

**TROTWOOD CITY COUNCIL
WORKSHOP MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2011**

The Trotwood City Council held a Workshop Meeting on Monday, September 19, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. in the Trotwood Community Center, 4000 Lake Center Drive, Trotwood, Ohio. Mayor Joyce Sutton Cameron asked everyone to join in the Pledge of Allegiance. Citizens are not able to speak about these topics since this is city council work session, but will have the opportunity at our next regular public meeting.

ROLL CALL

Council Members present: Vice-Mayor Ronald Vaughn, Council Member Bettye L. Gales, Council Member Mary A. McDonald, Council Member Barbara J. Staggs, Council Member Nicole Johnson, and Mayor Joyce Sutton Cameron. Council Member Rap Hankins (absent).

Staff Members present: Acting City Manager/Police Chief Quincy E. Pope, Patricia Shively Finance Director, Battalion Chief Michael Gibson, Battalion Chief Steve Milliken, Thomas Long Engineering Technician, Deputy Clerk Sandy Riege. City Manager Michael J. Lucking and Clerk Lois M. Singleton (absent).

Visitors: Bruce Kettelle, Janice Chin, Ronald & Joanne Koesters, John Fecke, Jay Young, Tom Grady, Joseph McDonald, Loren & Virginia Gross, and Herbert Marshall.

One change to the agenda, Mayor Cameron moved presentation item VI. first on the agenda.

- VI. Miami Valley Fair Housing (MVFH) MLK Service Day, October 1, 2011, John T. Zimmerman, Vice-President
Acting City Manager/Police Chief Quincy Pope introduced the Mr. Zimmerman to make his a presentation.

Mr. John Zimmerman announced on Saturday, October 1, 2011 there will be Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day of Service. Starting at 9:30 am to Noon, a group of volunteers will be walking the Trotwood neighborhoods distributing information for people to having complaints of housing discrimination issues. According to the current population 27% of people have disabilities now that are having problems with housing so this organization can assist them with housing laws rights. Numerous programs are available such as; mortgage loan modification scam alert, apartment rental tenant's rights, and homeowner foreclosure assistance just to name a few. Volunteers will be walking targeting 1,500 households in the Broadmoor subdivision, Broadway & Union Roads, and along Trotwood Boulevard. A press conference in front of the government building will kick off this event. Future walks will take

place later again in April, May & June 2012. Contact John Zimmerman, Elisabeth Redman or Anita Smoltz at their www.fairhousing.com

- II. Trotwood Police Department Annual Report & Crime Analysis, Chief of Police, Quincy E. Pope, Sr.

Police Chief Pope introduced Police Administrative Captain Erik Wilson to discuss the 2010 annual Report on behalf of the department. This report had some financial challenges for the city, but they were able to re-hire four laid off officers from 2009, and implemented furloughs in order to help balance the city budget. Due to the dedication of this department to provide quality service, the overall crime has been reduced by 11% from the year 2009 in the categories of homicide, rape, robbery, felonious assault, burglary, breaking and entering, theft, auto theft and arson.

Crime Data - The driving force behind this reduction was driven by these reductions in the following categories: Rape -37%, Robbery -31%, felonious assault - 9.6%, theft - 19%, auto theft -24%, arson – 82%. Several areas where crime has increased are robbery 3.9% for a total of 53 robberies occurred in 2010 compared to 51 in 2009. Burglary 8.2% or 419 in 2010 compared to 387 in 2009. Both of these are crimes of opportunity.

One of the ways to combat crime is having a large police force or a rapid response time. Our average response time is 5.2 minutes with the national average being 8 minutes. Calls for services are trending down 2009 - 33,161 and 2010 – 31,617 calculating to 4.7% decrease.

Investigative Division - In 2010 the investigative division had 1,252 cases assigned with 260 suspects charged, 20.76% has been closed by arrests; some have led to arrest and filing of criminal charges, some are still inactive.

Photo Enforcement Program / Traffic Violations - Three intersections now have automated photo enforcement. In 2010 a total 8,905 violations were reported, of that 2,288 were red light related, 5,154 were speed related, and 1,463 were calculated with the mobile speed van as a newly added extension of the department placed at various locations throughout the city. The main goal of this program is to drive these numbers down as prime intersections.

