

GRIFFITH SAFETY BOARD

April 10, 2014

The Griffith Safety Board was called to order by Chairman Goral at 7:00 p.m.

Those in Attendance

Liz Goral	Griffith Safety Board Chairman
RoAnn Purgert	Griffith Safety Board Secretary
Gary Sutton	Griffith Safety Board Member
Jim Marker	Griffith Safety Board Member
Glen Gaby	Town Council
Greg Mance	Police Chief
Roy Schoon	Fire Department

The meeting opened with the pledge of allegiance. The following items were discussed:

Approval of March 13, 2014 minutes: Motion by Board Member Sutton
2nd by Board Member Marker
Motion carried 4-0

Reports: Griffith Police Department

Chief Mance read the monthly report for March.

When compared to March 2013, overall crime for March fell by 43%. Over the past four years in the month of March crime fell by 42%. The most significant declines occurred in the crime categories of Burglar, which fell by 86%, and Motor Vehicle Thefts, which fell by 71%.

The department has a month long narcotics investigation which resulted in an arrest and the potential seizure of money and possibly a vehicle from a marijuana dealer in town. Our canine, Gino, was involved in the conclusion of this investigation by locating some narcotics in the residence.

Gino was also involved in a felony marijuana drug dealing arrest from a traffic stop which Officer Gutierrez was involved with. As well as, a traffic stop by Officer Hemphill which resulted in a heroin arrest.

Griffith Fire Department

Chief Schoon read the March monthly report.

VEST

Mike Czerwinski reported the restriping of four VEST vehicles at a cost of \$945.00 each. A golf cart was purchased at a cost of \$3,370.00 and has been striped with the new design. New uniforms have been ordered along with duty gear. Once all these are the switch over to new uniforms will take place.

FOP Post 161

Nothing at this time.

Old Business

Modification of PD SOP promotion policy regarding seniority – still under department review and pending legal counsel.

New Business

AT&T Indiana Shores Telephone Pioneers donation presentation

Safety Board Member Marker represented AT&T Pioneers to present a check for \$250.00 to Comer Children's Hospital in honor of Blake Loudember from AT&T Indiana Shores Telephone Pioneers. Blake was present for the presentation along with Officer Strbjak and Fireman Martin.

2014 GPD Vehicle Bids

A motion by Safety Board Member Marker, seconded by Safety Board Member Sutton, to approve the bid from Thomas Dodge and PDS Services of \$150,657.40 for new Police vehicles and forward this bid to the Town Council for approval. Motion carried 4-0.

Take home vehicle program status report – Lt. Jeff Gang

The take home vehicle program was implemented in August 2013. Mileage has gone up 8% and fuel consumption has gone up 9% with a 42% reduction in vehicle maintenance. Positive aspects have been a seamless shift change, officers have been arriving to work earlier, a greater presence observed by the public. There have been at least twenty incidences where off duty officers have assisted in apprehensions or made arrests in town as well as some out of town when officers were on their way home. There have been no accidents, there has been no missing equipment, vehicles are cleaner, moral is good and vehicle performance is good. Vehicles are inspected every Tuesday.

Approval for offer of conditional employment to Badge #72

Motion by Safety Board Sutton, 2nd by Safety Board Member Marker, to make a conditional offer of employment to Badge #72. Motion carried 4-0. This will be forwarded on to the Town Council for approval.

GFD Swearing in of promoted/realigned members

The following Griffith Fire personnel were promoted/realigned:

Battalion Chief - Thomas Somers and James Sopher

Captains – Michael Andree, Jr., Daniel Schoon and Scott DeLauro

Lieutenants – Joseph Martin, Corey Rex, Michael Sipos and Dale Verkuilen

Engineers – Terry Smit, Steven Stelk, and Eric Andree

Chaplin – Steven Kovecsi

Honorary Assistant Chief – Steven Kovecsi

VEST Swearing in of new members

Rob Bubala and Eugene Metcalf

A motion by Safety Board member Marker, seconded by Secretary Purgert, to accept the bid from Two Uncles for VEST building renovation at 345 N. Indiana. Motion carried 4-0.
A contract will be made up by the Safety Board counselor in accordance with the bid.

Announcements

GFD Chili Cook-off – April 26, 2014 – 12:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Griffith Senior Center.
During the Chili Cook Off there will be a silent auction and a bake sale. There is a \$10.00 entry fee for all chili cooks and the form can be obtained from the Fire Department website or from Chief Schoon or Judy. The proceeds will go to food for emergency personnel and funeral services.

Questions/comments from the floor.

Nothing

Meeting adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

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