Council Chambers, Spring Grove, Illinois, February 14, 2018; a meeting of the Safety Committee was held this date at 9:20 a.m., at the Municipal Centre, 7401 Meyer Road; Chairperson Mazzanti presiding.

Roll Call. Roll call showed the following members present: Chairman Pat Mazzanti and Members Jim Anhalt and Lloyd Simonson – 3. Also present were Tom Sanders, Chief of Police; Rich Kresen, Police Officer; and Laura Frumet, Deputy Clerk.

New Business.
Discuss FYE 2019 Budget Review. Chief Sanders stated the Police Department budget will remain flat except for dispatch, which will have a $6,000 increase and technology support which will be increased as well. They were being underbilled in the past and will go to a flat-rate fee which offers around the clock monitoring of the computers and network. Wages and associated line items will increase but there will be no budget for overtime and holiday pay. A lot of time the officers take comp time for any overtime, but any overtime paid will come out of appropriations.

Discuss Police Staffing. All new hires are part-time officers who receive no benefits. There has been some savings to the budget by not hiring full-time officers, but the savings are not as big as expected. Part-time officers tend to move on quickly after they are trained and it’s hard to schedule hours around their other jobs. There are six full-time officers plus the Chief and five part-timers. Part-time officers can only work 30 hours per week. In the winter months when things are generally slower, only four officers are scheduled each day, with only one officer per shift instead of two. The Committee felt that for safety reasons there should always be two officers on a shift for backup so they would like to see more officers hired.

Discuss 4th of July Celebration activities as it pertains to the Police Department. Chief Sanders will again reach out to the Johnsburg and Richmond Police Departments for reciprocal help on the 4th of July. Chairperson Mazzanti, who is also President of the 4th of July Committee, asked if officers can be at the entrances to parking lots around 8 p.m. to help with traffic control. There also needs to be a squad car on the Winn Road hill by Thelen Park with emergency lights on as that is a dangerous spot. Chief Sanders noted the bigger and more spread out the celebration becomes, the harder it is to cover. There are also parking issues in subdivisions that must be dealt with. The fire department is expected to allow another entrance/exit on their property to Horse Fair Park which will help greatly.

Public Comment. There was no one in attendance.

Other Business. None.
There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:15 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Laura Frumet, Deputy Clerk