

CIRCLEVILLE SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES 3/3/2026

Circleville Safety Committee convened in City Council Chambers, 127 South Court St., Circleville, OH 43113 on Tuesday, March 3, 2026, at 6:30 p.m. Members present: Chair John Moats, Committee Member Jeff Hallinin and Clerks Melissa Burns and Sarah Kolesar. Absent Member: Katie Logan Hedges. Invited guests present: Mayor Michelle Blanton, Safety Director Paul Pride, and Captain Barrett. Other Council members present: President Barry Keller, Tom Klitzka, Sheri Theis, Tom Duvall, and Jake Davison.

Moats called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. with Roll Call.

Hallinin motioned to approve the meeting minutes from October 7, 2025. Seconded by Moats. Motion carried.

New Business:

a) Circleville Police Department update with Safety Director Paul Pride and Captain Barrett.

DISCUSSION: Chair John Moats stated the Committee just concluded a tour of the Police Department, noting the recent upgrades including the evidence room, paint, and flooring. Safety Director Paul Pride spoke about growth and a strategic plan for both the Police and Fire Departments, explaining that growth pertains to much more than just the number of personnel, it also pertains to the facilities, functionality, and administrative processes. Pride highlighted ways to help facilitate further growth such as updating and enforcing policy & procedures, protocols, rules and regulations. Pride noted that one area of focus in the Police Department in the next year is the communication center. Pride explained that the communication center provides dispatch services for the Police Department, as well as fire and EMS. Additionally, they handle warrants and court matters among other duties. Pride stated that as of yesterday there are six dispatchers and one Supervisor on the communications team, filling all positions per City Ordinance. Pride emphasized the need for additional space in the communication center. Furthermore, there are ongoing IT issues that hamper their ability to provide all services needed. Regarding officer's, there is currently one Chief, two Captains, four Sergeants, and 20 police officers, noting that all positions are filled except for the police officers. There are currently 13 police officers: 7 officers short of their composition. Pride presented recently collected data with significant increases in many areas including call for service, mutual aid, overdoses, thefts, and burglaries. Pride also stated they currently have limited ability to query data, which affects their ability to be proactive and prepared. Pride pointed out that in the future, there will be a need for a different radio system, as the radios currently being utilized by the officers and fire department are 10-12 years old, outdated and have issues with them daily. Pride noted the cost for one radio would be approximately \$7,000. Additionally, Pride stated that proper and high-quality training was not a focus in the past in the Departments but must be a priority to keep the community safe as well as themselves.

Other Business: None

Hallinin motioned to adjourn the meeting at 6:55 p.m. Seconded by Moats. Motion carried.

Minutes prepared by: Sarah Kolesar, Assistant Clerk.