

Public Safety Committee Meeting
August 21, 2017
5:00 p.m.

The Village of Colfax Public Safety Committee met on August 21, 2017 at 5:01 p.m. at the Colfax Rescue Squad building. Members present were Trustees Schieber, Rihn and Chair Burcham. Also present were Rescue Director Knutson, Police Chief Anderson, Gary Stene, Mark Halpin, Chris Olson, Tina Bradford, Administrator-Clerk-Treasurer Niggemann and LeAnn Ralph with the Messenger.

Review/Discuss complaints and concerns – The committee reviewed complaints brought to the Village President regarding the Colfax Police Department. Chris Olson addressed the committee with his concerns regarding fairness, enforcement of ordinances and respect. Several individual items were brought up and discussed. Chief Anderson addressed that he feels his department is being fair, prioritizes enforcement of ordinances and laws and treats people respectfully. However, he realizes that he may have been disrespectful at a recent meeting and explained the events that led up to this particular situation. Olson asked that the Village consider educating residents of ordinances, etc. by using other media than the Messenger such as Facebook. Olson would like the police to be transparent. It was not entirely clear what was meant by this term.

After much discussion, the committee suggested that Village Administration put a notice with the next water bill identifying important numbers to call if they need to report a crime that has been witnessed or realized. Niggemann explained that we have been discussing getting an important telephone numbers list together to send to residents in the water bill. Village Administration will work towards a notice for the October bill stating emergency numbers and non-emergency numbers. No action is required to go before the Board.

Review 2018 Preliminary Budget – Rescue Squad – The committee reviewed the 2018 preliminary budget. After looking at the past rate changes, the last rate increase was approximately four years ago and the cost of ambulances increase in just one year by \$15,000; the committee would like to see a \$0.25 rate increase for 2018. A motion was made by Rihn and seconded by Schieber to recommend to the Board a rate increase from \$16.17 to \$16.42 per capita for 2018. Voting For: Rihn, Schieber and Burcham. Voting Against: none. Motion carried.

Adjournment – All business completed. A motion was made by Rihn and seconded by Schieber to adjourn the Public Safety Committee meeting at 7:02 p.m. All members voted yes. Meeting adjourned.

Keith Burcham, Chairperson