

LAW AND SAFETY COMMITTEE
Meeting Summary
June 29, 2021

DRAFT

Attendance: **Tom Henning, Chair**
Brian Mueller, City Council
Chris Hilberg, Vice Mayor
Tom Moeller, City Manager
Lori Thompson, Assistant City Manager

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 PM.

1. **Greylock/Madeira Hills Drive Closure.** Mr. Henning introduced the topic to the committee. The purpose of the discussion was to determine whether the City should close Greylock as a through street into the Village of Indian Hill. Some residents on Madeira Hills Drive have expressed concern over speeding vehicles which they attribute to traffic using Madeira Hills Drive as originating from or going to Indian Hill. Of particular concern is construction/service traffic such as landscape contractors who use Madeira Hills Drive to access the Marblehead/North Clippinger neighborhoods in Indian Hill. The City conducted a speed study which did indicate a small percentage of vehicles excessively speeding. Mr. Henning outlined 4 options:

- Do Nothing
- Install Speed Humps on Madeira Hills Drive
- Close Greylock Permanently
- Close Greylock Temporarily to Evaluate the Effects

The committee discussed impact to emergency services and mutual aid with Indian Hill. Mr. Moeller noted it would be a very unusual circumstance where a call for police mutual aid occurred where a Madeira officer would get a call into Indian Hill while the Madeira officer was on Madeira Hills Drive. The same would be true for a call for police mutual aid by Madeira for an Indian Hill Ranger who was patrolling in the Clippinger neighborhood. In regard to fire response, the emergency response should not be impacted because they will be responding from their respective stations and use the appropriate streets into the neighborhood where the response is necessary. Mr. Hilberg asked about the location of the fire hydrants in the area. Mr. Moeller stated he was not immediately familiar and whether there would be an impact on providing fire protection in the area. He stated to install an additional hydrant, if one is necessary, would cost approximately \$4,000. The committee discussed doing a temporary closure to evaluate the situation. Mr. Moeller stated this could be accomplished using barricades that are difficult to move. He also noted there are many permanent solutions to closing the road including guardrails, permanent and removable metal bollards, planters and landscaping. Mr. Mueller stated he has personally witnessed the speed of traffic on Madeira Hills. He stated he favors a temporary closure first. Mr. Moeller stated he will discuss with the Law Director what legislative steps, if any, does council need to take to undertake either a temporary and/or permanent closure for the July 12th Council meeting.

2. **Zoning Code Discussion/Gardens in Residence Districts.** Mr. Henning introduced the topic. He noted the proposed language by Mayor Spencer (attached) which was discussed at the previous council meeting. The proposal would permit gardens in residence districts where the resident was allowed to sell the produce. The proposed language would require the activity to take place as an accessory use to the principal use (residential). Mr. Hilberg asked if the property currently owned by Mr. Oppenheimer which abuts the Miller House Museum could be deeded to the Historical Society and then a garden could be operated for commercial purposes. Mr. Moeller stated under the proposed language, because the Miller House Museum is not a residence, but, rather, is an institutional use in a residence district, a garden could not be operated for commercial purposes. Different language would have to be proposed. Mr. Mueller noted that community gardens are not necessarily desirable in the middle of residential areas as they can fall into disrepair and become a nuisance to the adjacent properties. He stated he supports the proposed new language. The committee agreed to further discussion with City Council at the July 12th Council meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:36 PM.

Tom Henning, Chair