

VILLAGE OF MCFARLAND
Public Safety Committee Minutes

Wednesday, June 9, 2021 - 6:30 PM

1. CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL.

Chairperson Stephanie Brassington called the regular meeting of the Public Safety Committee to order at 6:30 PM in the Community Room.

Members present: Stephanie Brassington, Sandy Bakk, Shannon Morrison, Dottie Olson, Rich Staley (joined at 6:40 pm), Edward Wreh (joined at 7:07 pm)

Members not present: None

Staff Present: Police Chief Aaron Chapin, Fire Chief Chris Dennis, Deputy Clerk Tanya O'Malley

2. PUBLIC APPEARANCES.

Bill Burse appeared to voice concerns regarding burning permits and having smoke coming into his home every spring. He also voiced concerns about the Ash wood having been treated. He is working with the fire department on solutions, but suggested the promotion of more gas fire pits. Chairperson Stephanie Brassington thanked him for bringing the issue to the committee's attention and will get it on the appropriate committee and agenda for the future.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES.

a. Approve the minutes from the 4/13/2021 PSC Meeting.

Motion by Village Trustee Stephanie Brassington, second by Member Sandy Bakk, to approve Approve the minutes from the 4/13/2021 PSC Meeting. Motion carries 4 - 0 - 0 by acclamation.

4. BUSINESS.

a. Welcome Police Chief Aaron Chapin

Chairperson Stephanie welcomed Police Chief Aaron Chapin and to the meeting.

b. Staff Reports

1) Fire and Rescue Department

Fire Chief Chris Dennis reviewed the monthly reports for April and May.

2) Police Department

Police Chief Aaron Chapin reviewed the monthly reports for April and May.

c. Discussion and recommendation to the Village Board on an application from the McFarland Youth Hockey Association for a Temporary Class B license for fermented malt beverages and wine for the Draft Experience Adult Hockey Tournament to be held on June 26-27, 2021.

Meghan Rapp was present to represent McFarland Youth Hockey. Police Chief Chapin reviewed his concerns regarding the event as well as the mitigation strategies the McFarland Youth Hockey Administration will implement. Meghan Rapp was present to represent the McFarland Youth Hockey Association.

Motion by Village Trustee Stephanie Brassington, second by Member Shannon Morrison, to recommend approval to the Village Board on an application from the McFarland Youth Hockey Association for a Temporary Class B license for fermented malt beverages and wine for the Draft Experience Adult Hockey Tournament to be held on June 25-27, 2021, with a variance to allow the sale of alcohol where minors are present. Motion carries 6 - 0 - 0 by acclamation.

d. License Hearing -

1) Conduct hearing on the recommendation from Chief Chapin to deny the issuance of an operator's license for Allyson Donohue for the period ending June 30, 2022.

A hearing on the recommendation to deny the issuance of an Alcohol Beverage Operator's License for Allyson Donohue was conducted at 7:10 p.m. by the Public Safety Committee on June 9, 2021 in the Community Room of the McFarland Municipal Center, 5915 Milwaukee Street, McFarland, Wisconsin. The hearing was conducted per McFarland Village Ordinance 11-67(d). Public Safety Committee members present were Member Sandy Bakk, Village Trustee Stephanie Brassington, Member Shannon Morrison, Member Dottie Olson, Member Rich Staley, and Village Trustee Edward Wreh. Staff present were Police Chief Aaron Chapin and Deputy Clerk Tanya O'Malley. Others present were applicant Allyson Donohue and Nathanael Romick.

Administrative Assistant Reimer swore in Chief Chapin, who presented the following testimony:

The police department conducted a background check for the purpose of issuing an operator's license to Allyson Donohue. Part of the check is to look at driver's license convictions and criminal records that would be substantially connected to serving or sale of alcohol. On the driver's license check there was a conviction for an OWI occurring on October 23, 2019, and also a conviction for an OWI occurring on January 18, 2017. Both fall within the past five years. Chief Chapin explained Village Policy Ordinance 11-74(c)(3) and explained based on the past practice of the Village and the Village ordinance, it requires the police department recommend denial of the operator's license.

Administrative Assistant Reimer swore in Allyson Donohue, who provided the following testimony:

Allyson Donohue explained the things she has been doing to change her lifestyle and submitted paperwork showing her alcohol assessment completion. She has held an operator's license in Cottage Grove for the past 18 months without any problems and was approved the previous night for a Fitchburg operator's license. She explained the ignition interlock device on her car and wanting to keep it long-term to make sure this never happens again.

Administrative Assistant swore in Nathanael Romick, who provided the following testimony:

Allyson's been working for them the last 18 months and she's done great. There've been no issues with underage selling. They get occasional cigarette stings, and there have been no issues with that.

The hearing was closed at 7:27 p.m.

The Committee proceeded with discussion on a recommendation.

2) Discussion and recommendation on the operator's license for Allyson Donohue for the period ending June 30, 2022.

The committee discussed the possible contingencies to put in place for the approval of the operator's license.

Motion by Village Trustee Stephanie Brassington, second by Edward Wreh, to recommend approval to the Village Board on the operator's license for Allyson Donohue for the period ending June 30, 2022, with the stipulation of conducting quarterly records checks to ensure there are no violations of any offenses that would be cause for recommendation of denial until the offense in question is outside of the five year time frame, and there is no other reason policy would would prohibit denial of license. If any violation is found, a revocation process would begin. Motion carries 6 - 0 - 0 by acclamation.

e. Discussion and recommendation Resolution 2021-13: a resolution approving the renewal of applications for liquor and fermented malt beverages licenses for 2021-2022.

Deputy Clerk O'Malley explained that alcohol licenses expire June 30 every year. Compliance and background inspections were done on every business, and all passed the background checks.

Motion by Village Trustee Stephanie Brassington, second by Member Dottie Olson, to recommend approval to the Village Board of Resolution 2021-13: a resolution approving the renewal of applications for liquor and fermented malt beverages licenses for 2021-2022. Motion carries 6 - 0 - 0 by acclamation.

f. Review and discussion of the availability/accessibility of use of the hardship process and policy for ambulance billing for the Fire & Rescue Department.

Fire Chief Dennis reviewed the hardship process, and the group discussed the timeline for waivers. PSC will take action on this process at the next meeting.

5. SCHEDULE NEXT MEETING DATE.

The next Public Safety Meeting will be 7/14/21 at 6:30 p.m.

6. ADJOURNMENT.

Motion by Member Shannon Morrison, second by Edward Wreh, to adjourn at 7:50 p.m.

Pursuant to law, written notice of this meeting was given to the public and posted on the public bulletin boards in accordance with Open Meetings Law.

Respectfully submitted,
Tricia Reimer
Administrative Assistant