

Safety Committee Meeting of Council City of Richmond Heights April 17, 2018

Chairman Lentine called the meeting to order at 7:35pm

Roll Call:

Present: Alexander, Lentine, Ursu

Excused: Lewis

Motion to excuse Lewis by Alexander, seconded by Ursu; passed 3-0.

Other Council present: Kumin, Hurst

Approval of minutes from March 20, 2018 – motion by Lentine, seconded by Alexander; passed 3-0.

Reports:

Mayor David Roche/Safety Director: Comment as we go along.

Fire Chief, Marc Neumann: Comment as we go along.

Police Chief, Gene Rowe: -excused-

OLD BUSINESS:

Street Lights: Discussed the shuttering of street lights to save money and those that have been turned back on. Many residents are asking they all be turned back on. Lentine asked the committee what the city should do. Do we turn lights back on, remove the lights or what?

- Alexander commented on Trebisky. There are 5 lights on that should be off and are on, and one that should be on, but never was on. He said CEI has come out, if they see lights off and put back on. CEI is billing the city off of the map of shuttered vs. non-shuttered lights. Alexander commented on how the city used to be overly lit up in the past.
- Hurst said residents have called with concerns about no street lights and such darkness. If we can find money for police cars and safety comes first, we should be able to find the money to put all these lights back on.
- Ursu said it's been a number of years since the shuttering happened. He asked if there is a list of the calls from residents on this. Mayor Roche said yes, and there was a period of time that the lights were not being identified as repaired. Commented on stretches of lights that are on that are too much and not needed. Ursu said every other light on Highland Rd is sufficient. If they are off right now, just take them down. He suggested each Council ward looks at that map and looks to see what lights are off that should be on. They can make suggestions for their wards.
- Mayor Roche commented on a lighting fee that other cities charge residents for lighting bills. He said the intersections are all lit, bus stops lit, and major streets lit.
- Trebisky, Highland, Monticello, Richmond—major streets that have lights.
- Lentine said the problem arises when we are not sure what should be on or off at this point. He said we are not going to please everyone, as some don't want the lights on (shining in their windows and such).
- Lentine suggested tabling again and discuss with ward council people and to divvy up the lights more equally between wards.
- Mayor said normally the police chief is in charge of suggesting lights to shutter or turn on.

- Jim Teknipp said 145 lights were shuttered. Bill is about \$7,000 per month for lights.
- Kumin said he would like to see all the major streets lit. There was a promise when the tax levy was passed to turn the lights back on. There was an understanding that the lights would go back to the way they were.
- Mayor said not everyone made that promise.
- Alexander asked for a large print-out of the streets and lights and go through each street to make a decision on each light. What is on? What is off? CEI does not have this information.
- Ursu said Lewis suggested to remove the poles where the lights are shuttered.
- Mayor Roche said to grab the price at \$36 per pole to shutter/remove as the price is usually higher. The person leaves in June who made the promise of this cost.
- Ursu discussed interns and college students and getting them to go through the streets at night and view the lights.
- Chief Neumann said the city has 800 fire hydrants and we got all the coordinates of hydrants from Water Dept. Once he had the coordinates, transferred on to a map and looked at our inventory. Every year, divide the city up in thirds and test the hydrants. He said CEI probably has all the coordinates of the lights (Alexander said no they don't)
- Lentine said to contact Illuminated Co to check on the map. He suggested removing the 100 lights for the \$36/pole fee.
- Lentine recommended to Council of the Whole the removal of 100+ shuttered lights/poles.
- How many lights being billed for and monthly bill---Teknipp \$7,775 per month is bill for lights.

Update on Dispatch Services: Chief Neumann commented on the meeting they had with new dispatch center services. On the fire side, things are working very well. Police are still working through some challenges. Kumin commented on the call volume from other cities—having a bigger piece of the expenses/calls. Discussion of 911 calls vs. business calls.

Police Vehicle orders: On hold

NEW BUSINESS:

Capture Exhaust System- review and recommendation: For the Fire Dept, funded 100% by \$80,000 federal grant and Chief Neumann said we were awarded this grant for the city. Went through the cost quotes with the committee and the level of the grant. He recommended the Plymevent Hastings System MagneGrip for \$68K, but fully funded. Recommends a renewal after 10 years.

Lewis arrived at 8:40pm

MOTION to pass on to Finance the recommendation of the purchase of this exhaust system not to exceed \$70,000 for this approval by Alexander, seconded by Ursu; passed 4-0.

City Liability on potholes, mailboxes, tree lawns: *On hold*

AUDIENCE: -none-

Chairman Lentine adjourned this meeting at 8:42 pm

Meeting Minutes taken by Betsy Traben, Clerk of Council