

Minutes  
Public Safety Committee  
Monday, October 7, 2019  
6:00 p.m.  
4<sup>th</sup> committee meeting

Members present were Chairman Scott Crosby, Committee members Taft Matney and Larry Goodson. Police Chief Bryan and Brandon Madden, City Administrator were also present. Fire Chief Bill Stewart and Administrative Judge Angela Martin were not present.

1. Call to Order- Chairman Crosby

2. Public Comment- None

3. Reading and Approval of Minutes

a. Public Safety Committee Meeting: September 9, 2019

Councilman Matney made a motion to approve the minutes with Councilman Goodson seconding. The vote was unanimous (3-0).

4. Reports or Communications from City Officers

a. Budget Review- The budget is where it should be. Judicial and Fire budgets are both tracking well.

b. Department Reports

Codes Enforcement Data- Information only

Chief has had several conversations on issues within codes enforcement. The majority is proactive and self-initiated. 294 events have been recorded this year. August to September are the busiest months because of grass and yard conditions. Chairman Crosby asked that this information be placed in the monthly report.

5. Unfinished Business- None

6. New Business

a. Traffic calming policy update- Enhancing traffic safety within neighborhoods is a Council goal. In previous years, we have had concerns with the traffic calming policy since it was developed in 2009. It has been a good tool for the City, but as things have changed and there are some areas that could be improved. Chief Turner went through and looked at how we can best serve the City. There are some proposed changes to the policy.

Chairman Crosby asked if the current document calls for 60% of the affected residents near the device to agree to installation and 100% of the residents at the device. Chief Turner answered yes. Chief Turner said on Pine Gate, Middleton, and a few others, we have done traffic studies and there are state guidelines and road elevations and width determine what device can be used and where the placement should be. Councilman Goodson asked who would be responsible for getting the signatures from the neighborhood. Chief Turner answered the current policy says the citizens would get the signatures. Chairman Crosby asked once the measure is installed, what is the threshold

to have it removed if needed. Chief Turner said if we put in a measure because there is a true issue, we are not taking it out. The policy does not call for temporary measures.

Councilman Matney made a motion to send this council with a recommendation of approval. Councilman Goodson seconded and the vote was unanimous (3-0).

## 7. Public Comment

Jonathan Thomas: I live at 209 Edgewood Drive in Knollwood. Chief, thank you for your service. I have some points to make concerning the policy that is going forward. I do agree with it, however, I think, you spoke about Crestwood? What was different about that one?

Chief Turner: The original concern with Crestwood was speed and back up of traffic. If you are looking at a speed or volume issue, the percentile was over the 25 mph.

Mr. Thomas: Is it more based on volume of traffic?

Chief Turner: No, sir. It is based off of two things. One is speed issues and the other is volume.

Mr. Thomas: I have lived in Knollwood since 2011 and the amount of speeding that goes on in Knollwood, especially at Edgewood Drive is ridiculous. You have great officers that come out. I have called twice. One time we had two cars drag racing up and down Edgewood. I served with the City of Greenville and got out two years ago, I can visually see and I know they were going 60 mph.

As I work in Mauldin I see cars speeding. I have kids now, a six year and two year old. I hear that speed bumps make it hard for EMS to get to the elderly. I think that is bogus. I was told that by the Mayor. I have heard it takes first responders longer to respond. It may take five more seconds. There are speed bumps in almost every neighborhood in Greenville and I think it is past due here. You can get on social media sites and see that neighborhoods that do not have them are asking for them.

I appreciate the new policy and will do whatever it takes to make it happen on Edgewood. I am very close to moving out of the neighborhood. That is how bad it is. I appreciate it.

Councilman Goodson said when we looked at Pine Gate, the process took a couple of months. There is a lot of data to be gathered.

Chief Turner said there are other measures as well. We did a traffic study in Knollwood on the outside perimeter. That doesn't mean it can't be done again. One thing identified is signage. There isn't a lot of signage in Knollwood.

Mr. Thomas said why not just put the humps in? What is it going to hurt? It blows his mind that the City will not just install them to prevent someone from getting hurt.

Councilman Goodson asked if the speed trailer helps. Chief Turner said we put them out, but, there is a reason there is a policy and a reason we are looking at enhancing the policy.

Councilwoman King said Knollwood is not a cut-through neighborhood. You are always going to have a handful of people who speed. Councilwoman King said she is fearful, and someone has already been hit. Kids will run out into the street and not look. She doesn't know what the answer is.

Councilman Goodson asked why we couldn't start a study. Chief Turner said there is nothing stopping us. He doesn't believe he has ever talked to Mr. Thomas. Enforcement is only good when the department is there. The speeders live in the neighborhood. Councilman Goodson said we could initiate the study to see if it falls in the parameters of the current policy. Councilman Matney said we could ask for the data collection to begin. Chairman Crosby asked for a traffic study on Edgewood Drive.

8. Committee Concerns- Councilman Matney said he has had the opportunity to witness officers out in the field and thanked Chief Turner for their professionalism.

9. Adjourn- Chairman Crosby adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Cindy Miller  
Municipal Clerk