

CIRCLEVILLE SAFETY COMMITTEE MINUTES 7/15/2025

Circleville Safety Committee convened in City Council Chambers, 127 South Court St, Circleville, OH. on Monday, July 15, 2025, at 6:30 p.m. Members present: Chair Jeff Hallinin, Tom Klitzka, and Clerk Melissa Burns. Invited Guest Present: Mayor Michelle Blanton, Law Director Kendra Kinney, Safety Director Paul Pride, and Chief of Police Kenny Fisher.

Hallinin called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Klitzka motioned to approve the minutes from March 3, 2025. Seconded by Hallinin. Motion carried.

Hedges was initially marked absent but arrived at 6:33 p.m.

New Business

a) Circleville Police Department update from Chief of Police Kenny Fisher.

DISCUSSION: Chief Fisher reported that the Police Department is performing well and making progress despite significant challenges. The primary obstacle continues to be staffing, with 14 current vacancies: nine officer positions, two upper-level command roles, and two officers on FMLA leave. To address leadership development, Chief Fisher noted that all supervisors have completed leadership training, and he recently finished Command Staff training at Northwestern University.

In 2024, the department handled 11,334 calls for service, which decreased to 9,444 in 2025.

Chief Fisher attributes this decline directly to the shortage of officers.

Chief Fisher also announced the upcoming Safety Forces National Night Out on August 5, 2025, from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. The event will feature food trucks, a "Touch-a-Truck" experience, bounce houses, a helicopter display, and a K9 demonstration, fostering community engagement and showcasing the department's commitment to public safety.

In response to Councilmember Klitzka's inquiry about strategies to pass the upcoming levy, Chief Fisher emphasized the critical implications of a potential failure. He noted that the department has already implemented significant cuts and is operating with insufficient staff. If the levy does not pass, further reductions in services will be necessary.

Other Business:

Klitzka motioned to adjourn the meeting at 6:44 p.m. Seconded by Hedges. Motion carried.

Minutes prepared by: Melissa Burns, Clerk.