Breakdown of the three location incidents at the intersection of:

SR49/Free Pike	Red Light 56 & Speeding 1,035
SR49/ Wolf Creek	Red Light 147 & Speeding 1,958
Free Pike/SR49	Red Light 441 & Speeding 680
Salem Avenue/Wolf Road (both directions)	Red light 1,644 & Speeding 1,481

A pro-active approach is to issue traffic citations to help stop the opportunity for crime. A total of 3,236 traffic stops were done or a 25% decrease from 2009, of that total 1,938 were citations or 60% and 1,289 were warnings or 40%.

Officer of the Year - Congratulations to Officer Mike Richardson was awarded the 2010 Officer of the Year for his overall constant dedication to this department through the years.

C.O.P.P. Community Citizens of Preventive Patrol Program- Since 1997 this program has contributed 2,043 volunteer hours saving the city \$44,047.00 in man hours. The members go through a training program and assist the department

with traffic control in accident situations and numerous community projects throughout the year.

New Technology - Citizens are now able to assist the department in reporting code enforcement violations as a means to increase our response time. They can download an I-phone program app to your I-cell phone or I-pad, enter "mytrotwood" then follow the steps to report problems. This is another tool to report concerns the neighborhoods that aren't normally being reported directly to the police department. Users of this application will be able to take a photograph of the potential violations (i.e. dumping of debris, litter, abandoned grocery carts etc.) text the problem, locate the address on the GPS, and then the report will be sent to city to take further action. The user may leave their contact information as an option. For other non-emergency calls, citizens can access the dispatch center and they will contact an officer. Every officer is able to use the crime data dashboard system for calls of service in neighborhoods to increase the enforcement if necessary and utilize grant dollars to add extra patrols if needed to ease the use of tax payer's dollars.

Mayor Cameron asked does the surrounding jurisdictions utilize the same tools as we do - yes and no, our system is tied into the regional county dispatch center. Some of the new technology is ours and built for us.

Councilmen McDonald asked about the protocol for domestic violence calls.

There's a 12 page format the officer fills out and follows up. Councilman Nicole Johnson asked if crime area is specific is specific just to Trotwood – no, some crimes are caused by outsiders move around, not just one area is involved.

Overall crime is trending down right now with some hot spots for extra officers to be deployed as needed. Vice-Mayor Vaughn asked what about the crimes in schools. Juvenile offenders are steady, also trending downward. The department has to work with the school as they have their own protocol to handle these types of calls.

Today's policing has changed and since this department is in the top 1% as a Nationally Accredited Police Department certain standards have to be followed.

EMS BILLING / FIRE & RESCUE - Fire Chief Rick Wagner presented his 2010 report. The Fire & Rescue responded to 5,641 calls. EMS calls totaled 4,161 for three medics, 24 hours shifts, 7 days a week, and transported 3,474 patients to local hospitals. Most of the calls are from Medicare patients that are 65 and older or Medicaid below a certain income. On our current contract, our expense to bill for service is \$1,100 bill for service and of that dollar about the city collects \$73.00. There is nothing we can do to collect the remaining balance according to the federal law. A total of 15.73% of the people have commercial insurance, 11.65% are self-pay, the rest are classified as Medicare or Medicaid claims. Statistics for 2009 - 28% of people paid their EMS bills; in 2010- 26%; and in 2011- 11% for a total write offs of \$1,712,515.07. Typically, people just do not have health insurance nor the means to pay their bill.

The department would like to recommend they do the hard billing in house starting in the year 2012 instead of utilizing an outside billing agency as they do now. Research from other cities in our region determined most to their own billing with great success the bill the same dollar amount that we do. The process

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includes a collection letter, setting up a payment plan with the citizen to get the bill paid. This letter would be distributed to those with and without insurance. The EMS does not refuse most transports if they are warranted, but some of the calls for service are abused at times is not just isolated to us, it is a national concern. Service costs are rising every year, some items used to be free from the hospitals now we have to pay for out of the fire budget. Vice-Mayor Vaughn said he understands our concerns and suggested this topic be reviewed with the Public Safety Committee at a later date to discuss other options as this process could be quite large for us to handle internally. Ms. McDonald agreed, would like to see recommendations from other cities. Mayor Cameron said she like the idea of us sending out a letter as a good start to begin the process is ok with moving forward to try this process.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

Mayor Cameron requested a Motion to adjourn this meeting at 8:27 pm. A Motion was made by Barbara Staggs and seconded by Mary McDonald. Roll call resulted in a unanimous vote for approval.

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

Sandra L. Riege, Deputy Clerk of Council/CMC

Mayor Joyce Sutton Cameron, Mayor