Hall Council Chambers

16860 Main Street

DRAFT

Committee Members in Attendance:

Marshal Jeffrey Bader
Board Member Christopher Preston
Board Member Kevin Gleason
Board Member Vince Loyal
Council Member Liaison Ed Marshall

Also Present:

Police Liaison Captain James Mundel, St. Louis County Police
John Bradley, John Bradley, Assistant Chief of the Metro Fire District
Rick Brown, Director of Public Works
Thomas Lee, Interim City Administrator

Absent:

None

I. ROLL CALL

A roll call was taken at 6:30 pm, with the above noted as present.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Board Member Council Member Liaison Ed Marshall made a motion to approve the minutes from the meeting held on July 6, 2023. Board Member Christopher Preston seconded the motion. All others voted aye. The motion carried and minutes were approved.

III. PUBLIC COMMENT

Council Member Deb McCutchen expressed concern for the students and walkers crossing the street during pick up time at Green Pines Elementary.

She also talked about Lafayette High School students parking on side streets and getting picked up on Westglen Farms Drive. She was concerned about a sign that said, "No stopping or Standing", and she believes the sign should say "No Parking" during school hours and list them. She also wanted the signage checked on Babler Drive, where she says students were parking and walking through the neighborhood to get to school.

She also stated that the Flashing Beacon at Pond Grover Parkway and Hwy 109 has been immensely helpful and residents like it. She likes the formula Director of Public Works Rick Brown developed for

choosing where install to Rapid Flashing Beacons.

IV. FOR INFORMATION

A. Green Pines Elementary- Student Pickup Concerns

Captain Mundel says parents have previously picked up their students across the street to skip the parent pick up line. The kids were running across the street to get to the parent vehicles. The principal then communicated with the parents as to how to properly engage in the pickup and it seems to have resolved the problem. Captain Mundel witnessed the dismissal pick-up process and declared it to be efficient and safe and that no further action is needed. Marshall Bader asked that the police continue to monitor the situation. City Administrator Thomas Lee encouraged school communications regarding pick up protocol in the beginning of the school year.

V. OLD BUSINESS

No items

VII. NEW BUSINESS

A. Lafayette High School- Student Pickup on Westglen Farms Drive

The Marshal explained the concerns of the student pick up on Westglen Farms Drive and opened the floor for comments. A diagram of current and proposed parking restrictions was shared. Council Member Liaison Ed Marshall noted that the signage on Westglen Farms is different than on Dartmouth. He explained that the Westglen Farms Trustees would like signage to deter loading and unloading in that area. He questioned if there has ever been a citation written for loading and unloading on Westglen Farms Drive. Captain Mundel explained the police monitoring and involvement in this area. Director of Public Works Rick Brown mentioned that he is not opposed to the installation, but he believes they should be posted on Clayton Rd as well. Locations of current signs were discussed, as well as the type of signage that would be most effective. Marshal Bader acknowledged the possibility that this will push the pickup to a busier road and make the situation less safe for kids getting picked up. He mentioned that it's not worth it to place signage for something that happens for 15 minutes twice a day, just to put students in a dangerous situation. The efficiency of Lafayette High School was noted by the captain, and it was acknowledged that this problem lasts for 15 minutes at the end of the day. Sign locations and ideas for how to improve the situation were discussed. Metro West Liaison John Bradley stated that he would continue to contact the school to let them know. Captain Mundel suggested posting signs on a temporary basis to see what effect they had. Ed Marshall said nobody wants a "No Parking" sign on Westglen Farms Drive. Captain said neighbors who were polled in that area agreed that they didn't like the pickup occurring on their street but were divided on whether to ask for signage.

Rick Brown suggested that they meet with Lafayette to make sure the problem is communicated and then follow up with the HOA and possibly have temporary signage to determine if it works.

