

**BEACHWOOD CITY COUNCIL SAFETY AND PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD AT BEACHWOOD CITY HALL, CONFERENCE
ROOM B, 25325 FAIRMOUNT BOULEVARD, HELD ON TUESDAY, OCTOBER 18,
2011 AT 8:30 A.M.**

The meeting was called to order at 8:35 A.M. by Chairman Melvin M. Jacobs.

ROLL CALL: Present: M.M. Jacobs, B.H. Linick
Absent: F.S. Goodman
Also Present: M. Gorden, M. Mintz, S. Eisen, J. Berns, D.A. Pfaff,
D.H. Pekarek, P.J. Kearns, M.S. Sechrist

1. A traffic study of the Richmond Road/Bryden Road/Chagrin Boulevard area was performed by the Beachwood Police Department.

Chief Sechrist summarized the study by saying that the City is already at maximum traffic at the busy corner of Richmond/Bryden and Chagrin. The City is in the process of installing its new signalization system, which may help. Chief Sechrist stated that there are two short-term immediate options: 1) to put left turn arrows for northbound Richmond traffic at Bryden; and 2) to restrict all Richmond Road northbound left turns onto Bryden.

Chief Sechrist stated that before the City makes any major changes, he recommended an independent traffic study by a professional engineer to get their recommendations.

Mr. Mintz is concerned for the residents on Bryden Road. Mr. Eisen agreed and suggested utilizing the services of an independent contractor who is not affiliated with the City.

Mr. Eisen also expressed concern for Baywood Estates.

Mr. Jacobs agreed that an independent report would justify any action taken.

Mr. Linick also expressed concern for the residents on Bryden Road.

Mr. Mintz does not want to see any cut-throughs and cameras in place. He stated that turning Bryden Road into a one way road would anger the residents.

Mr. Eisen stated his concern for the safety of the students going to Bryden Elementary School. He felt that the independent contractor's report would have more credibility.

Mayor Gorden stated we do not want to curtail the project because there will never be less traffic and Chagrin and Richmond is one of the busiest intersections in Cuyahoga County. As it stands, Bryden and Richmond is not a safe situation.

Mr. Linick stated that there would be a different population every day if a hotel and restaurants were constructed on the Chagrin/Richmond/Bryden corner.

Mayor Gorden stated that whatever is built, there may be a longer wait for Bryden residents exiting their street.

A question was asked as to who owns the land that BP is on. There is an owner, but BP leases their space and they have no plans to expand.

Mr. Mintz stated that he and Chief Sechrist sat in on meetings with Bryden and Halburton residents who wanted to be heard.

Mayor Gorden stated that he would coordinate with our Staff Engineer to get RFPs out for quotes and get this study underway.

Mr. Eisen stated that there is a difference between saying and doing. He agreed that we should start with the Chief's recommendations and use left turn arrows.

Mr. Berns stated that the City solved the Park East/Hotel Drive traffic situation by connecting those roads and limiting left turns.

Chief Sechrist didn't want to repeat the Letchworth situation, go two miles to move one mile.

Mr. Mintz stated that he felt a traffic study is mandatory.

Moved by M.M. Jacobs, seconded by B.H. Linick to allow Mayor Gorden to begin the process for an independent traffic study.

ROLL CALL:	Yes:	M.M. Jacobs, B.H.Linick
	Abstain:	None.
	No:	None.
		MOTION ADOPTED

2. Discussion regarding the purchase of a new ladder truck for the Fire Department.

Chief Kearns stated that the City presently has a 1988 Ladder Truck which has 465,000 miles. It is 25 years old and out of service because the vendor no longer carries replacement parts. The tracking system for the ladder failed. The City spent \$65,000 in repairs. Future replacement parts would have to be custom ordered or remanufactured, and the truck would have to be recertified. If it does not meet criteria, the City will not get certified. If the City had no ladder, we would go from a Class 2 or 3 to a Class 5 fire district. These are classifications that affect homeowner/business insurance rates. The present ladder truck has been burning oil since 1998 and it might be worth \$100,000.00-\$200,000.00 for salvage value. The replacement truck costs \$869,000-\$900,000 and its ladder has 30' more reach capacity. Chief Kearns is not requesting to order a platform. The City Fire-Rescue Department is already at maximum pumping with 68 buildings in the City, and Chief Kearns feels the City needs the additional ladder and height. Prices will increase 4-8% effective January 1, so Chief Kearns has proposed this to the committee to beat the price increase.

The Safety and Public Health Committee is recommending replacement of the existing vehicle, however, there will be further discussion at the alternative energy meeting being held on Thursday, October 21, 2011 meeting in Mayor's Conference Room.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by M.M. Jacobs, seconded by B.L. Linick at 10:00 A.M. to adjourn to the next regularly scheduled Council Meeting.

ROLL CALL:	Yes:	M.M. Jacobs, B.L. Linick
	Abstain:	None.
	No:	None.

MOTION ADOPTED – MEETING ADJOURNED

Approved:

Merle S. Gorden, Mayor

Patricia A. Vanek, Assistant Clerk of Council

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