

**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN  
PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MINUTES  
SEPTEMBER 7, 2011**

The meeting was called to order at 5:33 p.m. by Vice-Chairperson Crowe.

Vice-Chairperson Crowe called for a moment of silence for fallen K-9 Officer Jaeger who was recently lost to cancer.

**ROLL CALL**

MICHAEL MIAZGA – CHAIRPERSON - EXCUSED

P. RAMONE CROWE – VICE-CHAIRPERSON

DIANE MADIGAN

REGINA MILLER

RAYMOND BAILEY - ABSENT

RICHARD WARDWELL

TRUSTEE PHIL HART - ABSENT

Others in attendance: Director McClanahan, Supervisor White, Secretary Harman and an audience of fifteen (15).

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Motion Madigan, support Wardwell to approve the amended agenda of September 7, 2011 with the addition of Correspondence after Reports. **Motion Carried.**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Motion Wardwell, support Madigan to approve the amended meeting minutes of August 3, 2011 with correction to work study meeting minutes under new business reflecting committee member Madigan's vote as yea. **Motion Carried.**

**CORRESPONDENCE**

McClanahan informed the Committee to renew Van Buren Public Safety Millage is having Roll a Strike at Belleville Lodge Lanes on Friday, September 16<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. The cost is \$20 per person which includes 3 games of bowling and pizza. Contact [renewvbtps2011@yahoo.com](mailto:renewvbtps2011@yahoo.com) for more information or to reserve lanes with name and number of bowlers attending.

Community Public Safety Appreciation Day is Saturday, September 10<sup>th</sup> from 12:00p.m. – 2:00p.m. at Open Arms Lutheran on Belleville Road. A pig roast is being held with a small donation of \$3 per person for those who are not a first responder or a family member of one. All money goes to a special fund for the Public Safety Chaplains of Van Buren Township. Contact Open Arms at (734) 699-5000 or 7865 Belleville Road to purchase tickets.

Wayne County Community College, Van Buren Public Safety and Walmart are holding a Religions in America Cultural event on Saturday, September 17<sup>th</sup> at the Wayne County Community College Western Campus located on Haggerty Road from 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. Event will encourage dialogue and education and focuses on exploring cultural differences in the metro Detroit area.

Friday, September 9<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m. an event will be held at Van Buren Township Hall to commemorate September 11<sup>th</sup>. Public and employees are invited to attend, will last approximately 15 minutes.

Officer Adam Byrd presented an award of excellence to Roger Lee Orren II for going above and beyond showing his dedication to the preservation of life by holding open the door of a semi in a rollover accident helping the driver continue to breathe until help arrived. An Award of Excellence letter will be attached to the 9-7-11 meeting minutes as record. McClanahan also commend Orren and noted the importance of community outreach.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **Truancy Ordinance**

Committee members inquired if McClanahan had heard back from the schools, he has not. McClanahan will provide committee members with a link for the State Truancy Law.

### **Township Emergency Notification Services**

Miller provided committee members the information received from Nixle at the work study session. A resident also brought contact information to the work study session which McClanahan is looking into. Committee members are searching Nixle to see if there is still a free program available. Supervisor White suggests the use of Weather Alert Radios along with Nixle, they will alert to severe storms which Nixle does not currently do.

### **Leash Law Update**

Vice-Chairperson added to the agenda to keep track of the progress with the Leash Law Ordinance. Committee members will follow up with Trustee Hart on Leash Law language movement to the Township Board.

### **Noise Ordinance Update**

Noise Ordinance has been submitted and is scheduled to be on the September 20<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting agenda.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Tax Abatements and their impact on Public Safety Services**

Committee Member Madigan inquired about the impact tax abatements have on public safety services. GE 7 year tax abatement, lost tax revenue could serve as additional funding required to provide police/fire services. Supervisor White explain that the companies with tax abatements are bringing in jobs into the township and every employee will pay federal and state taxes which will circle back to the township in the form of state shared revenue and/or grant opportunities. Companies have expressed support of the community. Committee members are interested in asking for possible donations for fire equipment in the future from companies with tax abatements to give back to the community.

## **NON-AGENDA ITEMS**

Committee Member Madigan inquired on the progress of an emergency signal at Hull and Sumpter Roads by Fire Station 1. McClanahan is awaiting response from Wayne County, has spoken with Commissioner McNamara and information was sent on to Wayne County Traffic Engineer to look into.

Madigan inquired what the response to the newspaper article for new fire fighters was. 17 have applied, will hire as many as can that qualify as paid on-call fire fighters. Committee members would like to see the requirements for paid on-call fire fighters posted to the website.

Madigan also inquired into FEMA grant for new police/fire radios. City of Belleville has applied for this grant. Van Buren can also apply for the same grant. New FVHF radios were purchased last year.

Madigan inquired about the crime rate website [www.crimerating.com/crime/statistics](http://www.crimerating.com/crime/statistics) that gets information from the FBI. In 2009 it notes Van Buren as having 17 forcible rapes, wants to make sure information on crime statistics isn't being missed due to less briefings. Supervisor White noted that crime statistics are posted on the Van Buren Website on the Van Buren Dashboard. Officer Byrd also noted that the information that is posted is based on initial calls and may not be accurate, many are reported by juveniles and the outcome may not be the same as the initial call.

Committee member Miller inquired when the police briefings will be updated on the website. McClanahan is currently compiling information and will be on VBT12 and the website soon.

Committee member Wardwell inquired when the 2012 Budget Review will be. Two dates are set, awaiting response from trustees, will be in mid October.

Committee member Miller inquired when the next Community Policy Action Group meeting is, there is no set schedule at this time. Officer Byrd will have a meeting scheduled soon and will notify the Committee Members.

Officer Adam Byrd thanked the Van Buren community for their combined efforts and collaborations in helping to locate a missing child and also in helping to find the location of a malicious destruction of property incident that was posted on YouTube.

**NEXT MEETING DATE**

October 5, 2011

**ADJOURNMENT**

Motion Wardwell, support Miller to adjourn at 6:43 p.m. **Motion Carried.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Christina Harman  
Recording Secretary