Marshal Bader entertained a motion to allow public works and police department to work together on temporary signage and communicate with Rockwood School District and communicate with the HOA, to resolve parking and safety concerns on the streets surrounding Lafayette High School. Board Member Kevin Gleason seconded the motion. Council Member Liaison Ed Marshall dissented and asked for a different motion. More discussion continued. It was suggested to place temporary signage on the street and communicate with Rockwood. Marshal Bader withdrew his motion.

MOTION: Council Member Liaison Ed Marshal made a motion to install temporary signage, like signs that are posted in Dartmouth, and attach them below the poles that are already there. He motioned to do the same thing on Dartmouth Crest and Dartmouth Gate, and then monitor for three months for effectiveness, and return to the topic to discuss effectiveness. The motion included a recommendation that public works and the police department work together on temporary signage and communicate with Rockwood School District and communicate with the HOA. Board Member Kevin Gleason supported the motion and Christopher Preston seconded the Motion. All voted in favor and the motion was carried.

B. Proposed Policy on Use of Rapid Flashing Beacons at Crosswalks

Director of Public Works, Rick Brown, described the devices, and some of the current locations. He also described a policy that was devised for warranting a location for a Rapid Flashing Beacon. Marshal Bader stated support for the Memo and opened the floor for comments. The topic was discussed, and it would be used on a case-by-case basis for evaluation.

MOTION: A Motion was put on the floor to approve the draft policy and to move forward with it. Kevin Gleason approved the motion and Ed Marshall seconded. All voted aye and the motion passed.

C. Review of 2022 Annual Vehicle Crash Analysis Report

Captain Mundel summarized the report for the Board and compared numbers to previous years. They are monitoring the roundabouts on Hwy 100 and Hwy 109. Roundabout crash data was discussed. Kevin Gleason asked if the crash history on Old State Road is spurring county to bring attention to the roadway. Captain said it's a challenge to monitor because there is not a good place to sit or pull anyone over. Captain also explained that St Louis County re-marked and signed the road. Marshal Bader commented on Captain Mundel's safety record.

Ed Marshal mentioned that he would like to see a write-up of how roundabouts make roads safer, so that people know there is a reason. Rick Brown mentioned that there will be a public informational meeting about the roundabouts to be built on Hwy 109 and Route BA in the coming month.

D. Review of 2024 Wildwood Precinct Budget

Marshal Bader gave the Board some time to read over the budget and Captain Mundel commented and summarized. He explained that this budget is lean as it is only for staffing and salaries that are based on average salary amounts. St. Louis County pays for all equipment. Changes to the budget were explained. Adjustments were made in Court Protection Security and is roughly half from last year. Marshall Bader found a typo. Items in the budget were discussed by the Board. Vince Loyal stated that he did not receive the document so he would be abstaining from the vote.

MOTION: Marshal Bader made a motion to support the budget and to recommend it to the Council. Christopher Preston seconded the motion. Board Member Vince Loyal abstained from the vote. All others voted aye, and the motion carried.

E. The Next Meeting Date

Thomas Lee offered for the board to change the meeting date from October 5th to October 16 for the next meeting, to give them more time to review any changes in the budget for 2024 budget discussions. After discussion, the group determined to maintain the October 5th meeting date. No further action was needed.

VIII. Miscellaneous

Captain Mundel presented at a Town Hall Meeting in West County in the night before, that included most West County communities. He presented on theft from vehicles and vehicle accessories and explained that those incident numbers are down. He explained the issues and stated that federal investigators and prosecutors have been assertive in bringing numbers down. He says juvenile courts have changed and state law has changed in favor of the suppression of these incidents. Marshal Bader credited police for operating at a high level.

IX. NEXT MEETING

Thursday, October 5th, 2023, at 6:30 pm

X. ADJOURNMENT

Council Member Liaison Ed Marshall motioned to adjourn. Board Member Christopher Preston seconded the motion. All members voted aye, and none opposed. Therefore, the meeting was adjourned at 7:56 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Michelle Scherer
Administrative Assistant for Public Works