

## **McCordsville Public Safety Committee – June 13, 2006**

Members present: Jennifer Williams, chair; Chief Harold Rodgers, Major Paul Casey, Becky Lottes, and Connie Malcomb

Members absent: Jeff Silvey, Toby Slunaker

Others present: Tonya Galbraith, Town Manager

The first item of business was the approval of the October 20, 2005 meeting minutes. A motion was made by Chief Rodgers to accept the minutes. The motion was seconded by Major Casey and the minutes were approved 5-0.

The second item of business was the discussion of Town Hall heating and cooling issues. Tonya provided a quote from Zaring Heating and Cooling on the costs associated with reconfiguring the heating and cooling in the Police Department and the Utility Department. Currently, there is only one system for both departments and while at times it may be the right temperature for the Police Department, it is too cold for the Utility Department and vice versa. It is becoming more of an issue since the Chief and Major Casey are in the office more and the heat becomes unbearable in late afternoon. Even when the air conditioning is on fully, the Police Department doesn't benefit because there is no air flow. There were concerns regarding lower cost alternatives, but they didn't seem to be reasonable alternatives.

A motion was made by Chief Rodgers and seconded by Ms. Malcomb to support the \$5,362.00 Zaring bid for heating and cooling. The motion was approved 5-0.

The next item of business was the destruction of several police vehicles by field rodents. The location where the cars are currently parked is near a recently cleared farm field and apparently the rodents nested inside the police cars. One of the cars incurred about \$4,000 damage. The issue is what can be done to keep this from happening again? A suggestion was made to move them to the west side of the parking lot.

Under Old Business there was a brief discussion about school safety issues and most of the issues of concern have been resolved.

Regarding the remodeling project, Major Casey asked if they should plan on furnishing the area for the long term or the short term as it will have an affect on the type of furnishings they buy. Ms. Williams said that they should err on the side of efficiency, but that she wants employees to be comfortable in their workspace. She added that she would bring it up with the full Council.

Ms. Malcomb asked about the formation of a Town Court, which Chief Rodgers discussed during the October meeting. The Chief said that he would need guidance on whether the Council wanted to pursue the concept of a Town Court. Chief Rodgers said there are obvious advantages to the Town establishing a Town Court and the money from

finances would stay in the Town. Ms. Malcomb felt that a Town Court is something that should be pursued. The Town of Bunker Hill has a Town Court, which has proven successful to that jurisdiction.

Major Casey brought up that the Sheriff's department may be getting new radios soon, which means they won't be able to talk to each other without compatible radios. New radios will be costly, but there is not specific timeframe on when the County might be going to a new system.

Chief Rodgers brought up two other issues – one is contract employees. The Chief felt that Gregg Morelock should go ahead and draft a contract for new hires, so that the Town could be reimbursed on a pro rata basis for their training costs if they left before a certain time period. The other issue was that there needs to be an ordinance drafted and approved establishing a special drug fund for depositing cash taken during a drug bust. The Chief explained that Hamilton County and Fortville have been using this procedure successfully.

Ms. Malcomb made a motion to adjourn. It was seconded by Chief Rodgers.