

CITY OF GILLETT
HEALTH, PROTECTION, & LICENSING COMMITTEE
Council Chambers – Municipal Building
150 N McKenzie Ave – Gillett, WI 54124
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2024 AT 4:30 PM
MINUTES

Committee may deviate as needed

Meeting Called to Order by Alderperson VanStraten at 4:30 PM.

Roll Call

Open Meeting Law has been complied with

This public meeting is in compliance with all Open Meeting Laws

Present: Alderpersons Ashley VanStraten and Irene Drake
Alderperson Nanette Mohr, Clerk Treasurer Chelsea Anderson, Police Chief Shane Breitenbach and Officer Zak Hoef. Public Jon Blaskowski. Jerry Luther and Tracy Ondik at 5:45 pm.

PUBLIC INPUT: None

1. Discussion and Possible action on minutes from January 25, 2024

MOTION: Drake/VanStraten

Motion to approve January 25, 2024 minutes.

Voice Vote: All Ayes **MOTION CARRIED**

2. Discussion and possible action on School Resource Officer and COPS Grant-
COPS grant is not available at this time. Previous mayor has met with County in the past about county coverage. Options are city hires resource officer or county hires, School needs to initiate. Suring co-ops with the county, Oconto falls is a city officer, Oconto is a city officer. Looked over Suring contract with County. Main question is will school pay for any of the costs? Suring is in contract for \$70,000 or 75 percent of cost, county supplies gear and police vehicle. VanStraten would like to see the officer hired by the city. Resource officer would be primarily funded by the grant, then school and/or city. Town of Underhill is holding a meeting on the issue of not having a school resource officer on March 14, 2024 at 7pm. Grant program is a 5-year plan, DOJ (Department of Justice) funds 3 years of the 5, city/school is responsible for 2 years. About \$75,000 a year is estimated. The School needs to decide if they want an SRO.

(Previous minutes excerpt: The school is in need to have an officer on sight. One officer for both schools (elementary and high school). There is a Cops Grant available to apply for, it is a 5-year grant, grant pays 3 years and the city would pay for 2 (or school and city, or school, item has not been discussed together with school.) School would utilize the officer 2/3 of the year, and the summer the officer would work the road. Level of violence has increased over the years, including problems with younger children. Chief Breitenbach stated the amount of truant children has also risen.)

3. Discussion and Possible action pay increase to attract better candidates – potential candidate willing to work for the city if the pay was increased to \$31.00. Teamsters in the Police Union, they would be willing to open negotiations now. Union sets the wages. All officers would be raised to same wage. Candidate is our Part time officer and is already fully trained and geared. Last Teamsters contract was 2021-December 2024. Current wage is \$26.41. City of Oconto start is \$31.20, Oconto Falls \$34.92 (2025), Bonduel Chief is \$41.00, part time is \$29.00. Looking for an April start date, with the increase to \$31, April – December would need \$15,078 increase in budget for 2 officers. If we hired new out of school, they would need to provide uniforms and give accessories and evaluations- cost of \$6,200 and 14-16 weeks of field training. Alderperson Drake requests we wait until the election for a full council and mayor to make a decision.

4. Discussion and Possible action on Expectations of Officers- Officers need adequate training, keep up on trainings as usual. First Wednesday of Month need to be in court as discussed. Citations have dropped dramatically over the years. Asked the officers if they have any questions of the council. Mohr asked to be stricter on ordinances violations. (Examples trash totes out past ordinance time, dogs running, furniture on the curb, housing standards, blowing grass in the streets, etc.)
5. Discussion and Possible action on CTV-100, Cigarette, Tobacco, and Electronic Vaping Device Retail License Application Fee- check to see what other municipalities are charging.

-----5:45 pm-----

MOTION: VanStraten/Drake

Motion to return to item number 2.

Voice Vote: All Ayes MOTION CARRIED

Discussion and possible action on School Resource Officer and COPS Grant- Tracy Ondik stated this is a top priority and he is hitting the pavement hard to make an SRO position come to reality. Committee explained the discussion earlier and stated the City is for this position as well. Luther asked if the towns that are part of our school district are being asked to contribute. Ondik said the issues are concerning that are happening at school. Suring has had great success introducing their SRO in 2022.

6. Set Next Meeting Date- Wednesday, April 17, 2024 at 5:00 pm.
7. Adjournment at 6:10 pm.

MOTION: Drake/VanStraten

Motion to adjourn.

Voice Vote: All Ayes MOTION CARRIED

Respectfully Submitted by Clerk Treasurer Chelsea Anderson